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## **Arapahoe County Finance Department wins four national awards** *Budget, Accounting and Purchasing divisions recognized for excellence*

**Littleton, CO** – Arapahoe County's Finance Department recently was recognized for excellence with four awards from the Government Finance Officers Association, the National Purchasing Institute and the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing Inc.

The Government Finance Officers Association awarded Arapahoe County's Budget and Accounting divisions with two of their most prestigious awards.

For the 24<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, the Budget division, overseen by Budget Manager Todd Weaver, received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its 2011 budget. This award is achieved by organizations that satisfy nationally recognized guidelines for an effective budget presentation. These guidelines are designed to assess how well an entity's budget serves as a policy document, a financial plan, an operations guide and a communications device.

The Accounting division, overseen by Accounting Manager Steve Oliver, received the Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting for the 23<sup>rd</sup> year in a row. The award is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting. It encourages state and local governments to go beyond the minimum requirements of generally accepted accounting principles to prepare comprehensive annual financial reports.

The Purchasing division, overseen by Purchasing Manager Keith Ashby, received the National Purchasing Institute's Achievement of Excellence in Procurement award for the third year in a row. This award is achieved by organizations that demonstrate excellence in procurement by obtaining a high score in the areas of innovation, professionalism, e-procurement, productivity and leadership. Arapahoe County is one of only 16 state agencies in the United States who received this award.

The division also received the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing 2011 Outstanding Agency Accreditation Achievement Award for excellence in public purchasing.

"Arapahoe County has a committed and talented Finance department," said Commissioner Nancy Sharpe. "This is a great honor for our staff and it really shows their level of dedication to Arapahoe County. I appreciate their dedication, knowledge and hard work."

Arapahoe County's Finance Department is overseen by Director Janet Kennedy and is made up of 29 employees.

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To download photos, please click on the following links:

<ftp://www.co.arapahoe.co.us/Pub/CM/Photos/Finance Award>

Photo captions:

Accounting\_award: Accounting Manager Steve Oliver and Commissioner Frank Weddig. The Accounting Division received the Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association.

Purchasing\_award: Purchasing Manager Keith Ashby and Commissioner Nancy Sharpe. The Purchasing Division received the National Purchasing Institute's Achievement of Excellence in Procurement award and the 2011 Outstanding Agency Accreditation Achievement Award.

Budget\_award: Budget Manager Todd Weaver and Commissioner Nancy Jackson. The Budget Division received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association.