

Iditarod Trail Committee 2100 South Knik Goose Bay Road • Wasilla, Alaska 99654 907.376.5155 (voice) • 907.373.6998 (facsimile) www.iditarod.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 14, 2018

Joar Leifseth Ulsom wins Iditarod XLVI

Captures first Iditarod championship, third international champion in race's history

Nome, Alaska – Veteran Iditarod musher Joar Leifseth Ulsom (bib #33), of Mo i Rana, Norway, crossed the finish line in Nome, Alaska, at 3:00 a.m. AKDT on Wednesday, March 14, 2018, claiming his first Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race championship.

Ulsom had eight dogs in harness when he claimed the Iditarod XLVI title.

Ulsom is the Iditarod's third international champion and also holds the record as the fastest rookie to ever finish the race. Ulsom has finished in the top seven in each of his previous five Iditarod races.

Ulsom's team traveled the nearly 1,000-mile trail from Willow to Nome in 9 days and 12 hours.

Fans from all over the world lined Front Street to greet Ulsom and his sled dog team as they pulled through the burled arch early Wednesday morning in Nome. Mushers currently on the Iditarod trail will continue their trek to Nome where friends, family, supporters and fans are anxiously awaiting their arrival.

The Iditarod awards banquet will be held in Nome on Sunday, March 18, 2018, at 4 p.m. at the Nome Recreation Center.

For more information or to follow the race, visit Iditarod.com.

###

Media contact: Bri Kelly, Thompson & Co. Public Relations Email: <u>media@iditarod.com</u> Phone: 907.538.8754