



**Government Finance Officers Association**  
203 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2700  
Chicago, Illinois 60601-1210  
312.977.9700 fax: 312.977.4806

February 17, 2009

**PRESS RELEASE**

For Further Information Contact  
Stephen J. Gauthier (312) 977-9700

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Chicago--The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) is pleased to announce that **City of Pharr, Texas** has received the GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its budget.

The award represents a significant achievement by the entity. It reflects the commitment of the governing body and staff to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting. In order to receive the budget award, the entity had to satisfy nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation. These guidelines are designed to assess how well an entity's budget serves as:

- a policy document
- a financial plan
- an operations guide
- a communications device

Budget documents must be rated "proficient" in all four categories to receive the award.

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. This has been presented to **Juan G. Guerra, CPA, Finance Director, and Finance Department.**

For budgets including fiscal period 2007, 1,165 entities received the Award. Award recipients have pioneered efforts to improve the quality of budgeting and provide an excellent example for other governments throughout North America.

The Government Finance Officers Association is a nonprofit professional association serving 17,500 government finance professionals throughout North America. The GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Awards Program is the only national awards program in governmental budgeting.



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February 17, 2009

Mr. Juan G. Guerra  
Finance Director  
City of Pharr  
118 South Cage Boulevard  
Pharr, TX 78577

Dear Mr. Guerra:

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:

**Juan G. Guerra, CPA, Finance Director**  
**Finance Department**

Your award plaque 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:

Mr. Juan G. Guerra

February 17, 2009

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The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) presented a Distinguished Budget Presentation Award to **City of Pharr, Texas** for its annual budget for the fiscal year beginning **October 1, 2008**. 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.

Also enclosed is a press release.

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.

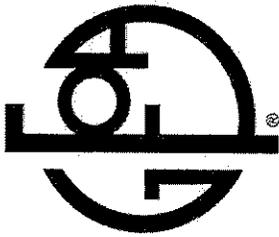
We appreciate your participation in this program and we sincerely hope that your example will encourage others in their efforts to achieve and maintain excellence in governmental budgeting. If we can be of further assistance, please contact the Technical Services Center.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stephen J. Gauthier".

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

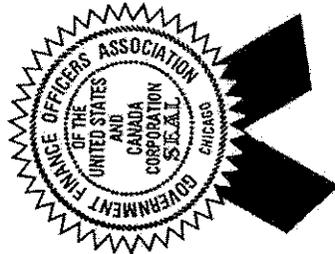
*to*

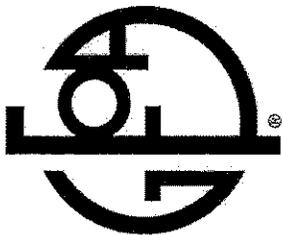
**Juan G. Guerra, CPA, Finance Director  
City of Pharr, Texas**

*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 February 17, 2009





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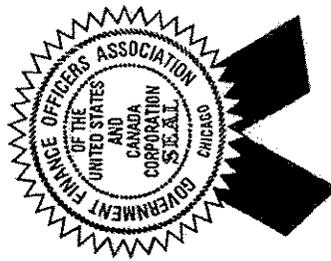
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Finance Department  
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Executive Director

Date February 17, 2009





GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

*Distinguished  
Budget Presentation  
Award*

PRESENTED TO

**City of Pharr  
Texas**

For the Fiscal Year Beginning

**October 1, 2008**

President

Executive Director