

PRESS RELEASE



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Harry LaRosiliere
Deputy Mayor Pro Tem

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Scott Johnson
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Place 3

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Place 8

Thomas H. Muehlenbeck
City Manager

Sandra Long Receives TEHA's Highest Individual Award

The Texas Environmental Health Association (TEHA) has presented Sandra Long with its highest honor, the I.E. Scott Award for 2008. Sandra is being recognized for outstanding leadership as an environmental health professional in Texas.

Sandra is a Registered Environmental Health Specialist nationally with more than 25 years of environmental health experience. She developed interest in environmental health while studying biology at Texas Women's University. Sandra came to Plano from The Colony, where she began as a laboratory technician and was promoted to director of environmental health.

In 1994, the City of Plano recognized her experience and insight, and hired Sandra. Last year, Sandra was promoted to Inspection Services Supervisor. In this capacity, she supervises seven Environmental Health Specialists and two Senior Environmental Health Specialists. She offers a proactive approach to education on food handling both in the restaurant and in the home. Sandra has trained over 3,000 food services managers and presented 70 food safety awards to local restaurants. She has helped the City implement a Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) approach to food protection.

Health Department Director Brian Collins said, "Plano has benefited tremendously from Sandra's enthusiasm for environmental health. She is an excellent supervisor, leader and role model for her team. The award is well-deserved."

Her professional accomplishments have earned her several high elected positions in TEHA and most recently gained her the position of region five vice president of the National Environmental Health Association. She is actively involved with the Texas Public Health Accreditation Council, Texas Association of Municipal Health Officials and Texas Association of Local Health Officials. Sandra has also been appointed to the Texas Sanitarian Advisory Committee.