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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# Three state employee work teams honored with Governor's Award for Quality and Productivity, recognized for enhancing and improving state government

JEFFERSON CITY – The Office of Administration today presented three state employee work teams with the 2014 Governor's Award for Quality and Productivity (GAQP), which acknowledges accomplishments that serve as an example of continuous improvement, quality, efficiency and productivity in Missouri state government.

"This year's Governor's Award for Quality and Productivity recipients deserve to be recognized for the role they are playing to make state government more efficient and effective," **Office of Administration Commissioner Doug Nelson** said. "By conceptualizing and implementing these exceptional projects, these individuals have done their part to improve the lives of Missourians, and I am proud of their accomplishments and contributions to the state of Missouri."

Winning nominations were judged on criteria related to effectiveness, responsiveness and efficiency that would serve as a model of excellence for other work teams in state government. This year's GAQP recipients include:

### Efficiency/Process Improvement

**Digital Forensic Investigative Unit: Department of Public Safety, Missouri State Highway Patrol** for taking significant steps to redirect its focus on an investigation of offenses involving the sexual exploitation of children.

### Innovation

**Missouri Eat Smart Child Care: Department of Health and Senior Services, Missouri Council on Activity and Nutrition, Child Care Aware of Missouri** and the **University of Missouri Extension** for improving the health and preschool readiness of Missouri's children by encouraging child care providers to meet the Missouri Eat Smart Guidelines, which provide nutrition recommendations that exceed the minimum standards set by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and state licensing requirements.

### Technology in Government

**Frequency Acquisition Team: Missouri Statewide Interoperability Network (MOSWIN)** for creating a land mobile radio communications system that provides interoperability among state, local and federal public safety agencies, and is the product of ingenuity and creative partnerships to accomplish a major technological advance in public safety communications across Missouri.

Since 1988, this prestigious award has recognized service excellence, encouraged and rewarded innovation and reinforced pride in service to Missouri state government. The GAQP program is administered by the Missouri Division of Personnel's Center for Management and Professional Development.

For a complete description of each award or to learn more about the Governor's Award for Quality and Productivity, visit <http://www.training.oa.mo.gov/erp/>.

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