



STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT & BUDGET

LANSING

JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

LISA WEBB SHARPE
DIRECTOR

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Contact: Edward Woods III
(517) 373-1004

Two DMB employees nominated to receive national awards

Two Michigan Department of Management and Budget office directors have been nominated to receive national honors from the Association of Government Accountants.

Howard Pizzo, director of Financial Services, has been nominated to receive the Excellence in Government Leadership Award, which is presented to an individual who serves as a role model and exhibits high personal and professional standards. Sean Carlson, director of the Acquisition Services, has been nominated to receive the William R. Snodgrass Distinguished Leadership Award, which is given to an individual in state government whose leadership improves financial management practices, policies, systems or operations and who exhibits high personal and professional standards.

Pizzo has worked in state government more than 36 years, directing financial and accounting programs for the Department of Management and Budget. He serves as chief financial officer for the department. Pizzo has been a leader in establishing administrative partnerships between DMB and other state departments, enabling departments to consolidate business functions and cut costs. He helped establish a partnership with the Department of Information Technology that is credited with saving \$2 million annually. Pizzo recently earned the title of certified government financial manager, and he serves as president of the AGA's Lansing chapter.

Carlson has spearheaded efforts to renegotiate contracts for goods and services, seeking lower prices from vendors. In less than three years, this practice has saved more than \$350 million. He also has been instrumental in eliminating sole-source contracts, ensuring a fair, open and competitive contracting process. Carlson came to DMB in 2003. He previously worked as senior human resource manager for the Pepsi Bottling Group in Detroit area and served with the U.S. Air Force contracting and logistics services.

"The AGA could not have chosen two more deserving honorees," said DMB Director Lisa Webb Sharpe. "Howard and Sean are committed to providing high-quality government services at the lowest possible cost. Their leadership has been key in DMB's efforts to achieve the governor's objectives of good government and providing savings and efficiency."

The AGA is a national organization that provides government accountability professionals with educational and professional development opportunities and supports standards and research to advance government accountability. The awards will be presented at the association's national leadership conference Feb. 2 in Washington, D.C.

Michigan's Department of Management and Budget provides cost-effective business services to state government. Additional information is available at www.michigan.gov/dmb.