



Association of Local Government Auditors

April 12, 2019

Laura Doud
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Dear Laura:

The Association of Local Government Auditors (ALGA) Awards Program Committee is pleased to announce that the Long Beach City Auditor's report, *Animal Care Services: Phase Two*, won the 2018 Distinguished Knighton Award in the Large Shop Category.

ALGA was founded in 1985 to serve auditors who specialize in working with local governments. ALGA members represent approximately 300 local government audit organizations. Unlike the majority of auditors who work within a single industry, local government auditors must work in an environment that encompasses a wide variety of industries. Local government auditors are committed to helping their governments improve service delivery to citizens while doing so more efficiently and effectively with the limited resources available. In making the award, the judges commented:

The Long Beach City Auditor conducted a performance audit of the City's Animal Care Services (ACS) to provide management with a "point in time" assessment of their current service levels and on-going ability to effectively and efficiently fulfil their responsibilities for providing for the care and re-homing of almost 8,000 animals boarded in their shelter every year. The auditors supported their findings and recommendations with relevant and compelling evidence by citing industry standards, benchmarks, results of their peer municipal shelters survey, as well as direct filed observations and a "climate" survey of ACS employees. The auditors identified 11 critical issues that ACS needed to address in order to meet the industry's minimum care requirements and improve their revenue collection process. The report was easy to read, followed a logical flow of issues, and incorporated a useful highlight sheet, call-out boxes, charts, descriptive headers, and graphics that greatly facilitated a quick read and absorption of the key points of the report.

To encourage increasing levels of excellence among local government auditors, ALGA created the Knighton Award in 1995 to recognize the best performance audit reports produced by local government audit shops in the previous year. Each year, local government audit organizations submit their best performance audit report to be evaluated against five criteria: (1) an audit scope that has the potential for significant impact, and is responsive to the needs and concerns of decision-makers and/or the public; (2) audit conclusions that are persuasive, logical, and firmly supported by the evidence, which was gathered using appropriate research methods and tools; (3) audit recommendations that are feasible, and will make government programs more effective and efficient; (4) and audit results that are communicated in a clear, concise way. Judges from peer organizations determined that the Long Beach City Auditor's report was among the best of 2018.

Congratulations for receiving this award!

Sincerely,

Kristine Adams-Wannberg, President
ALGA

Lisa Monteiro, Chair
ALGA Awards Program Committee