



Association of Local Government Auditors

March 28, 2017

Sharon Erickson
City Auditor
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Dear Ms. Erickson:

The Association of Local Government Auditors (ALGA) Awards Program Committee is pleased to announce that the San Jose City Auditor's report, *Apartment Rent Ordinance: Additional Investment, Improved Processes, and Strategic Resource Deployment Needed to Better Serve Tenants and Landlords*, won the 2016 Exemplary 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:

This report presented an innovative way to conduct an audit for a program that was still under development. The apartment rent control audit greatly impacted the City of San José through recommendations that affected close to half of the City's residents. The audit identified opportunities where the City could maximize existing resources, prioritize spending, and increase citizen outreach, and provided guidelines on where new future resources should be concentrated. The report included charts and exhibits that measured rent inflation over a 35-year period, affordability based on personal income, impact of rental increases at varying levels, and benchmarking against other city ordinances. Recommendations were clearly written and well supported through extensive data analysis that was informative and appreciated by the auditee.

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) audit results that are communicated in a clear, concise way; and (5) an audit scope, methodology, recommendations, or report format that is innovative. Judges from peer organizations determined that the Office of the City Auditor's report was among the best of 2016.

Congratulations for receiving this award!

Sincerely,

David Givans, President
ALGA

Lisa Monteiro, Chair
ALGA Awards Program Committee