



## PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

### **Long Beach City Auditor's Office Wins Top National Award for Police Evidence Control Section Audit *Audit Identifies Security Improvements Over Property & Evidence***

Long Beach, CA – Long Beach City Auditor Laura Doud with the audit team of James Lam, Hannah Gardener and Timothy Lim received the Exemplary Knighton Award for the Performance Audit of the Long Beach Police Department's (LBPD's) Evidence Control Section from the Association of Local Government Auditors (ALGA). The Knighton Award is a highly regarded honor as it recognizes the best performance audit reports issued by more than 300 local government audit organizations.

The LBPD's Evidence Control Section is responsible for the intake, storage and disposition of over 300,000 property and evidence items that are held as crime scene evidence, seized goods, prisoner's personal property, or found property. The audit found that controls need to be improved to further safeguard property and evidence items.

Judges commented that recommendations were clear, specific, and appropriately addressed the key findings. The audit's recommendations focused on improving security over property and evidence by 1) implementing physical security measures at storage locations, 2) limiting personnel with access to these items, and 3) performing effective inventory management.

"I am very pleased with the cooperation we received from the LBPD and that they agreed with our recommendations," said Long Beach City Auditor Laura Doud. "As a result of the audit, LBPD has taken swift action in implementing the following changes - installed a security alarm system at the main storage warehouse, repaired security cameras, limited access at the storage warehouses to appropriate staff, and created an inventory schedule to examine all items regularly. By implementing our recommendations, the City can better maintain the integrity of property and evidence, ultimately ensuring public confidence."

Detailed judges' comments can be viewed [here](#), the Long Beach Police Evidence Control Section Performance Audit can be viewed [here](#), and the Report Highlights Sheet can be viewed [here](#).

#### **About the Long Beach City Auditor's Office**

The Long Beach City Auditor's Office's mission is to make Long Beach better through independent audits and fraud investigations. The Office works to provide assurance City funds are spent as intended, promote transparency and accountability of City operations, and prevent fraud, waste and abuse of City resources. For more information visit [CityAuditorLauraDoud.com](http://CityAuditorLauraDoud.com) and connect with the Office @LBCityAuditor on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#). Sign up to receive email [updates](#) and download the MyAuditor App at the [App Store](#) or [Google Play](#).

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