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**City of Augusta power plant operator receives leadership award**

**San Diego, California, June 11, 2024** — Marc A. Cain III, power plant operator for the City of Augusta, Kansas, Electric Utility, received the Robert E. Roundtree Rising Star Award during the American Public Power Association’s National Conference in San Diego, California. The award is a scholarship presented to future leaders in public power. Cain will receive a stipend to travel to one of APPA’s conferences or training programs to advance his education and development in public power.

Cain brings initiative, innovation, and technical expertise to his work, identifying opportunities for enhancement and taking proactive steps to effect change. In addition to his contributions on the utility’s operational side, Cain has spearheaded an elementary school coloring contest during Public Power Week and organized a food drive to benefit a community center. He regularly participates in city council meetings, endeavors to enhance safety reporting protocols and operational processes, and undertook the process of submitting the utility’s application to be recognized as a Reliable Public Power Provider, for which the utility in April received the Platinum designation this year.

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*The American Public Power Association is the voice of not-for-profit, community-owned utilities that power 2,000 towns and cities nationwide. We represent public power before the federal government to protect the interests of the more than 49 million people that public power utilities serve, and the 96,000 people they employ. Our association advocates and advises on electricity policy, technology, trends, training, and operations. Our members strengthen their communities by providing superior service, engaging citizens, and instilling pride in community-owned power.*