



Office of the Mayor
Mayor Christopher A. Thornton

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**PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

City of Brentwood Receives Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting

ST. LOUIS, MO. December 29, 2016 – Mayor Christopher A. Thornton announced today that the City of Brentwood is recognized for receiving the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for its comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR) for the fiscal year ended December 31 2015. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

Karen Shaw, with more than 11 years of governmental accounting experience, has been the City's Finance Director since January 19, 2016. "We are happy to say that with Mrs. Shaw's experience, the City continues to strive for transparency with our financial documents." The Finance Director position has provided additional financial oversight for the city. "She is a welcome addition to our staff and will help with our efforts to strengthen the City of Brentwood's fiscal management, said City Administrator Bola Akande. Mrs. Shaw has an M.B.A. in Business Administration from Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, Florida and a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting from Lee University, Cleveland, Tennessee.

GFOA, a nonprofit organization, serves more than 17,800 government finance professionals throughout North America, including Canada and Mexico. The GFOA established the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Program (CAFR Program) in 1945 to encourage and assist state and local governments to go beyond the minimum requirements of generally accepted accounting principles to prepare comprehensive annual financial reports that evidence the spirit of transparency and full disclosure and then to recognize individual governments that succeed in achieving that goal. The goal of the program is not to assess the financial health of participating governments, but rather to ensure that users of their financial statements have the information they need to do so themselves.

The City of Brentwood, referred to as the "City of Warmth," enjoys its location within minutes of the resources of downtown St. Louis. Brentwood is home to nearly 8,022 residents and a base of businesses that exceeds 650. For more information on Brentwood, visit www.brentwoodmo.org or call 314.962.4800.