

**CITY OF PEORIA, ARIZONA
CITY MANAGER REPORT**

RCM #: 3a

Date Prepared: September 29, 2008

Council Meeting Date: October 7, 2008

TO: Carl Swenson, City Manager

FROM: Steve Burg, Chief Assistant City Attorney

SUBJECT: International Municipal Lawyers Association Award –
City Attorney Steve Kemp

SUMMARY:

At the annual conference of the International Municipal Lawyers Association (IMLA) in September, City Attorney Steve Kemp received an award designating him as a Local Government Fellow. Steve is only the third attorney in Arizona to receive this prestigious award, which recognizes excellence in the practice of local government law.

IMLA is a non-profit organization that has been in existence since 1935, and it currently consists of over 2,500 attorneys throughout the United States and Canada. IMLA is dedicated to advancing the interests of local government lawyers and the communities that those lawyers serve. The organization provides assistance to local governments in litigation, continuing legal education programs, model ordinances, and publications addressing current legal topics.

The IMLA Local Government Fellows Program was established a decade ago to recognize attorneys as legal specialists in the field of local government law and to encourage attorney proficiency and competency in the local government legal field. The program offers local governments a reliable benchmark for determining experienced and knowledgeable practitioners.

Steve Kemp has practiced in the field of local government law for over 26 years, the last 18 years as the City Attorney of the City of Peoria. In order to become designated as a Local Government Fellow, Steve was required to meet a rigorous set of requirements, which included successfully passing a two-part written examination, recent attendance at 12 or more hours of municipal law continuing legal education, and letters of recommendations from five attorneys attesting to his ability in the field of municipal law.

The Local Government Fellow designation is effective for five years, at which time the attorney must apply to be recertified, showing that all of the requirements continue to be met. At present only two attorneys in the entire state of Arizona possess active designations as Local Government Fellows – and they both work for Peoria! (I am the other one)

Please congratulate Steve on this hard-earned and well-deserved honor.