

Prudential Financial Davis Productivity Awards 2004: State Employees Recognized for Saving Money, June 2004

Almost 500 individuals and teams of state government workers are recipients of the Prudential Financial's Davis Productivity Awards for going above and beyond the call of duty to work smarter and save money. Together, their hard work amounts to \$292 million in cost savings, cost avoidances and increased revenue for state government.

The high achievers were honored with certificates, plaques and cash prizes by Lt. Governor Toni Jennings, Chairwoman of the Prudential Financial's Davis Productivity Awards, at a kick-off luncheon this month at the Tallahassee Civic Center. Their achievements are published in the **"2004 Prudential Financial's Davis Productivity Awards" magazine**, available at www.floridatxwatch.org/resources/dpaDocs/FINAL%202004%20Davis%20Productivity%20Awards.pdf The rest of this year's winners were honored at regional luncheon ceremonies.



"We don't thank state government workers enough," said Jennings to the audience of 700 recipients, their bosses and invited guests and dignitaries. "Their foresight, insight and hard work make things better for us all," she said.

The Prudential Financial's Davis Productivity Awards program is a major government improvement initiative chaired by Lt. Governor Toni Jennings and sponsored by Florida TaxWatch, The Florida Council of 100 and the State of Florida. Cash awards of \$200 to \$2,500

plus commemorative plaques and certificates of commendation are presented annually to state employees who clearly exceed their job descriptions and performance expectations in ways that improve service delivery and save money for Florida taxpayers and businesses.

TaxWatch Chairman-Elect and DPA Judge
Chair Mike Jennings of Prudential Financial
congratulates John Owen, part of an award-
winning team at the Department of
Management Services

Since 1989, more than 7,000 individuals, teams, work units and partnerships have been honored for producing \$4.8 billion worth of added value.

"There is a tendency to think of government workers as faceless bureaucrats who consume taxpayer dollars," said Dominic M. Calabro, President of Florida TaxWatch. "The reality of course is that, just as in any enterprise, many public employees are innovators and leaders who provide the 'shareholders' of government, the taxpayers, with a more than fair return on investment," said Calabro.

"Good business – and more efficient government can be achieved at every level of state government," said Mike Jennings, Vice President of Government Relations for Prudential Financial. "These employees are Florida's 'finest' because they have gone beyond the call of duty to solve a problem or improve a service, and we're delighted to be part of an effort to reward and thank them," said Jennings, who is also Chairman-Elect of Florida TaxWatch and Chairman of the DPA Panel of Judges.

Prudential Financial is the new Anchor Sponsor of the Davis Productivity Awards program this year. The company provides group life insurance and retirement benefits to Florida government employees. Their support is crucial for sustaining and growing this nationally unique initiative.