



Date: January 28, 2016

For More Information Contact: [certification@sawanetwork.org](mailto:certification@sawanetwork.org)

**Shelly Simmons, Greenville County Animal Care  
Achieves Professional Certification in Animal Welfare**

**Ms. Shelly Simmons, Greenville County Animal Care**, has achieved the highest level professional designation for animal welfare professionals, having earned the Certified Animal Welfare Administrator (CAWA™) credential. This designation provides independent, third-party validation of the knowledge and skills necessary for competent practice as an animal welfare or animal control executive.

The CAWA certification program, administered by the Society of Animal Welfare Administrators (SAWA), distinguishes top-level executives and managers working in nonprofit and municipal agencies for their knowledge, experience and expertise.

CAWA candidates must meet strict eligibility requirements in leadership, management, and animal welfare experience and successfully pass a rigorous exam, developed to meet the highest competency standards.

The exam tests knowledge and skills in administration, human resources management, leadership, communications, advocacy and development, and animal management.

Jim Tedford, SAWA President & CEO, commented, “the CAWA certification program is a demonstration of the highest standards of leadership and management among nonprofit organizations, and we congratulate **Ms. Simmons** for achieving this distinction.”

*The Society of Animal Welfare Administrators (SAWA) is a community of professionals committed to excellence in the management and operation of animal welfare and control organizations.*

*SAWA provides the practical knowledge, resources, and solutions members need to grow as professionals, achieve the goals of their organizations, and, collectively, advance the animal welfare profession.*