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BGR Media Release

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BGR Honors Government Employees

The BGR Excellence in Government Awards 2009 were presented during a breakfast ceremony on Friday, June 19, 2009, at the Sheraton New Orleans Hotel. Established in 1994, this annual program makes cash awards of up to \$1,000 to government employees for outstanding performance and creative problem-solving.

The 2009 honorees are:

Capital One Bank Keller Award for Innovation

- **Robert R. Bardy**, Major Sixth District, New Orleans Police Department
- **Dee A. Laux**, Deputy Clerk, Elections Department, St. Tammany Clerk of Court
- **Paul G. Vallas**, Superintendent, Recovery School District

AT&T Lifetime Achievement Award

- **Susan E. Percle**, Chief Administrative Officer, City of Gretna
- **Tim A. Whitmer**, Chief Administrative Officer, Jefferson Parish President's Office

Latter & Blum Realtors Merit Award

- **David Fernandez**, Financial Manager, St. Bernard Parish Public Schools
- **John T. Marshall**, Project Manager, New Orleans Redevelopment Authority
- **Gerard K. Simone**, Captain, Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office
- **Jason Smith**, Coastal Programs Supervisor, Jefferson Parish, Department of Environmental Affairs

The awards were co-sponsored by Capital One Bank, AT&T and Latter & Blum Realtors. The Sheraton New Orleans hosted the breakfast.

BGR is a private, nonprofit, independent research organization. Since its founding in 1932, it has been dedicated to informed public policy-making and the effective use of public resources in the Greater New Orleans area.

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