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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**NSAA Announces 2022 Excellence in Accountability Awards**

Atlanta, GA – June 10, 2022 – The National State Auditors Association has announced the winners of the 2022 NSAA Excellence in Accountability Awards. The awards are presented annually to recognize outstanding performance audits, forensic reports and special projects performed by NSAA members. This year's winners are:

**2022 Performance Audit (large)**

- [\*Assessing the Workplace Culture at the Department of Fish and Wildlife\*](#) by the Office of the Washington State Auditor

**2022 Performance Audit (small)**

- [\*Employment Development Department: Significant Weaknesses in EDD's Approach to Fraud Prevention Have Led to Billions of Dollars in Improper Benefit Payments\*](#) by the California State Auditor's Office

**2022 Special Project**

- [\*Project KIDS\*](#) by the Utah Office of the State Auditor

**2022 Forensic Reports**

- [\*EPIC Charter Schools – Special Investigative Audit\*](#) by the Oklahoma State Auditor & Inspector's Office



- [Investigative Audit of the Louisiana Office of the State Fire Marshal](#) by the Louisiana Legislative Auditor

Award winners will be presenting during a session at the 2022 NSAA Annual Conference, being held June 8-10 in Atlanta, Georgia. The presentations will occur on Friday, June 10.

## CRITERIA

**Performance Audit Awards** are presented for the best performance audit report(s) designated “small” and “large” based on number of audit hours spent on the audit. To qualify for submission under this category, the report must include a statement about the auditor’s compliance with generally accepted government auditing standards, as cited in paragraph 9.03 of Government Auditing Standards, 2018 Revision, issued by the U.S. Government Accountability Office. The “small” and “large” designation is made by the NSAA Excellence in Accountability Awards Committee for each submission based on the relative size (number of audit hours) of each submission to all submissions received.

Criteria for the Performance Audit Award(s) category, are:

- Scope and potential for significant impact
- Persuasiveness of conclusions
- Focus of the recommendations on effective and efficient government
- Clarity and conciseness of communication style
- Innovation
- Usefulness to customer
- Action produced

**Forensic Report Awards** are presented for the forensic report(s) that best describes the complexity of the engagement, its outcomes, and recommendations to prevent the matter from arising again.

Criteria for the Forensic Report Award(s) are:

- Methodology used to uncover and investigate the issue
- Significance of the matter on entity’s services and the financial outcome
- Usefulness of the forensic report to law enforcement and the management of government
- Focus of the recommendations on addressing and preventing the issue in the future
- Clarity and conciseness of communication style
- Unique outcomes or other changes
- Results of the engagement



**Special Project Award(s)** is presented for the best, most innovative non-audit report(s) or other product(s) created by an audit shop.

Criteria for the Special Project Award(s) are:

- Major service impact and/or significant financial outcome
- Usefulness to customer
- Unique objective or subject matter
- Progressive, forward-thinking perspective
- Innovative process
- Creative presentation
- Success of project or action produced

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The National State Auditors Association (NSAA) is an organization is dedicated to improving state government by providing opportunities for the free exchange of information and ideas and promoting accountability, transparency and the observance of professional audit standards. For more information about NSAA, call (859) 276-1147 or visit [www.nasact.org](http://www.nasact.org).