



Champions For Effective Local Government

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NEWS RELEASE

September 16, 2016
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***Former Norman Mayor, Cindy Rosenthal
Named 2016 Don Rider Award Winner
Award honors state's most outstanding municipal official***

OKLAHOMA CITY – **Cindy Rosenthal**, former Norman Mayor, is the recipient of the 2016 Don Rider Award. She was presented the award during last night's Oklahoma Municipal League Annual Awards Banquet.

Dr. Rosenthal is the twenty-eighth recipient of the award, which honors the late Don Rider, former OML executive director. The citation, named in his memory, recognizes a local official who has made outstanding long-term commitments to his or her community.

Dr. Rosenthal began her public service in Norman as the Ward 4 council member in 2004. She was elected as mayor in 2007, and re-elected in 2010 and 2013. She was the first popularly elected female mayor and was the second longest-serving mayor in the city. Rosenthal's involvement in the Norman community has played a significant role in promoting social issues, environmental issues, and honoring the American veteran. She served as vice president and executive board member of the Oklahoma Municipal League. She has been selected twice as one of the *Journal Records'* 50 Women Making a Difference in Oklahoma and also received the Kate Barnard Award.

Rosenthal has a Ph.D in Political Science from the University of Oklahoma where she serves as director and curator of the Carl Albert Congressional Research and Studies Center and is a professor of political science. She earned her Master's degree from Occidental College in Los Angeles, California in Urban Studies.

In her role as Mayor, Dr. Rosenthal made great strides to improve the City of Norman. She made improvements to the city's infrastructure, water and environment, arts and culture. She promoted environmental awareness, the protection of Lake Thunderbird and energy efficiency. She established the Green Norman program, energy efficient lighting, two new LEED certified fire stations and added CNG vehicles to the city's fleet. The City of Norman has greatly benefited from Rosenthal's leadership and OML is proud to honor her with the Don Rider Award.

About Oklahoma Municipal League

The mission of the OML is to provide services and programs required by municipal officials to assist them in better serving their citizens, and to act as the representative of Oklahoma municipalities in interactions requiring a united voice. Since 1913, the League has served as the individual and collective voice of local officials on the state and national level