



**Government Finance Officers Association**  
203 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2700  
Chicago, Illinois 60601-1210  
312.977.9700 fax: 312.977.4806

December 3, 2019

Dale Atchley, CPA  
County Auditor  
Nueces County  
901 Leopard Street  
Room 304  
Corpus Christi, TX 78401-3606

Dear Mr. Atchley:

We are pleased to notify you that your 2018 fiscal year end comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR) qualifies for GFOA's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment. Congratulations for having satisfied the high standards of the program. We hope that your example will encourage others in their efforts to achieve and maintain an appropriate standard of excellence in financial reporting.

A "Summary of Grading" form and a confidential list of comments and suggestions for possible improvements are enclosed. We want to strongly encourage the recommended improvements be made in the next report, and that the report be submitted to the program within six months of your next fiscal year end. Certificate of Achievement Program policy requires that written responses to the comments and suggestions for improvement accompany the next fiscal year's submission. The written responses should provide details about how each item is addressed within this report. These responses will be provided to those Special Review Committee members participating in the review. If a comment is unclear or there appears to be a discrepancy, please contact the Technical Services Center at (312) 977-9700 and ask to speak with a Certificate of Achievement Program in-house reviewer.

When a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting is awarded to a government, an Award of Financial Reporting Achievement (AFRA) is also presented to the individual(s) or department designated by the government as primarily responsible for its having earned the Certificate. An AFRA is enclosed for the preparer as designated on the application.

Continuing participants will find a brass medallion enclosed with these results. First-time recipients will receive a plaque in about 10 weeks. We hope that appropriate publicity will be given to this notable achievement. A sample news release has been enclosed.

A current holder of a Certificate of Achievement may include a reproduction of the Certificate in its immediately subsequent CAFR. A camera-ready copy of your Certificate is enclosed for that purpose. If you reproduce your Certificate in your next report, please refer to the enclosed instructions. A Certificate of Achievement is valid for a period of one year.

Over the course of the year, we are anticipating some changes to our application process. We will still be asking governments for the same documents we asked for in the past, but we are encouraging electronic submissions to [cafrprogram@gfoa.org](mailto:cafrprogram@gfoa.org) and expect to be making other changes going forward. We will keep members informed of any changes via email, and application instructions will be updated on our website.

Your continued interest in and support of the Certificate of Achievement Program is most appreciated. If we may be of any further assistance, please contact the Technical Services Center at (312) 977-9700.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michele Mark Levine". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michele Mark Levine  
Director, Technical Services Center