## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



DATE: September 2, 2015

## Greene County Purchasing Department Recognized by US Communities for Saving Tax Payer Dollars

Springfield, MO —Greene County's Purchasing department was recently recognized by US Communities, the leading national government purchasing cooperative, as a leader in saving tax-payer dollars through the use of cooperative purchasing. Chris Oltmanns, US Communities Program Manager, presented Greene County Purchasing Director Chris Mericle and his staff, along with members of the Greene County Commission, an honorary plaque acknowledging the county as an exceptional example of utilizing a purchasing cooperative to obtain best pricing on vendor offerings.

"We take pride in the thoughtful and conscientious way we make purchases for the county," said Mericle. "Through US Communities, we are able to utilize cooperative contracts that reduce the county's expenditures in the form of administrative costs and savings on purchases."

The use of government purchasing cooperatives is recognized as a procurement best practice by the National Institute for Government Procurement (NIGP).

"We don't take lightly the task of utilizing tax payer dollars, and we are proud of the great work that our staff in the Purchasing department do to ensure that we carefully and strategically spend money to assist the county in the services it provides to citizens," said Bob Cirtin, Greene County Presiding Commissioner.

US Communities was founded in 1996 as a partnership between the Association of School Business Officials, the National Association of Counties, the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing, the National League of Cities and the United States Conference of Mayors.

For additional information, please contact Chris Mericle, Purchasing Director, at 417-868-4019 or via email at cmericle@greenecountymo.org.