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CONTACT:
Richard Thissen
rthissen@narfe.org
(571) 483-1255

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE)
Names Sido as Executive Director

Alexandria, VA – The National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE) has announced the selection of Barbara Sido, CAE, as Executive Director, effective May 15, 2017.

Sido has more than 20 years of experience in all aspects of association management and worked as Deputy Executive Director and interim Executive Director of Business and Professional Women (BPW)/USA, as Foundation Director and Chief Knowledge Officer at the American School Food Service Association (now the School Nutrition Association) and as Vice President for Knowledge and Professional Practice at the American Institute of Architects. She has served as an executive director four times previously at national, state and local organizations. Before transitioning to the association management field, Sido worked in the Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor. She has a bachelor’s degree in journalism from the University of Missouri; an executive master’s in leadership from the McDonough School of Business at Georgetown University; and is a candidate for a doctor of education degree from the George Washington University. She has held the Certified Association Executive credential since 2000.

As executive director, working with the president and board, Sido will be responsible for all strategic and operational activities of NARFE, which represents 5 million current and former federal government employees worldwide. NARFE, which is nonpartisan, serves as the voice of the federal community through advocacy and information resources and is headquartered in Alexandria, VA.

NARFE President Richard G. Thissen said, “Today’s ever-changing challenges require that organizations strive to employ the best qualified leadership; our extensive search identified Barbara Sido to be just that, and we are thrilled that she will be joining us to lead our association to continued success.”

Sido said, “I believe that a best-in-class organization enhances the influence of an association and its members. In partnership with the board and staff, and building on NARFE’s nearly 100-year-old foundation of excellence, I am privileged and proud to work toward that goal in my new position.”
Sido’s selection is the culmination of an intensive six-month search process in which NARFE partnered with Development Resources, Inc. For further information, contact: Richard Thissen, National President, 571-483-1255; rthissen@narfe.org.

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The National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE), one of America’s oldest and largest associations, was founded in 1921 with the mission of protecting the earned rights and benefits of America’s active and retired federal workers. The largest federal employee/retiree organization, NARFE represents the interests of 5 million current and future federal annuitants, spouses and survivors.