

The Mississippi Municipal League's

# 2010 Mississippi Municipal Excellence Awards

The Mississippi Municipal League Municipal Excellence Awards recognize and encourage the achievements of Mississippi cities in meeting the challenges of municipal government. Innovative problem solving, excellence in management, increasing citizen participation and reaching toward higher service levels are all daily

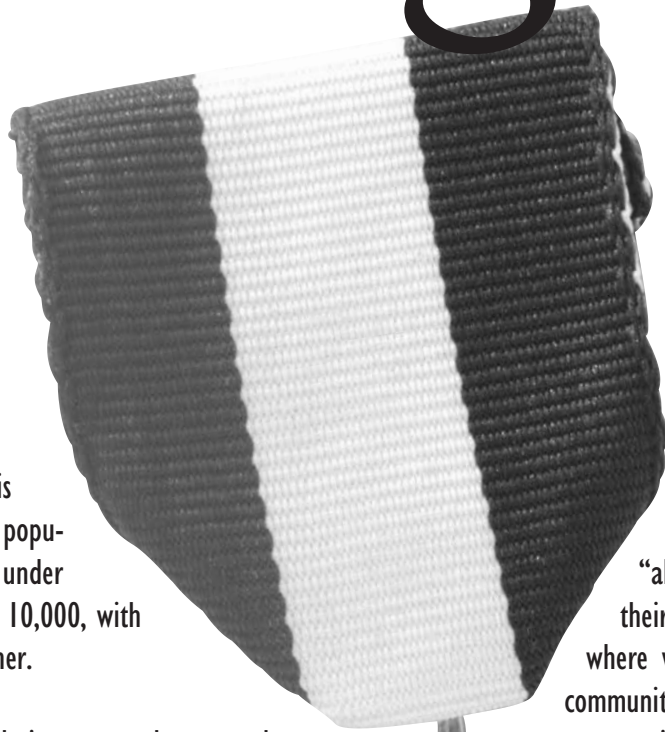
occurrences in Mississippi cities and they deserve recognition.

Each year this award program seeks out the best of these programs for public recognition.

By recognizing the “best of the best” all Mississippi cities share and learn from these achievements.



# Categories



The competition is divided into two population categories, under 10,000 and over 10,000, with one overall winner.

Within each population range, there are three categories: Public Safety, Planning and Economic Development, and City Spirit.

- **Public Safety** - Award applications in this category would include efforts to improve the safety and security of the city. Included would be law enforcement programs, fire and emergency response programs, and youth programs related to public safety, and disaster response programs.
- **Planning and Economic Development** - Award applications in this category combine the best efforts in making plans aimed at growth, stability, and improved quality of life and the resulting projects they produce. Show plans your city has made and the results that have followed.

- **City Spirit** - This category is for the individuals or groups that have gone “above and beyond” in their efforts to make their community a better place to live. This is where we want to honor citizens who make their community a good place to call home. Volunteer programs, individual efforts, and the “unsung heroes” belong in this category.

- **Public Works / Infrastructure Improvements** - Award Applications in this category should illustrate innovation in the creation and development of public infrastructure improvements. Efforts would include, but not limited to improvements to water, sewer, drainage, and overall infrastructure improvements.

Municipalities may submit only one entry in each of the three subject categories (for a total of three entries per community). Each entry should demonstrate a proven record of effectiveness and evidence that the program or person has achieved its goals.

# Application Process

The awards program is open to all Mississippi Municipal League members. Each municipality can submit one award application in each subject category, for a total of three applications. Entries must describe programs or projects brought to conclusion or showing significant results between June 1, 2009 and April 30, 2010.

For each project submitted, an official Municipal Excellence Award entry application must be completed. Please type or legibly print information requested on the award application. **The application must be signed by the city's chief elected or administrative officer.** Four (For a total of five in each category) copies of each application MUST accompany the original application.

When completing the award application, the description of the project must be concise and limited to less than 75 words. The summary of the project, which can be longer, should include the following information:

- why the project/individual/group was initiated;
- how it accomplished the goal;
- who benefited;
- what was the level of cooperation/ feedback/ interest/participation in the city;
- what were the time or money savings;
- what were time and money costs;
- what was the improvement to quality of service or livability of the city; and
- what is the future impact on the city.

This information may appear on separate pages.

Additional information - Each applicant is asked to provide four (+ original) copies of the application each in a three ring binder (two inches thick or smaller). Please DO NOT provide additional information, videos, or display with your application. All applications submitted will become the property of the Mississippi Municipal League, and will not be returned.

## Award Application Deadline

All entries, including additional material if submitted, must be received in the MML offices by **4:00 p.m. on Friday, April 30, 2010.** Entries can be mailed

or shipped to: MML Municipal Excellence Awards Program, 600 East Amite Street, Suite 104, Jackson, MS 39201. Mailed entries must be post-marked April 30, 2010. Faxed applications will not be accepted. You will receive, by mail, confirmation that your entry has been received. Entries, including additional material, will not be returned.

The Mississippi Municipal League, its staff, officers and board of directors, will not be responsible for any lost, delayed or misdirected award applications.

## Judging Process

Entries will be screened by MML staff for completeness. Any entries deemed not complete will be excluded.

Final judging will be conducted by an independent panel of judges with considerable experience in the area of municipal government. The judging will take place in Jackson and will be closed to the public.

Judges will be asked to look for the following attributes of each entry:

- Is the project innovative?
- Did the project achieve its goal?
- What is the long-term value to the city?
- Can the project be adopted in other cities?

## Announcement of the Winners

All winning applicants will be notified by phone. The winners will be featured in a future issue of *Mississippi Municipalities* magazine. In addition, the winners will be recognized at the MML Annual Conference to be held in June 2010.

## Additional Information

Additional information on the MML Municipal Excellence Awards Program can be obtained by contacting the MML office at 800-325-7641 or by email: [shari1@mmlonline.com](mailto:shari1@mmlonline.com).



# Awards Checklist

Have you completed an award application for each entry?

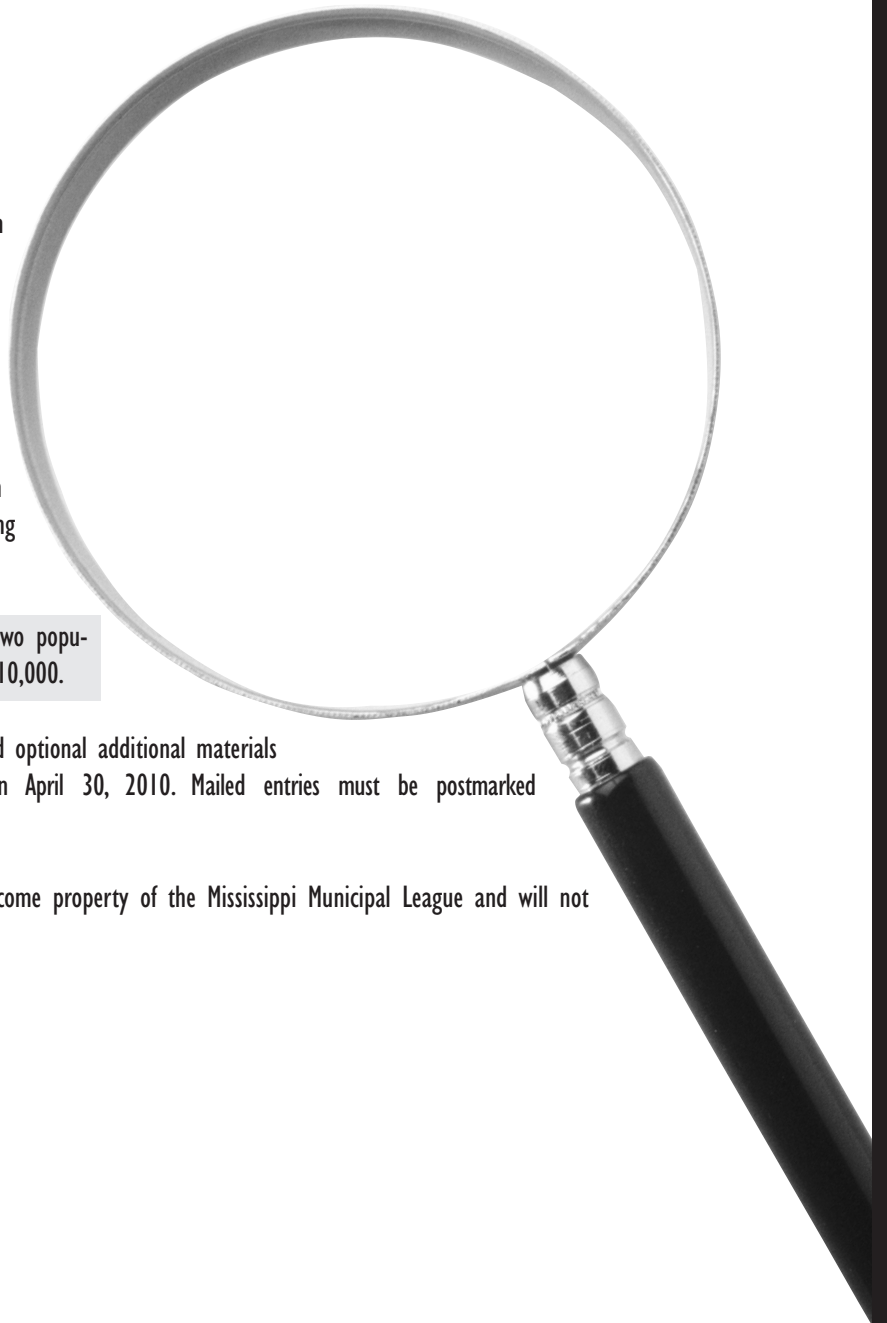
Has the award application been signed by the city's chief elected or administrative officer?

Have you included the original application along with four copies, each one in a 3-ring binder?

Reminder: Applications will be judged in two population categories: under 10,000 and over 10,000.

Will your completed award application and optional additional materials reach the MML offices by 4:00 p.m. on April 30, 2010. Mailed entries must be postmarked April 30, 2010.

Remember, all materials submitted will become property of the Mississippi Municipal League and will not be returned.



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# 2010 Municipal Excellence Award

## APPLICATION

City Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Population: \_\_\_\_\_

Subject Category of Entry: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Entry: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Project: \_\_\_\_\_

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Project Summary: \_\_\_\_\_

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