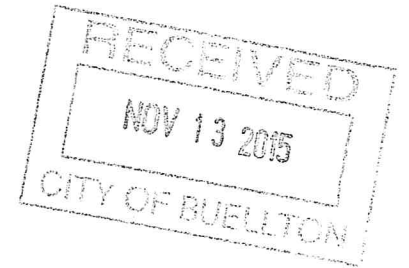




Government Finance Officers Association  
203 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2700  
Chicago, Illinois 60601-1210  
312.977.9700 fax: 312.977.4806

November 3, 2015

The Honorable Holly Sierra  
Mayor  
City of Buellton  
107 West Highway 246  
Buellton, CA 93427



Dear Mayor Sierra:

I am pleased to notify you that City of Buellton, California has received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the current budget from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). This award is the highest form of recognition in governmental budgeting and represents a significant achievement by your organization.

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:

**Carolyn Galloway-Cooper, CPA, Finance Director**

We hope you will arrange for a formal public presentation of the award, and that appropriate publicity will be given to this notable achievement. A press release is enclosed for your use.

We appreciate your participation in GFOA's Budget Awards Program. Through your example, we hope that other entities will be encouraged to achieve excellence in budgeting.

Sincerely,

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

Stephen J. Gauthier, Director  
Technical Services Center

Enclosure



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November 3, 2015

**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 Buellton, California** 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, and the fourteen mandatory criteria within those 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 **Carolyn Galloway-Cooper, CPA, Finance Director**

For budgets beginning in 2013, 1,424 participants 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 major professional association servicing the needs of more than 18,000 appointed and elected local, state, and provincial-level government officials and other finance practitioners. It provides top quality publications, training programs, services, and products designed to enhance the skills and performance of those responsible for government finance policy and management. The association is headquartered in Chicago, Illinois, with offices in Washington D.C. The GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Awards Program is the only national awards program in governmental budgeting.