



## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **City Wins National Distinguished Budget Award**

**MURFREESBORO, Tenn.** – The Distinguished Budget Award has once again been awarded to the City of Murfreesboro by the Government Finance Officer Association's (GFOA).

The award was presented for the City's Fiscal Year 2014 Budget. This is the third consecutive year the national award has been presented to Murfreesboro for a distinguished budget.

The GFOA award represents a significant achievement by the City, and it reflects the City's commitment to meet the highest principles of governmental budgeting and adherence to the City's own financial policies. "The Distinguished Budget Award is the highest form of recognition in governmental budgeting. Its attainment represents a significant achievement by your organization," wrote Stephen J. Gautier, Director, GFOA, in his letter to the City.

In order to receive the Distinguished Budget Award, the City of Murfreesboro had to satisfy a stringent set of nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation. The guidelines assess how well the budget serves as a policy document, financial plan, operations guide, and communications device.

City Manager Rob Lyons commented "We are honored to be recognized. We believe that presenting the City's budget in accordance with these national standards makes the budget document readable, understandable and can help our residents know the goals, programs and objectives established by City Council. We want to make it easy for the public to understand their city government."

City Finance Director Melissa Wright added that she believes the City works diligently every year to produce a better budget document.

City Manager Rob Lyons stated "This honor wouldn't be possible without the City Council's direction and the hard work of city staff. I'd especially like to thank the entire Finance Department for their work, as well as Finance Director Melissa Wright, Assistant Finance Director Erin Tucker, Accountant Ana Stovall, Assistant City Manager Jim Crumley and Assistant to the City Manager Shannon Logan for their work and to the City Council for their direction. One of the Council's major goals is strong financial condition and the GFOA award confirms the organization's commitment to that goal."

GFOA is a nonprofit professional association serving 17,800 government finance professionals throughout North America. The GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Awards program is the only national program in governmental budgeting.

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