

August 1998

President's Message

Howard L. Longballa, Director of Finance, Placentia

I had the pleasure of representing CSMFO at the Government Finance Offices Association's 92nd Annual Conference in San Francisco June 27–July 1. It has been a number of years since I have had the opportunity to attend a GFOA conference or any other conference of this magnitude. The local committee said they expected 5,000 delegates and additional 3,000 family members for a total attendance of 8,000 (the largest ever)! On Saturday GFOA held a "State/Provincial Representatives and Presidents Meeting" in which all state presidents were introduced and GFOA demonstrated their new CD-Rom on State and Local Budgeting Guidelines. We also discussed the GFOA Certification Program, the **GFOA Executive Board Elections** process, and GASB contributions. I also was invited to (and attended) the Arizona and Washington Finance Officers breakfasts continuing to foster our warm relationships with these sister organizations.

The conference programming was excellent and the Local Conference Committee, chaired by Ed Harrington, Controller, City and County of San Francisco, are to be congratulated. The following

CSMFO active members were moderators and/or speakers: Irwin Bornstein (past president); Bill Statler: Karen Sundin: Jay Goldstone: Barbara Henderson (past president); Kenneth Spray; Barbara Lloyd; John deRussy (past president); Daniel Hempel; Harriet Commons; Gary Hill; Jerry Rogers, and many of our commercial members. In addition, it was very interesting and educational to visit the approximately 170 exhibitors in the Moscone Center. I am very pleased that CSMFO will offer our member exhibitors an opportunity to share with us their

Budget and CAFR Award Applications Attached for Active Members!

Special Districts: See page 3 note re: Budget Application

valuable services at our upcoming 1999 Annual Seminar in Monterey.

Please join me in thanking two of our long-time valuable active members who have made tough "life" decisions and will be leaving the CSMFO Leadership Team: both were Standing Committee Chairpersons. Al Holliman (Vista), Annual Seminar, has chosen to join a financial advisory firm located in Solana Beach. Eunice Kramer (El Segundo),

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Attachments:

- Weekend Training Seminar Announcement and Registration Form
- CSMFO CAFR Award Application Form
- ■CSMFO Budget Award Application Forms

California Society of Municipal Finance Officers

www.csmfo.org

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Placentia

President-Elect Mary Bradley

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Committees

Administration

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Annual Seminar

Dennis Danner, Newport Beach Tim Hansen, San Leandro Stan Lindsay, Santa Rosa

Budgeting and Management Reporting

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Career Development

Jerry Rogers, Riverside Mark Prestwich, Sunnyvale Bill Statler, San Luis Obispo

Cash Management

Ron Clark, La Verne Jim Randall, San Ramon Bob Biery, Thousand Oaks

Intergovernmental Relations

Robert Torrez, Long Beach Larry Schroeder, Lakewood Kurt Hahn, Healdsburg

Professional and Technical Standards

Derek Hanway, Burbank Genie Roberts, Temecula Larry Hurst, Brea

Technology

Paul Arevalo, West Hollywood Charles Dennis, Santa Monica Robert C. Leland, Fairfield

CSMFO Weekend Training Seminar Planned for November

The Annual CSMFO Weekend Training Seminar will be held on November 13-15 at the Radission Inn in Sunnyvale. This workshop, specifically designed for finance officers and their appropriate staff, will combine technical and personal growth segments spread throughout 2-1/2 days of intensive training. Topics to be covered include:

- √ Financial Analysis & Long Range Planning
- √ Cash Mangement/Investment of Public Funds
- √ Bond Financing
- √ Budgeting Processes for Governments
- √ Financial Reporting
- **√** Banking Analysis
- √ Strategies for Technology in Government Organizations
- √ Legislative Review/Update

This year's Weekend Training Seminar will also feature a tour of a local Silicon Valley high tech company.

Previous participants have rated this seminar with high marks (9.2 out of 10 in seminar content) and such comments as, "Great job!" - "Excellent seminar" - "Couldn't have planned it better to meet my current needs." We are expecting another great seminar this year.

A registration form for the Weekend Training Seminar is attached. Please complete and mail your registration to ensure receipt prior to the deadline of October 23, 1998. Attendance is limited to the first 30 paid registrants. If you have any additional questions please contact either Ronnie Campbell (562) 866-9771 or Jesse Takahashi (408) 866-2113.



Shelley Adopts a New Career

Frances Medema, CSMFO Secretary

It is with sincere regret that I announce that Shelley King-McGee, your membership services representative for the past four years, is leaving CSMFO and the League. Shelley and her husband decided to adopt a baby and discovered that they now expect not one but TWO babies to arrive in September! Looks like Shelley will have more than a full time job on her hands the next several years.

Shelley has been a great partner to work with these past six months. She gives real meaning to the words "membership service." It will be difficult to replace such a dedicated individual. We will all miss Shelley and wish her great success and happiness as she turns her attention and energy to her family.

Sounding the Call for Budgets

David Spilman, Finance Director, Petaluma Chair, Budgeting and Management Reporting Committee Anita Bingham, Finance Director, Camarillo Vice-Chair, Budgeting and Management Reporting Committee

The CSMFO Budget Awards Program is gearing up for this year's submittals. There is a side contest on which city will be the first to submit, and last year it was the City of Lodi. As more cities and special districts get involved, the award becomes more significant as a measure of professionalism and excellence in budgeting and in public communications. Throughout the State citizens are becoming more involved in local government and it usually starts with a special issue that involves money. Our budget documents and presentations are becoming more of a policy communications tool than an accounting document.

The review criteria of the Budget Award Program is designed to reward a budget document that is clear and communicates to the public as well as "hangs together" as a finance document. Attached are the applications for your submittal(s). The categories are for Operating Budget, Capital Budget, Public Communication and Innovation in Budgeting. You can apply in as many categories as you feel you are eligible. However, the Innovation in Budgeting category is given out only once per innovation to recognize a special achievement. Submittals for both the Public Communications and the Innovation categories should be unique or special achievements that will add to the profession.

For the Operating and Capital Budget submittals you must complete all 20 requirements in Section A of the application for a meritorious award and to be eligible for an excellence award. This year, all of those agencies that received an award last year for a multi-year budget can request a FY 1998-1999 award certificate without resubmitting their documents.

The deadline for submission is November 6, 1998. The awards will be announced at the CSMFO Annual Conference in Monterey at the end of February. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact either:

David Spilman OR: City of Petaluma CSMFO Budget Committee Chair (707)778-4352 spilman@netdex.com Anita Bingham City of Camarillo CSMFO Budget Comm. Vice Chair (805) 388-5320

FAX: (805) 388-5318

Please note: Special Districts are **not eligible** for the CSMFO CAFR Award Application; however, you are encouraged to apply for the Budget Awards. Due to limited response in past years, the budget award applications are not attached to Special District newsletters. Call (916) 658-8210 or fax your request (916) 658-8240 or e-mail Frances Medema for a set of Budget Award applications (*medemaf @cacities.org*).

Apply Now for CSMFO CAFR Award

Derek Hanway, Financial Services Director, Burbank Chair, Professional and Technical Standards Committee

Included with this newsletter is the application for submitting your CAFR for the CSMFO Financial Reporting Awards Program. These forms have been approved by your Board of Directors to assist in the review process which included 121 reviewers and submissions by 161 cities last year. The program is available for cities' Comprehensive Annual Financial Reports and not for other entities or component units.

The application, along with five copies of the following: application supplement, your city's Comprehensive Financial Report (CAFR), and responses to the prior year's comments, need to be mailed (postmarked) by December 10, 1998, to:

Derek Hanway Financial Services Director City of Burbank P. O. Box 6459 275 East Olive Avenue Burbank, CA 91510-6459

Please note the deadline date; there will be no extensions granted. If you have questions, need an application, or would like to be a reviewer, please call Derek Hanway at (818) 238-5500.

CSMFO Mini-News

1400 K Street, Suite 400 Sacramento, CA 95814 (916) 658-8210 Fax: (916) 658-8240 www.csmfo.org

GASB 31 Bridge Call Scheduled

Carolyn Dominguez, Accounting Manager, San Luis Obispo Career Development Committee

On August 19 at 10:00 AM, the Career Development Committee is sponsoring a teleconference on implementing GASB 31. Dan Dowell from LAIF will address GASB 31 from the program sponsor perspective, marking to market, and information LAIF will provide to pool participants. Tom Snow from KPMG Peat Marwick will discuss the auditor's perspective. The call will then open up for questions and discussion from all teleconference participants.

This teleconference is limited to only 30 incoming calls, so we recommend Chapters gather at central locations around a speaker phone to minimize the number of lines used while maximizing the potential to reach as many CSMFO members as possible. If several members are unable to join the call, another bridge call may be scheduled at a later date.

To join the teleconference simply dial (415) 732-5999. Here are some conference call guidelines to follow:

Eliminate any noisy distractions. If you have call-waiting, please disable it first by dialing 1170 and waiting for the dial tone. Dial 1 (415) 732-5999.

Say nothing until you are welcomed by your call leader or the group. (Everyone else hears a little beep so they know someone has just dialed in.)

Please don't call the conference call number you've been given at any other time than during the scheduled time. There is no one "there" at the number.

The system is totally automatic -- there is no operator.

If you're the first person to call in, the line will ring and ring until the second person calls in and you two will be immediately "connected."

GFOA Accepting Applications for Standing Committees

Betsy Dotson, Director, GFOA Federal Liaison Center

The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) is currently accepting applications for appointment to GFOA's standing committees. The five standing committees are: Committee on Accounting, Auditing and Financial Reporting; Committee on Cash Management; Committee on Governmental Budgeting and Management; Committee on Governmental Debt and Fiscal Policy; and the Committee on Retirement and Benefits Administration. Standing committees advise the GFOA on policies, recommended practices, training efforts and publications.

Standing committees generally meet two times each year, once in connection with the GFOA Annual Conference, and at the Winter Meeting in Washington, DC. Only GFOA members who are government officials are eligible to apply for membership. There will also be slots available for committee advisors, who must be GFOA associate members with expertise in the committee's area of interest. Appointments will be made by GFOA President Doug Ellsworth and are effective for a three-year term beginning January 1, 1999.

As officials of state and provincial finance officer organizations, I urge you to notify your members about the opportunity to apply for GFOA standing committee membership and to encourage them to get involved in the committee process. This is an excellent opportunity to participate in one of the most essential functions of the Association. Standing committee members have an important role to play in shaping the direction of the Association and frequently become Association leaders.

Individuals interested in becoming an active participant in the GFOA policy process should submit a request in writing to: Deborah Reaves, GFOA Federal Liaison Center, 1750 K Street, NW, Suite 350, Washington, DC 20006, or fax this request to (202) 429-2755. The deadline for submitting completed applications is August 31, 1998

If you have any questions about the GFOA standing committees or the application process, please call (202) 429-2750.

President's Message

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Professional and Technical Standards, will be spending quality time with her husband and children. Dennis Danner (Newport Beach) and Derek Hanway (Burbank) have graciously agreed to complete Al and Eunice's remaining terms.

GFOA Spotlight

Steve Temple, Director of Finance, Hemet GFOA Representative

The Government Finance Officers Association(GFOA) offers a certification program consisting of five examinations to assess the knowledge of a practicing public finance officer and a requirement of continuing education. To participate there are requirements for education, employment, employment history and GFOA membership. Exams for the first two of five panels were given in San Francisco. Once an exam is introduced it will be administered at least once per year. It is expected that one new exam will be introduced each year. The first group of certifications based on the fifth exam will occur in the year 2001. So if you have the patience and your retirement horizon is not before 2002, GFOA would like to hear from you. The web site is publicationorders@gfoa.org.

UC Riverside Extension Course

September 23-December 9, 1998

Accounting for Governmental and Nonprofit Organizations, Riverside, CA. Wednesdays, 6:15–9:30 PM, Fee: \$295. An introduction to the characteristics of governmental and nonprofit accounting groups. For information contact UCR Extension at (909) 787-4111 or check out our web site: www.unex.ucr.edu.

Website and Group E-mail Take On A New Character

Have you checked out the website lately? The site has been updated to make it more user friendly and loaded with more information. Recently, there have been several surveys conducted over the group email list which have been summarized and posted to the website. In fact, you can now receive an automatic notice whenever a new item is posted to the website. Just sign up for the service under "What's New." If you want to get an early start on preparing your CAFR award application or need a clean copy, you can find that on the site also.

In fact if you have not had the chance to join the group e-mail, you can jump on board by subscribing right from the website. The sign-up is conveniently listed as a quick link on the main page. If you do not have internet access, you may still join by sending a message to listserve@csmfo.org, skipping the subject line and typing in the message section "subscribe members your name or email address". The

questions and information is timely and broad based. If you were on the old list, you have been automatically transferred to the new group. However, there have been a few problems sending messages to certain members. If it seems you do not receive any CSMFO messages over a period of time, send an e-mail to medemaf@cacities.org, and your listing on the group e-mail will be verified. Current members will soon receive a request to identify there name, phone number and organization with the e-mail address. This is to assist the group manager in contacting you in case there is a problem sending out your messages. Often it is difficult to identify an e-mail address with a name.

The organization is always looking for new and improved ways to serve members. If you have contributions to make to either the e-mail group or the website, you may contact the CSMFO secretary, Frances Medema, at *medemaf@cacities.org* or the Technology Committee chair, Paul Arevalo at *arevalo@earthlink.net*.

Upcoming Events



League Annual Conference

October 2-4, 1998 Long Beach Convention Center

CSMFO Weekend Training

November 13-15, 1998 Radisson Inn, Sunnyvale

League Financial Management Seminar

December 3-4, 1998 Westin Hotel, San Diego

CSMFO Annual Conference

February 28-March 2, 1999 DoubleTree Monterey

New Group

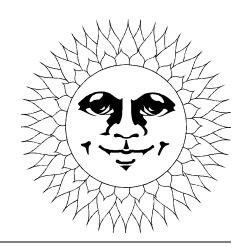
E-Mail Address: members@csmfo.org

Note From Alaska

Barbara Steckel, Retired Finance Director, Riverside Ex-President, CSMFO, 1996

Hi Everybody! Up here in Sterling, Alaska, it's summer, and we've been working hard getting things put away, building my sewing room and doing general finishing work. Also, I have family here visiting, which means lots of cooking and baking. The fellows have been fishing and we are having fresh fish for dinner tonight, and are driving down to Seward later in the week.

I miss seeing everyone. My e-mail is bsteckel@aol.com. Take care and send me a note any time you get a chance!



Kurt Hahn, Healdsburg City Finance Director, Retires After 21 Years With City

Kurt Hahn, Finance/Economic Services Director for the City of Healdsburg since 1977, will retire August 31st. Kurt said, "I just turned 60 and decided it was time to slow down a bit."

Kurt was President of California Society of Municipal Finance Officers in 1993-94 and served two terms on the CSMFO Board of Directors. The *Wall Street Journal* recognized Hahn and Healdsburg in 1978 for issuance of the first Certificate of Participation. Hahn has served on GFOA National Policy Committees of Mandated Cost Recovery, Pension and Benefit Administration, and Health Care. The Municipal Treasurers Association of the United States named Hahn to serve on National policy committees on Cash Management and Debt Policy.

Hahn has been a member of a variety of League of Cities Task Forces and Committees, including service on its Housing Committee and Economical Development Committee over 20 years. After retirement, Kurt plans to do some teaching, undertake some consulting work for a number of cities, and join several corporate boards.

Mark Alvarado is New San Gabriel Valley Chapter Chair

Mark Alvarado, Administrative Services Director for the city of Monrovia, will take over the chapter chairmanship left vacant by the departure of Sandra Schmidt, former assistant finance director of Burbank. Sandra has been promoted to the position of Director of Finance and Administration with the Las Virgenes Municipal Water District, and will be coming back to us in her new government position. And Duane Bambusch is the new Manager of General Accounting for the Mount San Jacinto Winter Park Authority. Congratulations everyone!

Meetings



Coachella Valley Chapter

No Meeting this month - September meeting information to be announced

Inland Empire Chapter

Date: Thursday, September 24,

1998

Info: Nicole Mihld, Colton

(909) 370-5036

Channel Counties Chapter

Date: Thurs., August 6, 1998

Time: 11:45 am

Spkr: John B. Buell, CCM, AAP,

VP, Electronic Commerce Group of Wells Fargo Bank

Topic: Electronic Commerce **Rsrv:** Catherine Hazeltine

(805) 449-2234

Shelley King-McGee Says Farewell To CSMFO

By the time you receive this newsletter, I will have cleared out my desk in preparation for my new role as mother of adopted twins! The twins are expected in mid-September, but the doctor says they'll be born earlier, and so I am going to give myself 2-3 weeks preparation.

It has been my pleasure to work for CSMFO as the Membership Services Representative since 1994. Everyone here at the League of California Cities knows I refer to you as my "flock," and I will miss you.

Perhaps we'll meet again. But until then, farewell, and wish me and my husband good luck! With newborn twins, we'll need it!

Welcome New **CSMFO** Members



Richard H. Averett Finance Director City of San Carlos

Larry Boyd

Account Manager Nadek Computer Systems

Paul Espinoza, CPA

Administrative Analyst City of Burbank

Audrey Mathews

Assistant Professor CSU San Bernardino

Erik Porter

Account Clerk City of Malibu

Kevin T. Pulliam

Partner Vavrinek, Trine, Day & Co., LLP

Larry Rillera

Student USC - Sacramento

Karen L. Sisson

Chief Financial Officer Los Angeles World Airports

William J. Thomas

Finance Director City of Malibu

Lalo L. Trujillo

Vice President A. G. Edwards & Sons, Inc.

Up the Ladder

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT - City of El Cajon (San Diego County), up to \$51,833 plus benefits. Requires 3-4 years experience in governmental accounting or not-for-profit accounting or auditing of governmental agencies and education equivalent to graduation from a four year college or university, with a degree in Accounting. CPA desirable, but not required. City application required. Contact Joan Ward, Assistant Director of Personnel, City of El Cajon Personnel Department, 200 East Main Street, El Cajon, CA 92020, (619)441-1671. Open until sufficient applications received apply immediately.

SR. ACCOUNTANT-City of Pomona, CA (Salary: \$3,620-\$4417 per month + 6% for a Masters Degree + excellent benefit package.) The City of Pomona is looking for an experienced senior accountant to perform a variety of accounting duties that may include the following: maintain a variety of accounts and general ledgers, prepare monthly fiscal reports relating to the progress of assigned accounts; requisition funds; process receipts for funds received, compile monthly reports and perform other related duties as assigned. Requires a Bachelor's Degree in accounting, business administration or related field plus 3 years of experience, municipal experience highly desirable. Apply by: 08/20/98. For application package, contact: HR Dept., 505 S. Garey St., Pomona, CA 91769 or Job Line (909) 620-2290. EOE/ADA.

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT - Carlsbad, California (San Diego County) Salary: \$3,950-\$5,425/mo., plus excellent management benefits package. The Finance Department is seeking an individual with strong analytical abilities to assist in planning, organizing and auditing the accounting and financial transactions of the City. Must enjoy working in a fast-paced, change-oriented environment and have experience in disigning automated business processes.

Requirements are a Bachelor's Degree in finance, accounting or related field and three years professional-level accounting experience. Governmental accounting experience and/or CPA a plus. Must possess strong analytical, problem-solving, and decition-making skills; effective oral/written communication skills; and proficient computer skills. Contact: City of Carlsbad, Human Resources Department, 1200 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad, CA 92008 (760) 434-2852. Deadline to apply: Friday, August 28, 1998. EOE

FINANCIAL SERVICES MANAGER-

Orange County Fire Authority, Orange, CA. Salary range is \$4,484-\$7,623 per month plus an excellent benefits package. The OCFA, formed in 1995, serves a population of over one million citizens residing in 19 cities and the unincorporated regions of Orange County. The Financial Services Manager is a mid-manager position and reports to the Chief of Finance, Administration & Human Resources. With a staff of 30, the Manager serves as the Authority Auditor and oversees the areas of Payroll, Accounting, Budget and Business Support Services. The ideal candidate is a proactive financial professional; a leader of change and a staff motivator; politically savvy with strong interpersonal and presentation skills. A bachelor's degree in accounting, business administration, or a closely related field is required; master's preferred. If interested in this outstanding opportunity, please submit your resume with current salary and the names and phone numbers of five workrelated references to Bobbi Peckham. DMG-MAXIMUS, 4320 Auburn Blvd., Suite 2000, Sacramento, CA 95841. Call (916) 485-8102 to request a detailed brochure regarding the Authority and the position. Equal Opportunity Employer. Filing deadline: August 14, 1998.

Here's how to advertise your city's vacant position in the CSMFO Mini-News: Please fax your announcement to (916) 658-8240, attention CSMFO. Your announcement should contain the following information: Job Title, City, Salary, Position Description, and how to apply. The charge to advertise is \$8 per 40-character line. Please also include billing information, as billing will take place after the ad appears in the Mini-News.

Faxed job ads must be received by the 25th of each month for next month's insertion. It is also helpful if the job's filing date is at the end of the month, so that people may have two or three weeks to respond.

Up The Ladder continued on next page

Up the Ladder, continued

ACCOUNTING SUPERVISOR - City of Temple City, CA. Salary Range: \$3,543-3,990/mo. Under direction of the Financial Services Director, plans and supervises data processing, purchasing and revenue accounting. Performs professional duties such as payroll. Reports on state and federal grants. Prepares financial statements and reports for federal, state and outside agencies. Assists with budget preparation and supervision of clerical staff. Requires a Bachelor's Degree in business or public administration and five years' progressively responsible administrative and supervisory experience, preferably in local government. Phone: (626) 285-2171. Apply by: 5:00 PM on 8/21/98.

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT-City of Anaheim, CA. \$48,442-\$66,607/yr. Works in the Community Development Department. Requires extensive responsible accounting experience (preferably in a Housing Authority and housing set-aside redevelopment agency or municipal organization) including financial reporting experience and familiarity with automated financial and accounting systems. Current CPA desirable as is proficiency in word processing, database and spreadsheet applications in Windows environment. Requires knowledge of laws regulating housing authority, redevelopment, agency and municipal fiscal operations, fund accounting, financial modeling and data processing; GAAP, financial reporting and account classification, automated financial management systems. Ability to analyze and evaluate problems; analyze and interpret records, documents and reports; develop data for reports and statements; and be an effective communicator. Applications accepted by the Human Resources Dept. through Thurs., 8/27/98. Contact City of Anaheim, 200 S. Anaheim Blvd., #332, Anaheim, CA 92805. (714) 765-5111. Visit our homepage at http:// www.anaheim.net. EOE.

ASSISTANT FINANCE DIRECTOR-

Vallejo, CA (pop. 116,000) is seeking an Assistant Finance Director. Salary: \$83,274-\$101,220 per year, plus an excellent benefits package. Vallejo is a progressive, ethnically diverse, waterfront community with an operating budget of \$151 million (\$42 million General Fund) and approx. 550 employees.

Successful candidates will be proven, capable public executives with a record of

achievement, integrity & honesty, and a passion for innovation, results, quality & customer service; will have a minimum of five years of progressively responsible experience in governmental financial planning and administration, including two years of administrative and supervisory responsibility; BS degree in finance/ accounting or a related field.

If you are interested in this outstanding career opportunity, please submit an application, responses to the supplemental questionnaire, a resume detailing your bkgd/educ/exp, four work-related references, and salary history to: City of Vallejo, Human Resources Department, 555 Santa Clara Street, Vallejo, CA 94590, (707) 648-4365 by August 20, 1998. EOE.

ACCOUNTING RECORDS SUPERVI-

SOR - City of National City (near San Diego) CA. (Salary \$30,240-\$41,000/yr./ DOQ.) Requires Bachelor's Degree in Acctg. or college-level acctg courses include. cost & adv. acctg financial/auditing theory & practice, + 3 yrs. of resp. acctg & fiscal recordkeeping exp. Knowledge & skills in prof. govt. budgeting & acctg, supervision & office mgmt principles, practices & procedures. Ability to operate CTR terminal & std. office equip. Filing Deadline: Open until suff. qualified applicants have applied. To apply: call Personnel Department at (619) 336-4200, City of National City, 1243 National City Blvd. EOE