

Colleagues,

Public Service is a noble calling. At the State of Nebraska, and within the Pillen administration, we appreciate everyone who has answered the call to pursue a career of public service. Within DAS, our State Personnel Engagement and Recognition team takes the lead in coordinating statewide recognition events for all of our colleagues work anniversary milestones. This year we recognized public servants with between 5 and 60 years of service to Nebraska!

We held public servant recognition ceremonies in Omaha, Beatrice, Kearney, North Platte, Gering, and Lincoln. In all, we honored 2,269 public servants celebrating a total of 32,965 years of public service. I was pleased to travel to these events with the Lieutenant Governor to recognize the service of our colleagues.

In addition to recognizing the length of service given by our public servants, the State also recognizes public servants whose job performance has exceeded the highest standards and who have contributed to the overall effectiveness of their agencies. This is the Excellence in Leadership Award presented by the Governor. This year 100 of Nebraska's finest public servants received this award, joining the 3,358 previous awardees. Honorees are chosen based on certain character traits and core values like teamwork, customer service, visionary leadership, ethics, staff development and more.

Congratulations to Jareth Kaup, April Leach-Sanna, and Brian Svik on our team who were our Excellence in Leadership awardees this year! Jareth's recognition was for helping the State Accounting Payroll team make significant changes to the payroll system resulting from union negotiations and a State Patrol settlement. April earned her recognition by being a dedicated team worker with a fantastic customer service focus. Brian was recognized for excellence in promoting training & development across the enterprise by expanding the service offerings of his team and doubling the number of LinkedIn learning courses from 2021 to now. These colleagues demonstrate the true spirit of public service!

Congratulations also to everyone on our team that celebrated a career milestone anniversary with the State. Thanks for your service!

Finally, a special thank you to Christy Osentowski, Carol Bates, and the entire State Personnel team for another successful year administering our recognition programing.

Regards,