



From the Office of Secretary of State

John Gale

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*Feel free to use the attached photo of the award presentation at KOLN/KGIN.*

**KOLN/KGIN receives Civics Recognition Award**

LINCOLN – The Secretary of State’s office has awarded the first of three Civics Recognition Awards to KOLN/KGIN in recognition of the station’s outstanding news coverage of the 2012 general election.

The award has been given since 2008 and serves to acknowledge those efforts by individuals, organizations and media outlets to educate, engage and encourage voter participation throughout Nebraska.

Secretary Gale said there are three reasons KOLN/KGIN was selected this year.

“The first had to do with the considerable and comprehensive coverage that the station provided on its website about the candidates and the issues. The information was very complete, non-biased, visual and well-organized”

Gale said secondly, the station offered some of the most complete coverage on the U.S. Senate race between Deb Fischer and Bob Kerrey. Interviews with each candidate were aired and posted online and included viewpoints on a variety of topics including: agriculture, the economy, illegal immigration, the Keystone XL Pipeline and others.

"Lastly, KOLN/KGIN took care to ensure its election coverage was relevant to viewers not just in the eastern part of the state, but central Nebraska as well," said Gale. "The station provided links to the websites of all the county election officials and posted the results of all the races online from across the state."

"I appreciate the efforts put forth by the station when it comes to informing Nebraska voters about the candidates and issues that are tantamount to them."

Gale presented KOLN/KGIN with a plaque to members of the news staff in Lincoln today. The Nebraska Radio Network *and The Lincoln Journal Star* are the other recipients of the 2012 Civics Recognition Awards.

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