## **Press Release**

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact: County of Alameda Contact Person: John Glann, Purchasing Manager Company Name: General Services Agency, Purchasing Department Telephone Number: 510-208-9627 Fax Number: 510-208-9626 Email Address: John.Glann@acgov,org Web site address: www.acgov.org

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## **County of Alameda Purchasing Department Receives the**

## 'National Achievement of Excellence in Procurement' Award for 2012

The County of Alameda General Services Agency-Purchasing Department works to bring enhanced value to its operations on behalf of the County, while maintaining transparency and supporting County mandates. As a result of these efforts, GSA-Purchasing has earned the National Procurement Institute's (NPI) Achievement of Excellence in Procurement (AEP) Award for 2012. The AEP recognizes organizational excellence in procurement on a national level. GSA-Purchasing earned the award by obtaining a high application score based on innovation, professionalism, e-procurement, productivity, and leadership.

The County of Alameda is 1 of only 40 government agencies in California and 1 of only 41 counties in the United States to receive the award. This is the third AEP award GSA-Purchasing has earned in the past five years. The County of Alameda also received the award in 2007 and 2008.

The Purchasing Department is responsible for procuring goods and services for all County agencies and departments, under the direction of the Purchasing Manager, John Glann, Director of the General Services Agency, Aki Nakao, and the Board of Supervisors. Its duties are governed by the laws of the State of California, the County Charter and its Ordinances. Purchasing provides assistance to County departments from preparing routine purchase orders and drafting contracts to conducting competitive bid solicitations to obtain goods and services which meet high standards of value and quality. The benefits include lower commodity and acquisition costs through standardization, volume pricing, value analysis and specialized knowledge of market conditions.

The award ceremony was held at the annual California Association of Public Procurement Officials convention in January of 2013 in Napa, California. Accepting the award for the Purchasing Department are Kai Moore, Contract Specialist II and Dorian Makres, Senior Contracts Specialist.