Public Policy Forum
2008 Salute to Local Government Award

Every year, Milwaukee’s Public Policy Forum recognizes local units of government for outstanding innovation. In 2008, the Forum presented the highest award to the Milwaukee County Treasurer’s Office for its innovative use of technology in Treasury Banking and Investment functions. The award was bestowed for the Treasurer’s Office’s modernization of treasury functions, including; updating of bank accounts and banking services; conversion from dial-up money transfer system to wire transfers; instituting county-wide departmental online banking services; updating and re-bidding of banking service contracts; implementing online information for reports on revenues and deposits; bidding of investment advisors’ contracts incorporating outcome measurements; updating investment guidelines; updating job descriptions and reclassifying of Treasurer’s department personnel; reorganizing department to incorporate online accounting and computerized banking practices; instituting Positive Pay for improved security and fraud prevention; updating delinquent property tax software and establishing policies and procedures for delinquent tax collection and foreclosure; establishing unified records management, retention, and disposal practices; promoting direct deposit for county payroll checks; working with Register of deeds to create a one-stop real estate records center; creating public access to online property tax records and online electronic payment options; developing written Unclaimed Funds policies; and implementing new security measures and alarm systems.