

VICKI V. QUIRAM Commissioner (603) 271-3201

## State of New Hampshire

## DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER 25 Capitol Street – Room 120 Concord, New Hampshire 03301

December 21, 2015

JOSEPH B. BOUCHARD Assistant Commissioner (603) 271-3204

Her Excellency, Governor Margaret Wood Hassan and the Honorable Executive Council State House Concord, New Hampshire 03301

## **REQUESTED ACTION**

Pursuant to RSA 99-E: 7, Suggestion and Extraordinary Service Award Program, the State Suggestion and Extraordinary Service Award Evaluation Committee respectfully requests approval to award a net sum of \$175.00 each to Deborah Nixon and Spiro Millios from the Department of Revenue Administration, effective upon Governor and Council approval.

## **EXPLANATION**

The Suggestion and Extraordinary Service Award Program provides for monetary and non-monetary recognition to classified executive branch employees who perform extraordinary services or who provide original suggestions of substantial value to the State. RSA 99-E integrates each Department into the process of reviewing employee suggestions and services by incorporating the input of Departmental award evaluation committees who are authorized to forward suggestions to the State Committee.

The State Committee received a written submission from the Department of Revenue Administration nominating Deborah Nixon and Spiro Millios, for monetary recognition. The Discovery Bureau at the Department of Revenue compares taxpayer records from the IRS against those of their department and writes to nonfilers who meet the filing threshold. In the process of researching their list, Ms. Nixon and Mr. Millios saw suspicious return data. They found similarities in the outlying ones and looked at more data for confirmation. They sent several thousand returns which were requesting fraudulent refunds to the IRS and through this dedicated research they saved the IRS several hundred thousand dollars. It also saved our state at least \$3,500 in current and future costs by not sending out initial and follow-up letters to these individuals.

Under RSA 99-E, a fund of \$10,000 has been established in the Governor's Office for the implementation of this program. Maximum award amounts and a suggested table of monetary awards appear in the statute at RSA 99-E: 7. In this case, the Committee has decided to recommend an award of a net sum of \$175.00 each to Ms. Nixon and Mr. Millios for going above and beyond their normal duties of work performance ensuring cost savings to the State of New Hampshire.

Whether or not to issue any monetary award is a matter that is solely in the discretion of the Governor and Council. The Committee believes that this nomination presents an example of the type of extraordinary service that merits recognition under RSA 99-E. It therefore respectfully requests approval of the award contemplated herein.

Respectfully submitted,

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Vicki V. Quiram Commissioner

Sara J. Willingham, Director of Personnel

Committee Chair