

The National Association of County Information officer (NACIO) is seeking entries for the 2012 Awards of Excellence. This contest attempts to recognize and award outstanding public relations and public information work being done in counties across the nation.

The 2012 Awards are a comprehensive look at the initiatives and efforts put forth from January 1, 2011 to December 31, 2011, and will attempt to recognize excellence in nine categories: Annual Reports, Brochures and Multiple-Page Booklets, Publications, Writing, Graphic Design, Photography, Audiovisual Productions, Special Projects, and Computer Media. Each category will include several subcategories.

Each entry will be evaluated based on several contributing factors. Among these are the entry's originality, effort, effectiveness, strength of impression, difficulty, and overall quality. A given entry may earn "Superior," "Excellent," or "Meritorious," distinction. Up to two "Superior," awards may be given in a single category at the discretion of the judges.

The Awards of Excellence are open to any county staff that is eligible to join the National Association of Counties (NACo), or any staff of an eligible state counties association. However, entrants are not required to be current members of either NACo, or the NACIO. Entries in Spanish will also be accepted in all categories, and will be assessed by a panel of fluent Spanish speakers.

Entry fees are \$35 for members and \$50 for non-members for each submission (multiple submissions are permitted). Entries should be sent to Awards Coordinator Dave Rose at the El Paso County, Colorado Public Information Office at 200 S. Cascade Ave. Colorado Springs, CO 80903.

All entries must be postmarked no later than 5 PM on April 15, 2012.

For any additional information or for any questions please contact Dave Rose at [DaveRose@elpasoco.com](mailto:DaveRose@elpasoco.com) or (719) 520-6540.