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July 28, 2006

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**GLENDALE'S FINANCE DEPARTMENT
HONORED WITH BEST PRACTICES AWARD**

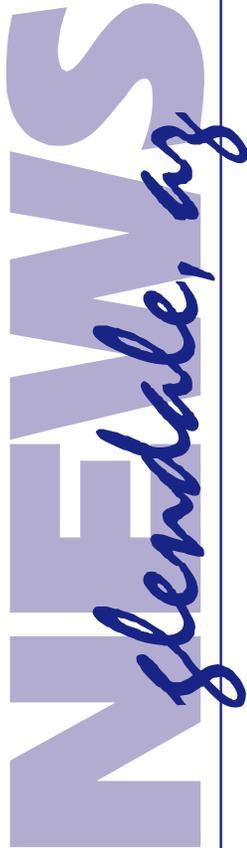
GLENDALE, Ariz. – The city of Glendale's Finance Department has been awarded the 2006 Best Practices Award by the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing (NIGP.)

The NIGP award is given to the organization that develops and implements a new purchasing program, policy or process that enhances one of the elements of customer focus; leadership; performance improvement; process management; strategic planning or technology.

In 2005, the Materials Management, also known as the Purchasing Division, of the Finance Department implemented a major upgrade to its financial software, pertaining to purchase orders and requisitions. The upgrade was designed to develop a new training program that would better meet the needs of its internal customers. Staff developed a training program that is available to all employees 24-hours a day, seven days a week through the city's intranet site in a visual, hands-on format.

The award will be presented to the city of Glendale on Aug. 8 at the NIGP Forum in Tampa, Florida. Organized in 1944, the NIGP is a national non-profit educational and technical organization of public purchasing agencies composed of 70 affiliate chapters and more than 2,100 agency members representing federal, state and local government levels throughout the United States and Canada.

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