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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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***CUMBERLAND COUNTY RECEIVES
EPA's 2015 ENERGY STAR AWARD***

CARLISLE, PA – At their public meeting today, the Cumberland County Commissioners announced that the County has received the United States Environmental Protection Agency's **2015 Energy Star Award** in recognition of superior energy performance for the New Courthouse located at One Courthouse Square, Carlisle, PA. The award is presented to facilities that use 35% less energy and generate 35% fewer greenhouse gas emissions than similar buildings across the nation. The reduction in emissions is the equivalent to removing 300 passenger cars from the road each year. In 2015, the Cumberland County Courthouse was the only courthouse in Pennsylvania to earn this recognition and is one out of twelve courthouses recognized nationwide.

In 2005, the County implemented a plan for energy conservation and enrolled in the EPA's voluntary energy savings program with a 15-year guaranteed payback. Components of the plan included replacing aging equipment with more energy efficient equipment and the installation of motion sensor lighting and motion detector vending misers. Also contributing to the success of this program is the use of a computerized energy management system that allows Facilities Management to remotely access HVAC systems to measure, monitor, and control energy consumption 24 hours per day. Within 7 years of implementing this innovative energy savings program, Cumberland County received a complete return on the \$1.9 million investment, and continues to realize substantial savings of taxpayer dollars in utility costs while also reducing the impact of greenhouse gases on our environment.

Cumberland County saved \$41,194.00 in utility costs for the New Courthouse in 2014 and continues to upgrade lighting to LED's and monitors all energy savings measures to achieve annual cost savings along with available rebates. The County maintains energy efficiency as a priority utilizing energy savings measures in all County-owned facilities. The 15-year project is projected to achieve the following in terms of energy savings – 31.6 million kWh in electricity; 75,000 MMBtu in thermal; and 77.5 million gallons of water. In terms of emissions, the projected savings are 36 tons of carbon dioxide; 248 tons of sulfur oxides; and 75 tons of nitrogen oxides.

An Energy Star certified facility meets strict energy performance standards set by the EPA and uses less energy, is less expensive to operate and causes fewer greenhouse gas emissions than its peers. To qualify for the Energy Star, a building must earn a 75 or higher on EPA's 1-100 energy performance scale, indicating the facility performs better than at least 75% of similar buildings nationwide. This performance scale accounts for differences in operating conditions, regional weather data, and other important considerations. This is the fourth time that Cumberland County has earned this award. To learn more about the EPA's Energy Star Program visit www.energystar.gov.

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