

Each year, the Governor's Center for Local Government Services presents the Governor's Awards for Local Government Excellence to recognize local officials for their successes in undertaking innovative initiatives to improve the quality of life in their communities.

The hope is that the awards may serve as inspiration or as best management practices for local government officials throughout Pennsylvania.

This year, Thomas A. Zeuner, Executive Director of Northampton Bucks County Municipal Authority, has been given the distinguished Career Recognition Award.

"The impact local government has on citizens cannot be overstated and its effects run deep," said Richard P. Vilello, Jr., Deputy Secretary for Community Affairs & Development. "Passionate and dedicated individual, like our recipients here today, truly make a difference."

Tom has been with the Northampton Bucks County Municipal Authority for 20 years, 15 of those years serving as Executive Director and is the immediate past President of the Pennsylvania Municipal Authorities Association (PMAA) and a past Region 1 Director.

He also serves on the PMAA Conference Committee, Executive Committee, Legislative Committee, the Unemployment Compensation Trustees and, on behalf of PMAA, serves on the Department of Community and Economic Development's (DCED) Advisory Committee.

"Local government plays a huge role in the lives of all Pennsylvanians," said C. Kim Bracey, Executive Director for the Governor's Center for Local Government Services. "The work our award recipients do every day makes a difference in their communities and your legacy is in the lives they have impacted."

Tom began his career in a privately held business designing and manufacturing electro-hydraulic control valves for the agricultural harvesting market.

He is credited with seven United States patents with corresponding foreign registration in the field of hydraulics, electro-hydraulics, and fluid power. At the age of 34, he was elected and served on the Northampton Township Board of Supervisors. He served as a board member of the Bucks County Opportunity Council for four years, and board member of the Bucks County Community College Foundation for 17 years.

The Governor's Center for Local Government Services sponsors the Excellence in Local Government Awards program in partnership with the following organizations:

- Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors
- Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs
- Pennsylvania Association of Councils of Governments
- PA Chapter of American Planning Association
- Pennsylvania State Association of Township Commissioners
- PA Municipal Authorities Association
- Pennsylvania Municipal League
- County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania

Read the DCED's Press Release [here](#).