



News Release
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**FINANCE DEPARTMENT HONORED WITH
THREE PROFESSIONAL AWARDS
ACHIEVING ‘THE TRIFECTA’**

Sarasota, FL: The Finance Department was honored recently by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada with three prestigious professional awards. Known as ‘The Trifecta’, earning all three awards is the hallmark of excellence in the government finance realm.

“Of the 400 plus municipalities, 67 counties and 67 schools in the State of Florida, just 21 local governments earned all three awards and the City of Sarasota is one,” said City Manager Tom Barwin. “A small group of dedicated professionals comprise the Finance Department. Earning The Trifecta is a remarkable achievement and highlights the fact that the City’s finances are in capable, professional hands.”

The three awards are:

1. **Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting** - Preparation of comprehensive finance reports which exceed the minimum requirements of generally accepted accounting principles. *This is the 34th year the City of Sarasota has earned this award.*
2. **Distinguished Budget Presentation Award** – Presenting complex government budgets in a high quality manner that reflect best practices on budgeting. Considers the budget as a policy document, financial plan, operations guide, and communications device. *This is the 25th year the City of Sarasota has earned this award.*
3. **Popular Annual Financial Reporting Award** – Extracting information from the comprehensive annual financial report and presenting it in an easy to understand manner for the public, particularly for individuals who do not have a background in government finance. The City of Sarasota produced its first Popular Annual Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2013 and has been honored with this award for two consecutive years.

“We appreciate the support we receive from all the departments throughout the City,” said Finance Director John Lege. “By working closely with staff and with their

assistance we're able to produce quality documents like these and, ultimately, be honored with The Trifecta. The team is very excited about earning The Trifecta."

"We appreciate the Finance Department's dedication," said Mr. Barwin. "Staff has a tremendous responsibility managing the City's finances. They excel in their work and have fun along the way. Congratulations on The Trifecta!"

A fun video celebrating the Finance Department's achievement can be found at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HaqiSHD2N5A>

For more information contact [John Lege](#), Finance Director: 941-954-4185.

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About the City of Sarasota: Distinguished by Google as a Digital Capital in the U.S., the City of Sarasota is a diverse community located on Florida's Suncoast with 53,000 year round residents, several internationally recognized cultural arts venues, stunning sunsets along Lido Beach, a 45-hole municipal golf course at the historic Bobby Jones Golf Club, and Major League spring training baseball with the Baltimore Orioles. Learn more about us at www.SarasotaGov.com

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