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STATE SENATE PRESIDENT JOHN A. ALARIO, JR. INDUCTED INTO GREATER NEW ORLEANS SPORTS FOUNDATION FIRST HALL OF FAME CLASS

State Senate President John A. Alario, Jr. was inducted into the Greater New Orleans Sports Foundation first ever Hall of Fame class. He was presented with this honor by Governor John Bel Edwards at the Greater New Orleans Sports Foundation's inaugural Honors Luncheon, held on September 5, 2019 on the turf of the Mercedes-Benz Superdome.

President Alario was selected as an inductee because of his continuous leadership and steadfast support of the organization and sports teams and players across the state. He served on the Advisory Committee for every major event in the history of the Sports Foundation, including the 1992 U.S. Olympic Track and Field Trials, three Super Bowls (1997, 2002, 2013), three NCAA Men's Final Fours (1993, 2003, 2012) and three NBA All-Star Games (2008, 2014, 2017).

"For 30 years, Senator Alario has provided steady leadership at the state level which is vital for the Sports Foundation to keep Louisiana competitive for hosting major events," said Jay Cicero, president and CEO of the Greater New Orleans Sports Foundation.

President Alario was among two other inductees, Dr. Mervin L. Trail and Ron E. Gardner, who were inducted posthumously for their dedication to the organization. The Sports Foundation also gave special recognition to Steve Gleason.

"The sports industry in Louisiana provides our citizens with so much more than entertainment," said President Alario. "It drives state growth by providing jobs, bringing in tourism dollars, and stimulating the economy. I am honored to receive this award and humbled to be among the great men commemorated here today."

The Greater New Orleans Sports Foundation, organized in 1988, is a non-profit 501(c) (4) organization whose mission is to attract and manage sporting events that have a positive economic impact on Louisiana and the Greater New Orleans area. Throughout its 31-year history, the Sports Foundation has hosted and been awarded hundreds of events and turned a \$40 million public investment into more than \$3 billion in economic impact for the State of Louisiana and the Greater New Orleans area.

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