

NEWS RELEASE
October 19, 2004

**SCOTT COUNTY, IOWA IS GIVEN
HIGHEST AWARD IN FINANCIAL REPORTING**

Carol Schaefer, Chairman of the Scott County Board of Supervisors, Karen Fitzsimmons, County Auditor, and Bill Fennelly, County Treasurer, jointly announced today that Scott County has been awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for Scott County's FY03 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) **for the seventeenth (17th) year in a row**. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment.

Scott County is one of only five Iowa counties to hold the Certificate of Achievement. Only 41 of the 1,488 governmental units in the State of Iowa currently hold this honor.

The report has been judged by an impartial panel to meet the high standards of the program including demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" to clearly communicate its financial story and motivate potential persons and user groups to read the report.

The Board of Supervisors has designated the continued achievement of this certification as a priority. The Board, County Treasurer, and County Auditor expressed their appreciation to Craig Hufford, Financial Management Supervisor in the Treasurer's Office; Wes Rostenbach, Accounting and Tax Manager in the Auditor's Office; Pat Reynolds, Budget Coordinator in Administration, Ray Wierson, County Administrator; and the County's auditing firm of McGladrey & Pullen, LLP for their work and professional guidance in helping the County to obtain this financial reporting honor.

The GFOA is a non-profit professional association serving approximately 14,000 government finance professionals. The association produces a variety of technical publications in various fields of governmental finance, and represents the public finance community in Washington D.C. The association provides numerous training opportunities for public finance professionals.

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