

PRESS RELEASE

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Steve Castaneda, Chair Hector Martinez, Vice Chair Josie Calderon-Scott Jerry Cano José F. Cerda Jose Preciado Alejandra Sotelo-Solis Wednesday, May 20, 2020 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sweetwater Authority Recognized as "District of Distinction"

Sweetwater Authority (Authority) received the "District of Distinction" accreditation by the Special District Leadership Foundation (SDLF) for its sound fiscal management policies and practices in district operations. This distinction, a prestigious title, is only possessed by two percent of the more than 4,000 Special Districts.

"SDLF provides an independent audit review of the last three years of the district's operations to ensure prudent fiscal practices," said Neil McCormick, SDLF Chief Executive Officer. The committee members who review the audits are volunteers from the special district community, including district controllers, directors of finance and certified general managers.

In addition, the district's board of directors and executive staff must also show proof of educational training in public governance, as well as compliance with ethics and harassment prevention training.

"The Governing Board is grateful to SDLF and is proud that the Authority is being recognized as a District of Distinction. The Authority has always prided itself on being transparent while serving the community," said Steve Castaneda, Board Chair.

Furthermore, to receive the recognition, the district's website must include posting of transparency requirements, including: election procedure and deadlines, posted board meeting schedule and agendas, current district budget, most recent financial audit, and a list of compensation of board members and staff or a link to the State Controller's webpage with the data.

SDLF is an independent, non-profit organization formed to promote good governance and best practices among California's special districts through certification, accreditation and other recognition programs.

Sweetwater Authority is a public water agency providing safe, reliable water to National City, Chula Vista and Bonita.

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