



DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE
FINANCE DIVISION

Mark D. Wyss
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Kris Moen, CPA
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December 10, 2015

Mayor and Common Council
Administration and Finance Committee
West Allis, WI

Dear Council Members:

I am pleased to communicate to the Mayor and Common Council that the City of West Allis Finance Department has once again been awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting, presented by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada.

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 financial management.

The City of West Allis 2014 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) was 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 users groups to read the CAFR.

The preparation of the CAFR is a project that the Finance Department works on from January to April each year, in preparation for our annual financial statement audit. Receipt of this award is a credit to all who had input in the creation of the 2014 CAFR, in particular Kris Moen, Shawn Hart, Nicole O'Connor, and Christine Phinney.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mark D. Wyss", is written over a large, light blue scribble.

Mark D. Wyss
Finance Director/Comptroller/City Treasurer



Government Finance Officers Association

**Certificate of
Achievement
for Excellence
in Financial
Reporting**

Presented to

**City of West Allis
Wisconsin**

For its Comprehensive Annual
Financial Report
for the Fiscal Year Ended

December 31, 2014

Executive Director/CEO



Government Finance Officers Association
203 N. LaSalle Street - Suite 2700
Chicago, IL 60601

Phone (312) 977-9700 Fax (312) 977-4806

December 4, 2015

Mark D. Wyss
Comptroller
City of West Allis
7525 W. Greenfield Avenue
West Allis WI 53214

Dear Mr. Wyss:

We are pleased to notify you that your comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR) for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014, qualifies for a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

Each entity submitting a report to the Certificate of Achievement review process is provided with a "Summary of Grading" form and a confidential list of comments and suggestions for possible improvements in its financial reporting techniques. Your list has been enclosed. You are strongly encouraged to implement the recommended improvements into the next report and submit it to the program. If it is unclear what must be done to implement a comment or if there appears to be a discrepancy between the comment and the information in the CAFR, please contact the Technical Services Center (312) 977-9700 and ask to speak with a Certificate of Achievement Program in-house reviewer.

Certificate of Achievement program policy requires that written responses to the comments and suggestions for improvement accompany the next fiscal year's submission. Your written responses should provide detail about how you choose to address each item that is contained within this report. These responses will be provided to those Special Review Committee members participating in the review.

When a Certificate of Achievement is awarded to a government, an Award of Financial Reporting Achievement (AFRA) is also presented to the individual(s) or department designated by the government as primarily responsible for its having earned the Certificate. Enclosed is an AFRA for:

Finance Department, City of West Allis

Continuing participants will find a certificate and brass medallion enclosed with these results. First-time recipients will find a certificate enclosed with these results followed by a plaque in about 10 weeks. We hope that you will arrange for a formal presentation of the Certificate and Award of Financial Reporting Achievement, and that appropriate publicity will be given to this notable achievement. A sample news release has been enclosed. We suggest that you provide copies of it to local newspapers, radio stations and television stations. In addition, details of recent recipients of the Certificate of Achievement and other information about Certificate Program results are available in the "Awards Program" area of our website, www.gfoa.org.

A current holder of a Certificate of Achievement may include a reproduction of the award in its immediately subsequent CAFR. A camera ready copy of your Certificate is enclosed for that purpose. If you reproduce your Certificate in your next report, please refer to the enclosed instructions. A Certificate of Achievement is valid for a period of one year. To continue to participate in the Certificate of Achievement Program it will be necessary for you to submit your next CAFR to our review process.

In order to expedite your submission we have enclosed a Certificate of Achievement Program application form to facilitate a timely submission of your next report. This form should be completed and sent (postmarked) with three copies of your report, three copies of your application, three copies of your written responses to the program's comments and suggestions for improvement from the prior year, and any other pertinent material with the appropriate fee by June 30, 2016.

Your continued interest in and support of the Certificate of Achievement Program is most appreciated. If we may be of any further assistance, please contact Delores Smith (dsmith@gfoa.org or (312) 578-5454).

Sincerely,
Government Finance Officers Association

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

Stephen J. Gauthier, Director
Technical Services Center

SJG/ds