



Eric H. Woolery • Auditor-Controller, County of Orange
PRESS RELEASE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AUDITOR-CONTROLLER NAMES LISA HUGHES TAXPAYER WATCHDOG OF THE YEAR ALSO ANNOUNCES PUBLICATIONS OF THIS YEAR'S ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORTS

January 16, 2018 – Orange County Auditor-Controller Eric H. Woolery, CPA, today named Lisa Hughes Orange County's "Taxpayer Watchdog of the Year" for 2017. Mrs. Hughes was awarded the annual prestigious award in honor of her ongoing commitment to promoting government transparency and for her dedication to the protection of the taxpayer. The award was presented at today's OCTax Annual Member's Luncheon where Auditor-Controller Woolery spoke on 'The Cost of Public Safety' alongside Orange County Sheriff Sandra Hutchens.

"I am pleased to present this year's Taxpayer Watchdog of the Year to Lisa Hughes, who has for decades tirelessly committed to protecting the taxpayers and citizens of this county against frivolous government spending and waste," said Eric Woolery.

Ms. Hughes has been instrumental in promoting transparency in government finance as well as protecting the taxpayers of Orange County for over two decades. "After all, it's not what you make, it's what you keep," said Hughes when accepting her award.

Also at today's lunch, Auditor-Controller Woolery announced the publication of the [Annual Comprehensive Accounting Financial Report \(CAFR\)](#) and its accompanying Citizen's Report. This year's reports honored our local law enforcement, the Orange County Sheriff Department, with a theme of "Public Safety."

The Comprehensive Accounting Financial Report (CAFR) is the audited financial statement for the County's prior fiscal year. It is designed to fairly present the financial position as well as changes in the financial position of the County. Every year the Auditor-Controller releases the CAFR for the prior fiscal year ending June 30. The document is prepared in accordance with Sections 25250 and 25253 of the Government Code of the State of California, and must be released no later than December 31. An outside auditing firm is retained to audit the report.

In addition to the CAFR, the Auditor-Controller prepares a common language Citizens' Financial Report, also known as the Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR), which summarizes key aspects of the CAFR in

layman's terms. In addition, we seek input from community groups and leaders to target information that they believe may be of particular interest to the public.

To learn more about the CAFR and the PAFR, please visit www.ac.ocgov.com and click on Reports.

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The Orange County Auditor-Controller's office hosts free Taxpayer Watchdog events quarterly, to help educate the public on topics ranging from accounting, government transparency to how to read a budget and mello roos. The office typically releases anywhere from 1 to 5 audits per month and distributes almost \$6 billion of property tax collections to Orange County cities, school districts, special districts, and County government. The Orange County Auditor-Controller is the largest independently elected County Auditor in the nation.

For more information on the Auditor-Controller's office, visit www.ac.ocgov.com