

NewsRelease

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OKLAHOMA'S STATE LIBRARY NAMED THE BEST IN THE NATION

WASHINGTON—The U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO) named the Oklahoma Department of Libraries (ODL) as the 2009 Federal Depository Library of the Year. ODL provides Federal Government information to people throughout the entire state of Oklahoma. ODL is one of two regional libraries in Oklahoma. The library is supportive of other libraries in the state, providing excellent service, training and on-site visitations. Officials at ODL have conducted nearly 200 workshops for all types of libraries in the state by teaching them how to provide their patrons with access to Federal Government information resources. ODL works with staff from Federal agencies to provide librarians with the latest information from agency Web sites and databases. Recently, ODL conducted a workshop for new employees in the U.S. Census offices throughout Oklahoma regarding information about U.S. Census. Public Printer Bob Tapella presented the award to library officials at the annual Fall Federal Depository Library Conference and Depository Library Council Meeting in Washington, D.C.

"The Oklahoma Department of Libraries should be commended for their efforts in providing training, education and awareness to Government information resources and how to use them," said Public Printer Bob Tapella. "Federal depository libraries have provided openness to the documents of our democracy since the early 1800s and are a vital link between the Government and its citizens."

"It's quite an honor to receive this award, and it's a tribute to Steve Beleu and Clif Broadworth in our U.S. Government Information Division," said Susan McVey, Director of the Oklahoma Department of Libraries. "Since 2003, the division has delivered nearly 200 library workshops to the people of Oklahoma, with occasional sessions in neighboring states. The division also tailors the workshops to highlight federal information relevant to particular communities, and that can make a big difference since since it's all about connecting citizens with their government and its services."

ABOUT GPO:

The GPO is the Federal Government's primary centralized resource for gathering, cataloging, producing, providing, authenticating, and preserving published U.S. Government information in all its forms. GPO is responsible for the production and distribution of information products and services for all three Branches of the Federal Government. In addition to publication sales, GPO makes government information available at no cost to the public through *GPO Access* (www.gpoaccess.gov), and through partnerships with approximately 1,250 libraries nationwide participating in the Federal Depository Library Program. For more information, please visit www.gpo.gov.

ABOUT FDLP:

The FDLP was established by Congress to ensure that the American public has free access to its Government's information. Since 1813, depository libraries have safeguarded the public's right to know by providing local, no-fee access to Government information in an impartial environment with professional assistance. For more information, please visit www.fdlp.gov.

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