

**STATE OF OKLAHOMA
OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT**

"Working for Oklahoma"

OPM 08- 11

DATE: April 1, 2008

TO: All Appointing Authorities

FROM: Oscar B. Jackson, Jr., IPMA-CP 
Administrator and Cabinet Secretary of Human Resources & Administration

RE: **2008 Public Service Recognition Week – May 5-11, 2008**
2008 State Employee Recognition Day – May 7, 2008

President George W. Bush has written, *"Public service is a high calling and an expression of responsible citizenship, and our nation is deeply indebted to the men and women who devote their lives to careers that serve the public good."*

Oklahoma will join states across the nation in celebrating **Public Service Recognition Week** during the week of May 5-9, 2008. This annual event, celebrated the first Monday through Sunday in May since 1985, is a time set aside to honor the men and women who serve America as federal, state and local government employees. Public Service Recognition Week presents a welcome opportunity to spotlight the contributions made by state employees in the workplace and in our communities.

State Employee Recognition Day was initiated in 2001 by the National Association of State Personnel Executives (NASPE) in partnership with the National Governors Association. Oklahoma state employees often work behind the scenes, performing valuable and vital services that make a difference in the well-being and quality of life for the citizens of our state. The dedication of our state employees in conducting the public's business is often unrecognized despite the essential services they perform. Recognition is a powerful motivator, contributing to higher employee morale, increased organizational productivity, and greater staff retention. The image of state employees is also strengthened when citizens see people they know, who happen to be state employees, working to better their communities and state.

Information regarding planning recognition events and activities within your agencies, including downloadable guides and other materials, may be accessed via the following links:

[Public Service Recognition Week](#) - Council for Excellence in Government website
[State Employee Recognition Day](#) - NASPE website

(Please note that proclamations from Governor Brad Henry commemorating both events will be issued in the near future and will be forwarded to you to share with staff.)

"We serve the people of Oklahoma by delivering reliable and innovative human resource services to our partner agencies to achieve their missions."