



**County of McHenry
County Administration**

2200 N. Seminary Avenue
Woodstock, IL 60098
Phone 815-334-4221 Fax 815-338-3991
www.co.mchenry.il.us/

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 6, 2009

CONTACT: Adam Lehmann, Public Information Officer-Administrative Intern
PHONE: 815-334-0309

McHenry County Auditor Achieves Certified County Official (CCO) Status

The McHenry County Auditor Pam Palmer recently achieved the Certified County Officials (CCO) status in a University of Illinois Extension-directed educational program for local officials. She was recognized for this achievement during the annual fall meeting of the Illinois Association of County Officials in Chicago on November 24.

Palmer completed 24 hours of credit in the program, part of the Certified County Officials program, a joint effort of U of I Extension and the Illinois Association of County Board Members and Commissioners. "I am happy to have the opportunity to participate in the Certified County Official program and I look forward to the education sessions held both on the County Official level and at our individual County Auditor sessions," commented Palmer.

The Certified County Officials program (CCO) was developed by the Illinois Association of County Board Members and Commissioners (IACBMC) in collaborative partnership with the University of Illinois Extension. The purpose of this program is to strengthen the skills and leadership capacity of county officials. The CCO program will recognize those officials who demonstrate professionalism and dedication to enhancing their knowledge through advanced education. This career-long learning program is a powerful strategy for increasing your effectiveness in public office.

The CCO program is a voluntary program available to all elected county officials and certain appointed county officials in Illinois. The program is based on participation (not tests) and recognizes individual credits that officials accumulate. Participants who earn 24 credit hours will be awarded the designation of Certified County Official (Level I). CCO II requires 72 hours (Level I plus 48 hours); Level III requires 120 hours (Level II plus 48 hours) plus a project.

###

"Providing administrative support and implementation of policies and directives as determined by the County Board"