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**CONTACT:**

Sherri Seitz

949.837.7050, Ext. 239

Carrie Arneith Miller

Keena•Thomas Communications

949.455.4600

## **EL Toro Water District Receives Prestigious State Award Recognizing their Leadership in the Water Industry**

**First accredited as a District of Distinction in 2007, El Toro Water District continues to play a leadership role in terms of fiscal responsibility and their strong commitment to education.**

**Lake Forest, CA** – El Toro Water District, which supplies water to the city of Laguna Woods and portions of the cities of Lake Forest, Laguna Hills, Mission Viejo and Aliso Viejo, is one of only two districts in the state of California to be re-accredited as a District of Distinction. Awarded by the Special District Leadership Foundation, District of Distinction is one of the most prestigious local government awards in California.

“This accreditation is validation that El Toro Water District thoroughly understands and deeply respects the responsibilities inherent to providing essential public services in a fiscally responsible manner,” shares Bob Hill, General Manager of El Toro Water District.

The accreditation criteria is comprehensive and includes the submission of financial audits, current and relevant policies and procedures, and proof of training completed by each of the district’s board members and executive staff in ethics, governance and leadership. The application process also requires a detailed analysis of district records, policies and procedures, and a commitment by the Board of Directors and the executive staff to continued education.

“Special districts provide the most efficient, responsive local service to California communities and yet they often do not receive the respect and gratitude that they deserve,” says Diana Zavala, Special District Leadership Foundation Administrator. “The District of Distinction program was created to provide districts with a means to demonstrate their viability as providers of essential public services.”

For more information about District of Distinction, visit the Special District Leadership Foundation Web site at [www.sdlf.org](http://www.sdlf.org).

The Special District Leadership Foundation is a non-profit organization formed to provide educational opportunities to special district/local government employees and to its elected and appointed officials to enhance services provided to the public by special districts in California.

The mission of the El Toro Water District is to provide its customers a safe, adequate and reliable supply of water and wastewater service in an environmentally and economically responsible way.

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