FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 31, 2009 Contact: Howard Sutter 714.834.6203 office Howard.Sutter@ocgov.com

County of Orange Ranked Nationally in Digital Counties Survey

(Santa Ana, CA)— The County of Orange has been recognized by the 2009 Digital Counties Survey for accomplishments in using technology to deliver services electronically and communicate effectively with community members.

The Digital Counties Survey is conducted annually by the Center for Digital Government and the National Association of Counties (NACo) and the survey identifies information technology (IT) best practices. Based upon the responses to 85 questions about IT services and applications, the County of Orange is ranked 4th in the nation among counties with populations of 500,000 residents or more.

"Across a broad spectrum of service and budgetary challenges, the County is very proud to achieve 4th place in the National Digital Counties Survey, as compared to our 10th place ranking in 2008," said Mahesh Patel, Assistant Chief Information Officer. "This achievement was made possible by the efforts of staff countywide to improve IT governance, business collaboration, strategic planning, and technology implementation."

Some of the distinct County web features reviewed during the judging process include AlertOC (www.AlertOC.com), a mass notification system designed to keep residents and businesses informed during local emergencies, as well as the online county park campsite and shelter reservation application available at www.OCParks.com. The County's homepage, www.ocgov.com, provides access to the Internet sites for all County agencies and departments, as well as other information about the County of Orange.