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**EAST TEXAS COUNCIL OF
GOVERNMENTS**



PRESS RELEASE

ETCOG RECEIVES AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN FINANCIAL REPORTING
FOR FIFTEENTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR



ETCOG Operations Team, Left to Right: Christy Fowler, Ed Weaver, Kim Zimmerman, Patrisha Hudspeth, Monty Scroggins, Rita Hitt, Dawn Goodeman, Noweka Harvey, ETCOG Executive Director - David Cleveland, Director of Operations – Wendi Horst, Glenda Lamothe, Rhonda Barber, Charlotte Countryman, Christy Green, Neva McClurg, Sloane Bodle, and Lynda Bond

Kilgore, TX, January 6, 2017: The Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting has been awarded to the East Texas Council of Governments by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for its comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR) for 2015. 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 by a government and its management. An

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Award of Financial Reporting Achievement has been awarded to the department designated as primarily responsible for preparing the award-winning CAFR. This has been presented to the East Texas Council of Governments Operations Division.

“The Excellence in Financial Reporting award has been bestowed upon the East Texas Council of Governments for fifteen straight years and counting! This is a particularly impressive achievement when you consider the fact ETCOG currently manages 91 different funding streams on behalf of the East Texas region” stated Executive Director David Cleveland. “I am proud of our entire Operations team and all the staff of ETCOG who work hard every single day to ensure that our financial reporting is accurate and transparent for our funding agencies and the general public”.

“We are very honored to receive this award,” said Director of Operations, Wendi Horst. “It recognizes the standards our leaders expect from ETCOG on a national level and is a great tribute to the dedication and hard work of our team.”

ETCOG's 2015 CAFR can be [viewed here](#). The CAFR 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 users and user groups to read the CAFR.

About GFOA

The GFOA is a nonprofit professional association serving approximately 17,500 government finance professionals with offices in Chicago, IL, and Washington, D.C. For more information on the GFOA, contact Stephen Gauthier at (312) 977-9700.

About ETCOG

The East Texas Council of Governments (ETCOG) is a voluntary association of counties, cities, school districts and special districts within the fourteen-county East Texas region. ETCOG assists local governments in planning for common needs, cooperating for mutual benefit and coordinating for sound regional development. Established in 1970, ETCOG, either directly, or through its contractors, provides programs and services for East Texas seniors, employers, and job seekers. ETCOG and its contractors also build the 9-1-1 emergency call delivery system, provide peace officer training and homeland security planning services; and deliver rural transportation services, business finance programs, and environmental grant funding for the region.