



# STEPHEN P. WEBER

WILL COUNTY AUDITOR

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## PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### WEBER SEEKS SECOND TERM AS WILL COUNTY AUDITOR

Stephen P. Weber, CPA, recently announced that he will seek his second term as Will County Auditor. Weber, who was elected Auditor in November of 2000 is running for a second term because “we have tightened our belts and have lost some excess fat, but we haven’t got the clean bill of health from the financial doctors yet! We have made a lot of great efficiency changes and we are excited, and anticipate many more to come.”

Weber has initiated a number of new policies and procedures in Will County since taking office almost three years ago. During 2001, he increased the efficiency of the County’s purchasing process by implementing on-line requisitioning, receiving, and budgeting; he established on-line Financial Reports and graphs on the Auditor’s public website; presented monthly rather than quarterly Financial Reports to the County Board Finance Committee; implemented Fixed Asset Accounting and started Ghost payroll audits for the first time in Will County’s history; updated the Will County Business and Travel Policy; improved the Payroll System; and helped to establish an integrated Human Resources system.

During 2002, Weber established new operating policies and procedures for the Sunny Hill Skilled Rehabilitation Center’s Resident Trust Account. Conducting a fraud audit there resulted in the dismissal of an accounting manager and charges filed by the State’s Attorney’s office. Weber also streamlined a number of county procedures and established uniform petty cash policies and procedures for all County departments. His office also offered County-wide training classes for AS400 on-line functions. Also during 2002, Weber presented the first ever ***Fiscal Responsibility Award*** to reward county departments for returning either a large percentage of their department’s budget or a large dollar amount back to the County Treasury. He noted, “You should be praised for saving taxpayers’ monies. You shouldn’t have the use it or lose it attitude!” In addition, Weber initiated collection of grant documents from all County Departments to establish a centralized area for grant information and for further work on grant audits.

During 2003, Auditor Weber established a Grants Coordinator position within the Auditor’s Office and selected a current staff member to assume the duties of this position; recommended County-wide direct deposit procedures; and implemented a variety of

government accounting reporting requirements relating to the Fiscal Year 2002 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. Weber has received the *Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting* by the Government Finance Officers Association for submission of the FY 2001 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and anticipates receiving this award for the FY 2002 CAFR. His office was also featured in an eight page article in the **GAAFR Review** for “highly successful implementation” of Government Accounting Standards Bureau capital asset reporting requirements. The **GAAFR Review** is a national publication of the Government Finance Officers Association. Weber was also selected to present classes to assist other local Governments with this task. He commented: “This is the biggest change in the history of government accounting and we tackled it with in-house skills. If we can do it, anyone can! It’s nice to be held as an example to others, especially nice when it’s a good example.”

In addition to his numerous job responsibilities, Weber is a member of the association of Certified Fraud Examiners and is also involved in a number of community groups including the Joliet Exchange Club and the Salvation Army. He also acts as Treasurer for the local chapter of the Boy Scouts of America and the Will County Child Advocacy Center. Weber has received endorsements from the Republican Central Committee; the Central Trades; Local 150 Operating Engineers; and the Building Trades. In addition, all townships within Will County which have endorsed a Republican candidate for Auditor, have endorsed Weber.

Reflecting upon his first term and his accomplishments, Weber noted, “It’s scary to think that accounting and auditing is fun, but my first term went so fast, I must be having fun. I have enjoyed tackling all of the challenges of my first term and am looking forward to those that lie ahead.”