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News Release

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Stanislaus County Receives National Recognition for StanCounty.com Website Re-design

Stanislaus County, CA – The Center for Digital Government has just announced the winners of the national 2016 Best of the Web Awards and the Stanislaus County website StanCounty.com was awarded second place for County Portals. The award honors city, county, and state innovative and citizen-centric web sites for their work to engage citizens online.

“We’re thankful and excited that our County has been recognized for this award,” stated Mike Balieł, IT Applications Manager. “It is a visual testament to the hard work, strong partnerships and collaborative nature of our County employees and departments.”

Stanislaus County had recently completed a website re-design approximately six months before applying for the award. The re-design was done almost exclusively using county staff, with approximately \$3,000 spent on outside services. The project could have cost up to \$200,000 if contracted to outside vendors. The Center for Digital Government took into consideration innovation, functionality, efficiency and economy for criteria in evaluating each web site.

Winners in the County Portal Category:

- 1st Place: Baltimore County, Md.
- 2nd Place: Stanislaus County, Calif.
- 3rd Place: Anne Arundel County, Md.
- 4th Place: Oakland County, Mich.
- 5th Place: City and County of San Francisco, Calif.

Finalists:

- Bexar County, Texas
- County of San Diego, Calif.
- Hamilton County, Ind.
- James City County, Va.
- Travis County, Texas

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The county project was focused on providing the public with a site that was mobile friendly, contemporary, visually appealing, very easy to navigate, easy to search, highlighted e-government services, improved information sharing and showcased its diverse community.

Layout and organization was a high priority so constituents can find information quickly. Mega menus and context sensitive searches helped make easy navigation possible. Staff used the latest in web technologies, responsive design and web standards. A significant amount of energy was put into developing the technology to allow the site to look and feel the same across all mobile devices and modern browsers. To achieve these goals, staff focused on implementing the following technologies: HTML5, CSS, JavaScript, jQuery and Bootstrap. The County provides approximately 40 unique online services to the community including a customer center that is available on every county web page.

The Center for Digital Government is a national research and advisory institute focused on technology policy and best practices in state and local government. The Center is a division of e.Republic, the nation's only media and research company focused exclusively on state and local government and education. www.erepublic.com

For more information, please contact Mike Baliel, IT Applications Manager, at 209-525-4357 or balielm@stancounty.com.

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