



Government Finance Officers Association
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May 14, 2014

James Harris III
Budget and Finance Manager
Village of Oak Park
123 Madison Street
Oak Park, IL 60302

Dear Mr. Harris:

A Panel of independent reviewers has completed its examination of your budget document. We are pleased to inform you that the panel has voted to award your budget document the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the current fiscal period. This award is the highest form of recognition in governmental budgeting. Its attainment represents a significant achievement by your organization.

The Distinguished Budget Presentation Award is valid for one year. To continue your participation in the program, it will be necessary to submit your next annual budget document to GFOA within 90 days of the proposed budget's submission to the legislature or within 90 days of the budget's final adoption. Enclosed is an application form to facilitate a timely submission. This form should be submitted with four copies of your budget accompanied by the appropriate fee.

Each program participant is provided with confidential comments and suggestions for possible improvements to the budget document. Your comments are enclosed. We urge you to carefully consider the suggestions offered by our reviewers as you prepare your next budget.

When a Distinguished Budget Presentation Award is granted to an entity, a Certificate of Recognition for Budget presentation is also presented to the individual or department designated as being primarily responsible for its having achieved the award. Enclosed is a Certificate of Recognition for Budget Preparation for:

Craig Lesner, Chief Financial Officer

Continuing participants will find a certificate and brass medallion enclosed with these results. First-time recipients will receive an award plaque that will be mailed separately and should arrive within eight to ten weeks. Enclosed is a camera-ready reproduction of the award for inclusion in your next budget. If you reproduce the camera-ready in your next budget, it should be accompanied by a statement indicating continued compliance with program criteria.

The following standardized text should be used:

James Harris III

May 14, 2014

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The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) presented a Distinguished Budget Presentation Award to **Village of Oak Park, Illinois** for its annual budget for the fiscal year beginning **January 1, 2014**. In order to receive this award, a governmental unit must publish a budget document that meets program criteria as a policy document, as an operations guide, as a financial plan, and as a communications device.

This award is valid for a period of one year only. We believe our current budget continues to conform to program requirements, and we are submitting it to GFOA to determine its eligibility for another award.

A press release is enclosed.

The Government Finance Officers Association encourages you to make arrangements for a formal presentation of the award. If you would like the award presented by a member of your state or provincial finance officers association, we can provide the name of a contact person for that group.

We appreciate your participation in this program and we sincerely hope that your example will encourage others in their efforts to achieve and maintain excellence in governmental budgeting. The most current list of award recipients (with hyperlinks) can be found on GFOA's website at www.gfoa.org. If we can be of further assistance, please contact the Technical Services Center.

Sincerely,



Stephen J. Gauthier, Director
Technical Services Center

Enclosure



The Government Finance Officers Association
of the United States and Canada

presents this

CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION FOR BUDGET PREPARATION

to

Craig Lesner, Chief Financial Officer
Village of Oak Park, Illinois

The Certificate of Recognition for Budget Preparation is presented by the Government Finance Officers Association to those individuals who have been instrumental in their government unit achieving a Distinguished Budget Presentation Award. The Distinguished Budget Presentation Award, which is the highest award in governmental budgeting, is presented to those government units whose budgets are judged to adhere to program standards.

Executive Director

Date

May 14, 2014

