

Charleston County News Release

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See video of our 2012 Employee of the Year!:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vi8MlerpDNY&feature=youtu.be

County Celebrates Employee Performance and Service to Citizens

On the evening of Wednesday, Jan. 30, <u>Charleston County Government</u> and over 200 attendees including employees and their families celebrated its workforce for a variety of accomplishments during 2012. The annual recognition ceremony honored the top employees as well as those who have been committed public servants for numerous years.

At the ceremony, which was held at the North Charleston Coliseum's Montague Terrace, <u>Charleston County Councilmembers</u>, elected and appointed officials, and other key staff members recognized the employees. Those who were honored were:

- 2012 employees of the quarter and all nominees for these awards
- 2012 employee of the year
- 115 employees who are retiring
- Six employees with 35 years of service
- Eight employees with 30 years of service
- 19 employees with 25 years of service
- 39 employees with 20 years of service

The program included a welcome by <u>County Administrator Kurt Taylor</u>; the Pledge of Allegiance by S.C. Rep. Chip Limehouse, who attended in support of Sonia Jones of the <u>Charleston County Legislative Delegation</u>, who is the 2012 first Employee of the Quarter; an invocation by the Rev. Rob Dewey of Coastal Crisis Chaplaincy; remarks by <u>Charleston County Council Chairman Teddie E. Pryor, Sr.</u>, who asked other attending councilmembers, <u>Anna Johnson</u>, <u>Joe Qualey</u> and <u>Herbert Sass</u>, to say a few words; and a benediction by Chaplain Harry Sewell of Coastal Crisis Chaplaincy.

The County praised its employees of the quarter for 2012, who were chosen for going above and beyond their regular duties in service to the County, cost savings and outstanding day-to-day performance. The employees of the fourth quarter were announced during the program: Robert Duncan and David McKeown of the <u>Clerk of Court</u>'s office shared this award. They were selected for developing a software application now used by many courts nationwide.

The big surprise of the night was for 2012 employee of the year <u>Sharon Richardson</u>, <u>Charleston County Public Library</u> Assistant, who was introduced by <u>Doug Henderson</u>, <u>Executive Director for the library</u>. Richardson was honored for creating a new "Coupon Corner" at the <u>St. Andrews Regional Library</u> and maintaining thousands of current coupons throughout the year for the library system's patrons. Additionally, she helped increase usage of all items at the <u>St. Andrews branch</u> to 80 percent from the previous 60 percent.

Taylor continued a tradition of giving out an Administrator's Award, and this year's recipient was a team of County employees called "The Manatron Team" for their cost savings and additional hours spent implementing a complex integrated software program to assist Charleston County taxpayers.

"We always enjoy getting together with our employees. We have the finest workforce anywhere," Taylor said.

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