

Association of County Commissions of Alabama

Awards Program



**81st Annual Convention
August 18 - 20, 2009
Perdido Beach Resort
Orange Beach, Ala.**

2009 “Excellence in County Government” Award

The 18th Annual Awards for Excellence in County Government will be presented during the Annual Convention’s Awards Ceremony on **Thursday, Aug. 20**. This awards program is designed to bring statewide attention to outstanding accomplishments on the part of county government.

To ensure all counties have a fair chance of being recognized, Excellence in County Government Awards are given in two categories. The first award goes to a rural county – a county with a population under 50,000. The second Excellence Award goes to an urban county – a county with a population of more than 50,000.

Over the years, this awards program has brought recognition to programs across the state ranging from innovative approaches, to industry recruitment, to unusual efforts at solving community problems.

The awards are intended to honor those programs implemented by the County Commission itself and not its agencies or boards. **The awards are not to recognize those required programs that the county has carried out well, but instead honors those special efforts of County Commissions to meet the needs of their community in an innovative way.**

Detailed information concerning the Awards Programs is mailed to Commission Chairs and Administrators *only*. Please pay particular attention to the guidelines and judging criteria for the award. Deadline for entries is Friday, June 26, 2009.

Has your county found an innovative solution to a problem, such as solid waste, road and bridge maintenance and construction, or the need for better financial management? Has your county initiated a successful loss-control program, an unusual project to utilize volunteers, a successful community corrections project, an innovative solution to personnel problems, or a productive effort at industrial development? Has your county launched an educational program to make the public more aware of county services, or to more directly involve the public in the governmental process?

If your county has initiated similar programs, or any outstanding or innovative effort, you would be a great candidate for the 2009 Award for “Excellence in County Government”! The competition is open to all 67 Commission offices and is intended for the programs initiated by the County Commissions, not its agencies.

Enclosed is an outline of the contest requirements and entry guidelines. Identify any eligible programs your county has initiated this year and work on your entry today!

If you have any questions about the Excellence Awards, call **Donna Key** in the ACCA office at **(334) 263-7594**.

Previous Award Winners

1996 Award Winner

Lee County: Innovative and Effective Approach to Animal Control

1997 Award Winner

Calhoun County: Eyesores to Assets - Community Involvement

1998 Award Winner

Morgan County: Morgan County Recycling Program

1999 Award Winner

Lee County: Road and Bridge Transfer

2000 Award Winners

Escambia County: Right-of-Way Usage Fees

Houston County: Economic Development Project

2001 Award Winner

Mobile County: Passage of the “Education First” Tax Referendum

2002 Award Winner

Montgomery County: The Quest to Bring Hyundai Motor Company to Alabama

2003 Award Winners

Rural Category: Clay County - From Fabric to Felonies

Urban Category: Calhoun County - Ain’t Nothing Free or Is It? Super Saturday at the Calhoun County Landfill

2004 Award Winners

Rural Category: Chambers County - Plan Your Work and Work Your Plan

Urban Category: Montgomery County - County Government Week 2004

2005 Award Winners

Rural Category: Cleburne County - Promoting Awareness to Establish Understanding and Acceptance in Times of Change

Urban Category: Calhoun County - Shuffling the System: Inmates Cost You Money, So Get Them Out of Your Jail

2006 Award Winners

Rural Category: Cleburne County - Building an Effective Compliance Program, One Step at a Time

Urban Category: Houston County - Chattahoochee Park: Abandoned by the State, Resurrected by the County

2007 Award Winners

Rural Category: Cleburne County - A Green Path Towards Community Development

Urban Category: Baldwin County - Coastal Wetland Revitalization: The Use of Recycled Christmas Trees and Hurricane Debris for Erosion Control

2007 Award Winners

Rural Category: Marengo County - Rural Economic Development - With a Twist

Urban Category: Baldwin County - Preventing Violence in Schools

ENTRY GUIDELINES

2009 AWARD FOR “EXCELLENCE IN COUNTY GOVERNMENT”

TIME FRAME

The program must have been completed or begun in the period between July 1, 2008, and June 30, 2009.

ELIGIBLE PROGRAMS

An eligible program is one initiated by the County Commission and is outstanding in quality or is innovative in its approach.

SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES

Each entry should be submitted separately and mailed under separate cover. The entry should include an overview of the program (LIMITED TO NO MORE THAN TWO TYPED PAGES) that details the following:

- A. Development of the Program Objective(s)
- B. Implementation of the Program (including involvement of the County Commission)
- C. Achievement of Objective(s)
- D. Benefit to the Tax Payers

Supporting materials, such as press clippings, photographs or printed materials, may be submitted with the entry, but are not necessary. If such materials are submitted, they should be mounted on presentation board or presented in a notebook labeled for identification.

The attached entry form should be filled out and used as a cover sheet for the award entry. **Please make copies of this form so that every entry has its own entry form.**

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES

Deadline for entries is Friday, June 27, 2009. All entries must be received at the office of the Association of County Commissions of Alabama by 4:30 p.m. on June 27.

JUDGING OF ENTRIES

The entries will be judged by the ACCA Awards Committee with emphasis placed on the project's measurable results or improvements.

“Awards for Excellence” will be presented to those programs judged the most outstanding.

“Certificates of Excellence” will also be awarded at the discretion of the judges. The awards will be presented during the Awards Ceremony on Thursday, Aug. 20, 2009, at the ACCA's 81st Annual Convention in Orange Beach, Ala. Every effort will be made to contact the administrator in the winning counties, who will be responsible for contacting the appropriate persons in that county.

Mail all entries to:

Association of County Commissions of Alabama
Attn: Donna Key
100 N. Jackson Street
Montgomery, Ala. 36104

ENTRY FORM

Award for "Excellence in County Government"

COUNTY: _____

CONTACT NAME: _____

CONTACT PHONE NUMBER: _____

TITLE OF ENTRY: _____

Category: Rural (Population under 50,000)

Urban (Population more than 50,000)

All entries **MUST** be received by 4:30 p.m. on June 27, 2009.

Decisions of the judges will be final.

Entries may be picked up at the ACCA office after August 31, 2009.

Mail entry to:

Association of County Commissions of Alabama

Attn: Donna Key

100 N. Jackson Street

Montgomery, Ala. 36104

ACCA Offers Additional Awards and Recognition Opportunities

In addition to the "Excellence in County Government" Award, the Association offers additional awards and recognition opportunities for individuals that will be presented during the awards ceremony at the Annual Convention.

Outstanding Contribution to County Government

This award is given annually to individuals who have contributed to the betterment of county government in a manner above and beyond what is expected in their everyday duties. It is not a longevity award, but represents significant contributions to county government statewide.

Previous winners include **Rep. Jack Venable**; **Buddy Sharpless**, executive director of ACCA; **Frank Courson**, Department of Transportation; and **Mike Scroggins**, Examiners of Public Accounts. These winners followed a long list of leaders who have been honored for their dedication and contribution to county government. This award is for true accomplishment by an individual or organization. Those wishing to nominate someone should complete a form and return it to the ACCA office by the deadline.

Tenure In Office

This award is given to County Commissioners who have served in office for at least 16 years. It is given to commemorate each year served, in multiples of four years, once the 16th year is completed. For example, a commissioner who has just completed his/her 16th, 20th, 24th, 28th or 32nd year of office is eligible for the award.

It is the responsibility of the county to complete the entry form for this award. ACCA staff members do not have service records on all the County Commissioners. **MAKE SURE YOUR COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR COMPLETES THE FORM FOR ALL QUALIFIED COMMISSIONERS.**

Memorials

Memorials are issued by the Association for Commissioners who have died in office since July 2008. Please have someone from your county complete this form if your county has lost a Commissioner during the past year.

If you have questions about the awards, please call **Donna Key** in the ACCA office at **(334) 263-7594**.

**MARK
YOUR
CALENDARS
TODAY!**

ACCA's

81st Annual

Convention & Exhibit Showcase

Perdido Beach Resort • Orange Beach, Ala. • Aug. 18 - 20, 2009

NOMINATION FORM

Award for Outstanding Contribution to County Government

(Note: This award is presented to the person who has made outstanding contributions to county government statewide.)

1. Name of nominee: _____

Title or position held: _____

2. Dates or length of service (please be specific): _____

3. Nature of service and contributions to county government (please use additional paper if needed): _____

PLEASE RETURN BY JUNE 27, 2009

Mail entry to:

Association of County Commissions of Alabama
Attn: Donna Key
100 N. Jackson Street
Montgomery, Ala. 36104

Submitted by: _____ Title: _____ County: _____

TENURE IN OFFICE AWARD

NOTE: Award is given to honor commissioners who have served 16 or more years and is presented following the completion of the 16th, 20th, 24th, 28th, 32nd, 36th, 40th, and so on, years.

Name: _____

County: _____

_____ Years served on the county commission

From: _____, 19____ to _____, 20____

Name: _____

County: _____

_____ Years served on the county commission

From: _____, 19____ to _____, 20____

Name: _____

County: _____

_____ Years served on the county commission

From: _____, 19____ to _____, 20____

Name: _____

County: _____

_____ Years served on the county commission

From: _____, 19____ to _____, 20____

PLEASE RETURN BY JUNE 27, 2009

Mail entry to:
Association of County Commissions of Alabama
Attn: Donna Key
100 N. Jackson Street
Montgomery, Ala. 36104

Submitted by: _____ Title: _____ County: _____

MEMORIAL

Please list the name of members of your county commission who died in office during the past year (since July 2008).

Name: _____ County: _____

Position held on county commission: _____

Years served on county commission: _____
(give dates)

Date of death: _____

Additional information or remarks: _____

PLEASE RETURN BY JUNE 27, 2009

Mail entry to:
Association of County Commissions of Alabama
Attn: Donna Key
100 N. Jackson Street
Montgomery, Ala. 36104

Submitted by: _____ Title: _____ County: _____