

2006 Florida Cities of Excellence Awards Program ▶

Category (Please check one) See Award Criteria for more information. Please print or type. One nomination per page.

Name of Municipality Nominated _____
Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

Name of Municipality Nominated _____
Nominated Project _____
Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

Name of Individual Nominated _____
Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

Name of Individual Nominated _____
Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

Name of Individual Nominated _____
Title _____ Department _____
Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

Name of Individual Nominated _____
Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

Name of Individual Nominated _____
Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

Name of Individual Nominated _____
Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)



Name of Individual Nominated Finance Official
Mark C. Mason
Nominated by City of Cape Coral
(Name of City/Town/Village)

Name of Individual Nominated _____
Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

Please print or type.

Name Terry Stewart
Title City Manager
Government City of Cape Coral
Address P.O. Box 150027, Cape Coral, FL 33915
Telephone Number (239) 574-0450 Fax (239) 574-0450
E-mail Address tstewart@capecoral.net

This nomination has been voted on and approved by a majority of the city council/commission.

Signed Bonnie J. Hart
City Clerk

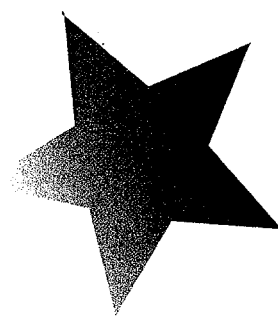
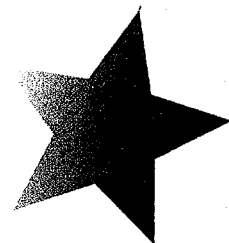
The judges will use the narrative and supportive information to select the award winners. Nominators/nominees are asked not to contact the judges directly.

In the narrative, please be clear and concise, using the Award Criteria to support the selection of your nominee. Please type (or print in black ink), up to 1,200 words, double-spaced on white 8-1/2" x 11" paper.

Up to 10 pages of supportive information (newspaper clippings, photographs, letters from constituents, etc.), on 8-1/2" x 11" paper (single-sided) may be provided. Please do not include videotapes, DVDs, CDs or Power-Point presentations.

Submit nominations by **August 18, 2006:**

Florida League of Cities, Inc.
Attn: Florida Cities of Excellence
301 S. Bronough Street, Suite 300 (32301)
P.O. Box 1757
Tallahassee, FL 32302-1757



**Florida League of Cities
Cities of Excellence
City Financial Officer of the Year Award**

Name: Mark C. Mason
Title: Director of Financial Services
Jurisdiction: City of Cape Coral

Financial Services Director, Mark Mason, has just completed his third year with the City of Cape Coral and for the second year in a row, Cape Coral has been identified as the fifth fastest growing city in the nation with populations in excess of 100,000. Mark's leadership has been an essential element in the City's ability to address the many and varied financial challenges it has faced during his tenure. He brings to the Finance Department seven years of Director level experience and a Certified Public Accountant accreditation. He holds a Bachelor of Business Administration Degree in Accounting and is currently pursuing a Master's Degree in Public Administration.

Mark's areas of responsibility include Customer Billing Services, Accounting, Budget, and Procurement. Within each area of responsibility, Mark has addressed a myriad of issues and challenges with steadfast and dedicated resolve to protect the financial well-being of the City and the community as a whole.

As a result of the tremendous growth and the need to serve our growing community, a planned utility extension program was developed to provide water, wastewater, and irrigation utility services to all properties. The planned program

feel that they had the financial means available to select one of the other two payment methods.

Another requirement as a result of the growth and the need to provide service lines has been ensuring the physical water, wastewater, and irrigation facilities are adequate to service not only the infill areas of the City but also the expansion areas. Mark has worked closely with Public Works establishing and reviewing the five year capital improvement plan for the utility system which has an estimated funding requirement of \$564 million.

In May 2006, Mark presented a multi-faceted financial plan that would support the identified capital improvement needs. The plan included the use of commercial paper as an interim financing source; the issuance of bonds in 2006, 2008, and 2010; and changes in the utility user fee rate structure. Mark's commitment to ensuring the strong financial standing of the City is evident in not only the plan to support the needs of utility system but within every financial plan that is developed.

Mark also manages the City's operating budget which is now in excess of \$500 million. Under Mark's leadership, the City's FY 2005 operating budget received Special Performance Measure Recognition through the Government Finance Officer's Association (GFOA) Distinguished Budget Presentation Award Program. The City was one of only fifteen entities receiving the special recognition out of the 1,067 submissions. Additionally, in the recently released GFOA publication, *Preparing High Quality Budget Documents*, several excerpts from the City's operating budget document were used as examples. Further,

Mark created a simple to read budget summary document for resident information and understanding.

Mark exhibits the highest level of integrity and professionalism in leading the Financial Service Department. His innovative ideas and approaches exemplify those of a true municipal leader and are deserving of the recognition and designation of City Finance Official of the Year.