

**For Immediate Release:  
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## **Governor Markell Announces Team Excellence Awards**

*Dover* – Governor Jack Markell announced today that the 18-member Superior Court of Delaware New Castle County Mental Health Court Team is the 2010 recipient of the Governor’s Team Excellence Award. This annual award encourages teamwork by recognizing groups of state employees for their efforts to use continuous quality improvement tools to excel in leadership, team dynamics and communication to produce superior customer service and tangible results. This year, 17 teams, representing the efforts of 327 state employees, were nominated for the award.

The Superior Court of Delaware New Castle County Mental Health Court Team consists of employees from the Department of Health and Social Services/Treatment Access Center (TASC), Department of Correction/Office of Probation and Parole, Office of the Public Defender, Delaware Department of Justice, University of Delaware and Superior Court of Delaware. The team developed the first felony mental health court in Delaware using an innovative and comprehensive approach toward treatment and supervision of mentally ill probationers. Through this team’s efforts, the State of Delaware saved almost \$90,000 and identified new treatment, case management and mental health services for participants in the program.

“We encourage employees to work across state agencies. This team has shown exemplary efforts in finding efficiencies and extending better services to Delawareans in need,” said Governor Markell. “The Mental Health Court team proved that collaboration can produce tangible results, and in this case, a team found ways to save money and provide self-sufficiency for a special population of people that needed help.”

In addition to the award recipient, three other teams were recognized as finalists:

- The ARRA Implementation Team, a multi-divisional and multi-disciplinary team of the Department of Transportation, successfully met all of the requirements outlined in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) to design and/or construct 48 transportation projects worth \$140.7 million by the September 2010 deadline, providing new or rehabilitated transportation facilities without costs to the residents of Delaware.
- The Delaware Tourism Office team was created with existing staff through dedication, innovation and creativity to generate economic growth in Delaware. This team, located in the Delaware Economic and Development Office, collaborated with industry partners to stretch state dollars and assist businesses. Results include over \$6.5 million in economic impact to the State and the creation of such initiatives as the Delaware Wine and Ale Trail, the Delaware Geocaching Trail and the Delaware Sports Commission.

- The Table Game Implementation Team, located in the Department of Finance's Lottery Office, successfully transitioned the Lottery Office into an effective gaming regulatory agency. The team implemented table games by the established deadline, garnered trust and confidence of its customers and stakeholders, brought revenues of almost \$21 million to the State within the first five months of implementation and created jobs for Delawareans.