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**Iditarod Trail Committee**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

March 7, 2018

**Joar Leifseth Ulsom first into Iditarod, wins GCI Dorothy G. Page Halfway Award**

**Anchorage, Alaska** – Veteran Iditarod XLVI competitor Joar Leifseth Ulsom (bib #33), of Mo i Rana, Norway, is the first musher to reach the halfway point of the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race at the Iditarod checkpoint at 8:28 p.m. on March 7, 2018, with 16 dogs in harness.

GCI's Corporate & Regulatory Counsel Tara Wheatland presented Ulsom with the award at the checkpoint.

GCI has been the sponsor of this award since 1994, which honors the late "Mother of the Iditarod." The winner receives a trophy and \$3,000 in gold nuggets, which is symbolic of the historical tie between gold mining and mushing.

The trophy is made of Alaska birch and marble and features a photograph of the late Dorothy G. Page. It remains year-round at the Iditarod headquarters.

This award will be re-presented in Nome at the Iditarod awards banquet on Sunday, March 18, at the Nome Recreation Center.

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