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**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**Economics and Statistics Administration**  
**U.S. Census Bureau**

Washington, DC 20233-0001  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

FROM THE DIRECTOR  
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

The U.S. Census Bureau is requesting your help with the first component of the Census of Governments, the 2011 Government Units Survey. This survey, authorized by Title 13, United States Code, Section 161, collects information on the basic characteristics of different types of governments.

The Government Units Survey is the only source of nationwide, comprehensive information on official counts of local government units in the United States. The information collected serves as the address frame for the Census of Governments and is critical to conducting the remaining portions of the 2012 Census of Governments. The successful completion of the Census of Governments will directly impact your government and the communities you serve by producing statistics about government organization, public employment, and government finance.

You may respond to this survey on the Internet at the following address: [<http://respond.census.gov/gus>]. Use the identification number and password on the paper form to log in and complete the form online. If you prefer to respond by mail, answer the questions on the form and return the form in the enclosed envelope by **November 11, 2011**.

Respond either by mail or by the Internet--but not both. If you need assistance with your response, please contact us by e-mail at [govs.gus@census.gov](mailto:govs.gus@census.gov) or call toll-free 1-888-202-2691 Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m., EST. Please note that the data collected on this voluntary survey are not confidential.

Thank you for taking the time to participate in the Census of Governments, Government Units Survey. The Census Bureau appreciates your help.

Sincerely,

Robert M. Groves  
Director

Enclosures