



*Delaware Award for
Excellence and
Commitment in State Service*

May 3, 2011





**135TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE BILL NO. 604**

**AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 29 OF THE DELAWARE CODE BY
PROVIDING FOR EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION PROGRAMS.**

- WHEREAS, in the name of service, State employees have made great contributions to every aspect of life in the State of Delaware serving in the Legislative, Executive, and Judicial branches of government; and
- WHEREAS, the effectiveness, efficiency and quality of State government depends in large measure on its employees who provide such a broad range of services that few citizens remain unaffected by their work; and
- WHEREAS, the importance of public services rendered by State employees and the exemplary manner of their performance are too often forgotten and ignored; and
- WHEREAS, that the Statewide Labor-Management Committee has recommended that State take proactive steps to recognize dedication, talents and contributions made by State Employees at all levels of government; and
- WHEREAS, the Recognition Umbrella Committee has developed procedures and guidelines for statewide and agency level employee recognition initiatives,

NOW THEREFORE: BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE:

Section 1. Amend Chapter 59, Title 29 of the Delaware Code by adding thereto a new Section 5950 to read as follows:

§5950. Employee Recognition.

- (a) It shall be part of the function of State agencies to conduct employee recognition programs for Merit System employees and employees in positions that are assigned to comparable Merit System classes or pay grades. All such Employee recognition programs shall be approved by the State Personnel Director prior to implementation.
- (b) The first full week in May shall be designated Public Service Recognition Week. Employee recognition Programs shall not, however, be confined to this week.

This bill was passed by the House on June 26, 1990, by the Senate on September 25, 1990 and signed into law by Governor Michael N. Castle on October 15, 1990.

Awards Recognition Ceremony

May 3, 2011

<i>Remarks</i>	Ann S. Visalli Director Office of Management and Budget Valerie McCartan State Senate William J. Carson House of Representatives Justice Henry duPont Ridgely Supreme Court of Delaware Matthew Denn Lieutenant Governor
<i>Keynote Address</i>	Governor Jack A. Markell
<i>Awards</i>	Delaware Award for Excellence and Commitment in State Service ~ Recognition of Nominees ~ Recognition of Recipients



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

STATEMENT IN OBSERVANCE OF PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK

Whereas, millions of public employees at the federal, state, county and city levels dedicate their careers to public service by contributing to professional industries, such as healthcare, education, crime prevention, fire protection, conservation and national defense; and

Whereas, in the First State, public servants are the unsung heroes, who perform the work that keeps our nation strong; and

Whereas, many of these public servants have taken an oath, swearing to uphold their commitment to improve the quality of life for others; and

Whereas, their devotion and commitment to public service often continues through volunteer activities outside of official business hours and into retirement years; and

Whereas, many public servants, such as military personnel, police officers, firefighters and healthcare professionals, put their lives at risk on a daily basis to serve their neighbor; and

Whereas, the importance of public services provided by public employees and volunteers and the exemplary manner of their performance are too often forgotten or ignored; and

Whereas, designating a week to acknowledge these employees provides the opportunity to honor our public servants and remind the American public of their accomplishments and the importance of public service.

Now, Therefore, We, Jack A. Markell, Governor, and Matthew Denn, Lieutenant Governor, do hereby declare May 1—7, 2011.

PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK

in the State of Delaware and urge all Delawareans to recognize the achievements and contributions of public servants at all levels of government.

*Delaware Award for
Excellence and
Commitment in State Service*

The Delaware Award for Excellence and Commitment in State Service is an annual statewide award given to employees who exemplify the highest standards of excellence and commitment in state service. Five awards are given annually to individuals or groups of up to five employees that have been nominated by their department.

With the Cabinet Secretary's endorsement, each department submits nominations for the Delaware Award for Excellence and Commitment in State Service. A nine-member Selection Committee reviews the nominations and selects five recipients.

The Governor presents the awards to recipients at the annual Recognition Awards Ceremony. This event is held during Public Service Recognition Week in the first full week of May. Nominees and recipients for the Delaware Award for Excellence and Commitment in State Service are presented with certificates and Tributes from the General Assembly.

Congratulations to all nominees and recipients of the 2011 Delaware Award for Excellence and Commitment in State Service.

Carole Hofferker
Department of State
Office of State Bank Commissioner



During the mortgage/foreclosure crisis, Carol has been saving people's homes. She stopped hundreds of Sheriff's Sales and prevented others from reaching that level by opening lines of communication and building relationships between mortgage companies, borrowers, housing counselors and charities in all three counties. Her exceptional work has greatly benefited and positively impacted Delaware citizens.

Anthony Alba, Andrea Summers, Alison Kirk, Tim Li
Department of Safety and Homeland Security
Office of Highway Safety



This team touched thousands of Delaware teens by raising awareness of the dangers and consequences of underage drinking. Andrea, Alison, Tim, and Anthony coordinated a statewide video contest encouraging teens to create a public service announcement on the subject and planned a special awards ceremony to recognize the creative efforts of all participants. The top three videos were all visually exceptional and aggressively targeted to illustrate the perils of underage drinking to their peers.

Jennifer Volk
Department of Natural Resources and Environmental
Control, Division of Water Resources



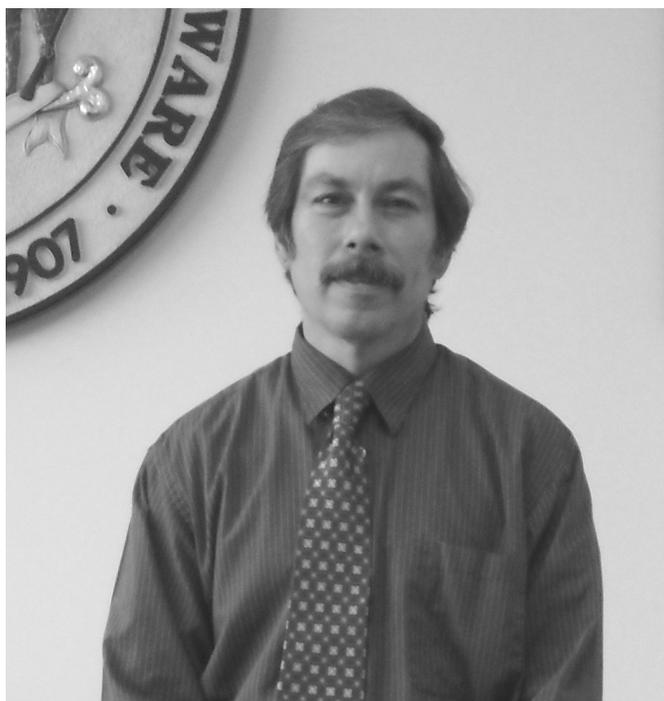
Jennifer's work at DNREC's Division of Water Resources made a difference for Delaware through the successful establishment of Delaware's Chesapeake Bay Watershed plan. President Obama's Executive Order and EPA requirements were established successfully, addressing and resolving issues that affect every Delawarean through agriculture, storm water, wastewater, land use, comprehensive plans, restorations, public lands, funding, information technology, and communications. It is not hard to see her integrity and commitment to DNREC. Despite a demanding schedule, Jennifer always strives for quality.

Greg Morehart
Department of Correction
Bureau of Community Corrections



Senior Probation Officer Greg Morehart is driven by his unit's goal of "no more victims." His knowledge, skills, and expertise assisted in an investigation involving multiple law enforcement agencies and federal organizations in the U. S. and abroad. In that case, he tracked a sex offender to Las Vegas and the Philippines and assisted with his arrest and convictions for crimes against children. This is but one example of his daily exceptional performance.

John Oldigs
Department of Correction
Bureau of Correctional Health Care Services



John is an expert in fiscal management and was instrumental in setting up payment processes for the Bureau of Correctional Health-care Services with a budget of \$50.2 million. He continually monitors services provided and payments insuring that BCHS stays within budget guidelines. This past year, John also showed heroism by assisting a Cheswold police officer who was being physically attacked. John's willingness to get involved speaks volumes to his integrity and character.

Joanne Gawinski
Department of Finance
Office of the Secretary



In addition to performing her regular assignments, Joanne outdid herself while filling in during a co-worker's prolonged absence last year. While coordinating Secretary Cook's busy schedule, she provided excellent customer service and became the "go to" person while coordinating the senior school property tax credit program. Joanne coordinated and provided administrative support to the newly formed Lottery Commission in addition to her regular responsibilities for supporting the Delaware Economic and Financial Advisory Council (DEFAC) and the Tax Appeal Board.

2011 Nominees for the Delaware Award for

Employee Names	Category of Nomination
Mary Beth McDermott	Exceptional Accomplishment
*Carole Hoffecker	Exceptional Accomplishment
Jane Hahn, Eileen Beebe	Innovative Ideas
Sandra Frazier	Exceptional Accomplishment
*Andrea Summers, Alison Kirk, Tim Li, Anthony Alba	Exceptional Accomplishment
*Jennifer Volk	Innovative Ideas
Mary Ellen Greenly	Exceptional Accomplishment
Beth Draper, Wendy Roberts, Cathy Higgins, Kim Zink	Exceptional Accomplishment
Kamlesh Sheth	Exceptional Accomplishment
*Greg Morehart	Exceptional Accomplishment
*John Oldigs	Exceptional Accomplishment
Donald Catalon, Raymond Coppage	Innovative Ideas
Todd Davis	Exceptional Accomplishment
Craig Stevenson	Innovative Ideas
Tina Shockley	Innovative Ideas
Marcia Everett	Exceptional Accomplishment
Darlene Plummer	Exceptional Accomplishment
Cynthia Allen, Karen Lazar, Beverly Morris, Joanne Hendrick	Outstanding Perseverance
Danielle Briggs	Innovative Ideas
Edna Miller Tucker	Innovative Ideas
*Joanne Gawinski	Outstanding Perseverance

Excellence and Commitment in State Service

Department

Office of the Public Defender

Department of State

Office of Management and Budget

Department of Safety and Homeland Security

Department of Safety and Homeland Security

Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control

Court of Chancery

Auditor of Accounts

Department of Technology and Information

Department of Correction

Department of Correction

Department of Correction

Department of Agriculture

Department of Transportation

Department of Transportation

Department of Health and Social Services

Department of Finance

** Denotes award recipient*

Award Selection Committee

The committee reviews all nominations and convenes to select five recipients that are recommended to the Governor to receive the Delaware Award for Excellence and Commitment in State Service.

Valerie McCartan	Senate Staff
Eli Turkel	House of Representatives Staff
Joe Hickey	Office of Management and Budget
Joe Swiski	Department of Safety and Homeland Security
Michael A. Begatto	Statewide Labor-Management Committee
John McNeal	Department of Health and Social Services
Ava Patrick	Department of Labor
Ian Littleton	First State Manufacturing, Inc.

Thanks to the committee for carefully reviewing each nomination and coming together to select the award recipients.

Thank You

Special thanks for assistance with event planning: Ann Visalli, Linda McCloskey, Joe Hickey, Sandra Reyes, Catherine Kempista, Mary Darby, Pat Johnson, Bernard Brady, Richard Puffer, Darlene Hicken-Gott, Jay Nabb, Cathy Higgins, Robin Harding, Debbie Carey, Jeanette Christian, Denise Robbins, Thompson Hospitality, and Delaware State University.

Special thanks to Andrea Hurley, Auditor's Office and Christopher Portante, Dept. of State for photography services.

Special thanks to the agency recognition coordinators who, in addition to their regular duties, make time to plan events and come up with unique ways to recognize the employees in their respective agencies. Agency recognition coordinators are:

Anthony Albence, NCC Elections; Barbara Bennett, Treasury; Debbie Carey, Agriculture; Jeanette Christian, Correction; Jennifer Dickinson, DELJIS; Patricia Diianno, Courts; Mary Jane Donnelly and Summer Jopp, Finance; Sally Wojcieszyn, DEDO; Jennifer Fitzsimmons, DNREC; Glenn Garrett, State; Jana Gindhart, DSCYF; Susan Givens, Fire Marshall; Deborah Grier, Com. of Elections; Diane Haase, Justice; Robin Harding, DSHS; Cathy Higgins, Auditor; Roberta Jones, Insurance; Robbie Weakland and Janice Jordan, DelDOT; Trudy Mifflin, OMB; Bonnie Miller, Labor; Christine Murabito, Fire School; Tamara Napier, Public Defender; Kim Thornton, DTI; Wanda Spiering, Housing; Lori Watts, DHSS.

