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## **Philip LaRocque Recognized as Home Innovation 2023 NGBS Green Partner of Excellence**

### **Local Green Home Verifier Applauded for Excellence in Advancing High-Performance Mainstream Home Building**

**Albany, New York, May 3, 2024** – Philip LaRocque has been named a Home Innovation NGBS Legacy Green Partner of Excellence for 2023. [NGBS Green](#), which is based on the *ICC-700 National Green Building Standard®* (NGBS), has certified more homes than any other national green home certification program. Having now **surpassed 500,000 NGBS Green Certified homes**, the program is grateful for the momentum that our dedicated verifier partners have seeded and continue to nurture through their expert guidance to their clients.

Individuals or companies were recognized as Partners of Excellence in several categories – NGBS Green Verifiers; Single-Family Builders; Multifamily Builders/Developers; and Industry Advocates. Being among this elite group of green certification participants to be recognized validates the commitment Philip LaRocque has made to providing clients with increased value, professionalism, and relevance in the marketplace through third-party verification to the NGBS.

“NGBS Green Certification has always been a way for builders to differentiate their properties from others in the market for financial success,” said Michelle Foster, Home Innovation’s Vice President of Sustainability. “We’re now happy to see the market shifting to a new way of defining success, beyond just monetary gain. Due to an increased focus on ESG goals by investors and buyers, builders and developers are drawn to the program to demonstrate their commitment to a broader spectrum of environmental measures and their connection to social and management factors. NGBS Green is part of a new kind of success where our verifiers, like Phil, can help their participating clients be sustainable *and* resilient *and* inclusive *and* profitable. Win, win, win, win!”

As an accredited NGBS Green Verifier, Philip LaRocque has provided independent verification services for over 3,000 homes that became NGBS Green Certified by Home Innovation Research Labs. NGBS Green Verifiers are trained, tested, and accredited by Home Innovation to ensure consistency and rigor for NGBS Green Certifications across the country. Phil’s company, LaRocque Business Management Services (LBMS), provides comprehensive green building and energy efficiency services in all types of new and existing building, multi-family and single-family. We perform work from the project planning phase, through design, construction and beyond. We are experts in identifying and securing high-performance financial incentives at the federal, state, local and private sources. A growing amount of our work today involves renewable building initiatives, carbon neutral, net zero, Zero Energy Ready with EV chargers, solar, geothermal and assisting in aggressive code compliance practices. We offer a full menu of energy and green diagnostic services

such as comprehensive modeling for NGBS, ENERGY STAR, Net Zero, DOEZER, Indoor Air Plus, Passive House, blower doors, duct air flow and leakage testing, thermal imaging, smoke tests, fan flow and more. One of LBMS's marks of distinction is their capacity to to train and support all stakeholders in the energy and green efficiency industry. LBMS has conducted hundreds of workshops and presentations across the country in areas such as marketing Green, Maximizing the Green Verification Process, how to minimize whole building envelope leakage, options in ventilation systems, how to prepare NGSB Design Reports and Verifications, simplifying the NGBS and ENERGY STAR program benefits with homebuyers, reenters, media, realtors, builders , developers and more. LBMS's marketplace includes all of New England and the mid-Atlantic states with a majority of work undertaken in New York State, Massachusetts, Vermont New Jersey and Pennsylvania. This NGBS Legacy Green Partner of Excellence is the 11<sup>th</sup> year in a row that LaRocque has been honored. Larocque is one of the few national Verifiers awarded the NGBS Master Verifier for the past 5 years.

While LBMS is proud of the number of developers, builders, remodelers we have served for 14 years we are equally proud of the improved environment, energy and water efficiency and sustainable practices that have been integrated in our finished products. We are also very satisfied that our clients have realized millions of dollars in financial incentives over the last 14 years. This helps the clients' bottom line, paying for most, if not all of the certification programs' soft costs, while they work hard to build high-performing homes backed by a rigorous third-party, independent verification and certification process.

To earn certification to the National Green Building Standard, a home/building must meet rigorous criteria in six categories - Lot & Site Development; Resource Efficiency; Energy Efficiency; Water Efficiency; Indoor Environmental Quality; and Homeowner Education. There are mandatory practices in each category that every NGBS Green Certified home must meet, and there are a wide range of additional optional practices in each category that a builder can select based on the applicability to buyers or renters in their market. There are also mandatory point minimums in every category in order for a home to attain the next level of certification, which is a more stringent requirement than in any other national certification program.

For more information on the NGBS Green Certification Program, visit [www.homeinnovation.com/green](http://www.homeinnovation.com/green).

For more information on the NGBS Green verification and other services provided by Philip LaRocque visit [www.philiplarocque.com](http://www.philiplarocque.com) or contact Philip LaRocque, 518-596-5586, email: [phil@philiplarocque.com](mailto:phil@philiplarocque.com).

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**ABOUT HOME INNOVATION RESEARCH LABS:** Home Innovation Research Labs, located in Upper Marlboro, Md., is a full-service research, testing, and consulting firm determined to improve the quality, durability, affordability, and environmental performance of single- and multifamily homes and home building products - in short, we aim to perfect the home. Founded in 1964 as a subsidiary of the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB), our

team has been integral in solving many of our client's most difficult product and technology issues, and helping to introduce some of the most groundbreaking innovations in construction. Through an interdisciplinary research approach - including market research, building science analysis, laboratory testing, and standards development - we help to find a home for innovation in the construction industry.