



Association of Local Government Auditors

April 11, 2022

David Jones
P.O. Box 94729
Seattle, WA 98124

RE: 2021 Knighton Award Winner

Dear David,

The Association of Local Government Auditors' Awards Program Committee is pleased to announce that the City of Seattle, Office of the City Auditor's report, *Assessment of Seattle Municipal Court Probation Racial and Ethnic Proportionality*, won the 2021 Exemplary Knighton Award in the Medium Shop Category.

ALGA was founded in 1985 to serve auditors who specialize in working with local governments, and our members represent about 300 local government audit organizations across the United States and Canada. Local government auditors are committed to helping their governments improve service delivery to the public more efficiently and effectively with the limited resources available to them.

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, like yours, submit their best performance audit report to be evaluated against four 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) Audit results that are communicated clearly and concisely.

Judges from peer organizations determined your office's report was among the best of 2021.

The judges commented:

This audit addressed a topic of great importance to Seattle's leaders and its residents, identifying patterns of inequality that could unnecessarily perpetuate involvement in the criminal justice system. The auditors ran into data issues in performing the audit, which in many cases would have resulted in a finding that poor data made further testing



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impossible. However, the auditors used innovative methods to address the data gaps and provide more support to the findings. The judges also appreciated the use of headers and callouts that summarized the main point of each section of the report.

Congratulations on receiving this award!

Sincerely,

Chris Horton, Ph.D.
ALGA President

Sonal Patel, Chair
ALGA Awards Program Committee