

## **NEWS RELEASE** – For Immediate Release

## Auditor-Controller/Treasurer/Tax Collector Ensen Mason Receives Multiple Awards for Excellence in Financial Reporting

**San Bernardino, CA** — San Bernardino County Auditor-Controller/Treasurer/Tax Collector (ATC) Ensen Mason was presented with three major Financial Reporting awards on April 9 by the County Board of Supervisors. The Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting and the Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting were presented on behalf of the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). The State Controller's Award for Counties Financial Transactions Reporting was presented on behalf of the California State Controller's Office.

"Every year, the Controller Division staff pull off a minor miracle compiling accounting data from many different departments and agencies to produce a massive two hundred plus page financial report as well as a sixteen-page, easy to read Popular Annual Financial Report," said Mason. "This report is designed to be read and understood by non-accountants so the public can know and understand the financial position of the County."

GFOA established the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Program in 1945 and has gained widespread recognition as the premier indicator of excellence in governmental accounting and financial reporting. This marks the 35<sup>th</sup> consecutive year that the Auditor-Controller/Treasurer/Tax Collector's Office (ATC) has received this program's award. In part, this award is presented to state and local governments that prepare annual financial reporting exceeding the requirements of generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), while also preparing accurate annual comprehensive financial reports that evidence the spirit of transparency and full disclosure. Reports are reviewed by members of GFOA staff and GFOA's Special Review Committee comprised of individuals with expert knowledge of public-sector financial reporting.

The Popular Annual Financial Reporting Awards Program was established in 1991 by GFOA. This is the 17th consecutive year that ATC has received this program's award, recognizing ATC's efforts to develop a highquality popular annual report that is designed to be readily accessible and easily understandable to the general public.

ATC was awarded with the State Controller's Award for Counties Financial Transactions Reporting for achieving the highest quality in California governmental accounting and financial reporting. This is the 17th consecutive year ATC has won this award, and the 18th year overall.

These major awards reflect the outstanding professionalism and commitment of ATC staff. This recognition supports the Countywide Vision and helps carry out the Board of Supervisors' commitment to sound and conservative administration of the County's finances through recognition of ATC as the enterprise financial foundation of San Bernardino County government.

ATC has made both financial reports accessible to the public online at <u>https://www.sbcountyatc.gov/Services/Documents</u> where the full reports can be viewed.

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