



Association of Local Government Auditors

April 4, 2025

David G. Jones
P.O. Box 94729
Seattle, Washington 98124

RE: 2024 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 City Auditor's report, "Addressing Places in Seattle Where Overdoses and Crime are Concentrated: An Evidence-Based Approach," won the 2024 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 over 300 local government audit organizations across the United States and Canada. As you well know, local government auditors are committed to helping their governments provide services 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 2024.

The judges commented:

The judges felt that the performance audit was exemplary in many ways. The case study and place-based approach provided an evidence-informed framework for the audit, thus providing strong criteria. By thoroughly researching context and partnering with industry experts and stakeholders, the auditors were able to tackle a complex topic in a way that



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was highly responsive to the needs of decision-makers and the public. Recommendations were detailed and specific and logically connected to the research and audit findings, making them more likely to be implemented by the auditee. The report was clearly written and easy to read, even for those who are not industry experts. Additionally, the layout and effective use of photos helped the reader make connections to the audit's methodology and findings. The high-quality and solid methodology used by the Seattle City Auditor will inspire other audit shops that attempt to take on similar topics in the future.

Congratulations on receiving this award!

Sincerely,

Kathie Harrison,
Acting ALGA President

Annamarie McNiel,
Awards Program Committee Chair