

City Health Dept. Captures Coveted National Award

The Albuquerque Health Dept. will receive the coveted Samuel J. Crumbine National Award for outstanding work in the field of environmental health, it was announced in New York Wednesday.

The local health department competed with about 1200 other local health agencies throughout the nation.

A committee of six judges, all leaders in public health work, picked the Spokane Wash. County Health Dept. to receive the Crumbine Award for its program of food and drink sanitation this year. The Albuquerque Health Dept, received this award in 1961, and is one of two cities in the nation which have claimed both awards.

Sponsors Awards

Sponsor of the annual awards is the Public Health Committee of the Paper Cup and Container Institute.

"The jurors were impressed by the fact that the Albuquerque Health Dept.'s program administered so judiciously that the business community and the public generally accept and approve it," said Howard E. Hough, Secretary of the Committee.

The jury noted these aspects of the Albuquerque environmental health program:

-Close liaison and good working relationships with the N. M. Dept, of Health, the Bernalillo County Air Pollution Board, and other environmental control agencies which provide health or environmental control services for the Albuquerque area

Training Program

- A comprehensive and continuing program of pre-service and in- service personnel training,
- Reliance upon a Health Advisory Board,
- A policy, of delegating authority to properly trained and supervised personnel.

City Health Director Larry Gordon, commenting on news of the award, said:

"We have probably had to resort to legal enforcement methods less often than we would without constructive publicity. For example, we have never had to resort to the courts to obtain compliance with the food service sanitation ordinance."

Hough will visit Albuquerque soon to make a formal presentation of the award to the health department.