

PRESS RELEASE – ERIE COUNTY RECEIVES AUDITOR OF STATE AWARD WITH DISTINCTION

September 2, 2020

Rick Jeffrey, Erie County Auditor, Pam Ferrell, Erie County Treasurer and the financial staff members of all Erie County's Departments were awarded their second Auditor of State Award with Distinction. Lori Brodie, Northwest Regional Liaison for Keith Faber, Ohio Auditor of State presented the award. As the award reads: "This award is presented for excellence in financial reporting related to the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and compliance with applicable laws for the fiscal year ended 2019. Your exemplary reporting serves as the standard for clean, accountable government, representing the highest level of service to Ohioans."

Auditor Jeffrey remarked "We as a County set the bar last year after receiving our first award for results going forward. Our Auditor's accounting staff, the Treasurer and her staff, with the support of all the departments in the county, were partners in making this happen."

The County also accomplished the highest of a 4 star rating on the new Ohio Sunshine Law Star Rating System which is the highest achievement in Open and Transparent Government practices.

Per the Auditor of State's website, eligible entities that receive this award meet the following criteria of a "clean" audit report:

The entity must file financial reports with the Auditor of State's office by the statutory due date, without extension, via the Hinkle System, on a GAAP accounting basis and prepare a CAFR (Comprehensive Annual Financial Report); and the audit report does not contain any findings for recovery, material citations, material weaknesses, significant deficiencies, Uniform Guidance (Single Audit) findings or questioned costs;

The entity's management letter contains no comments related to: ethics referrals, questioned costs less than the threshold per the Uniform Guidance, lack of timely annual financial report submission, bank reconciliation issues, failure to obtain a timely Single Audit in accordance with Uniform Guidance, Findings for recovery less than \$500, public meetings or public records issues, or the entity has no other financial or other concerns

Copies of the CAFR are available at the Erie County Auditor's website www.erie.iviewauditor.com under the Financial tab. Audit reports are available at www.auditor.state.oh.us under the Audits area.