



# Management News

Vol. 49, No. 4, November 22 – December 3, 2021

## Honor Awards to be presented on Thursday, December 9

The GAO Honor Awards Ceremony will take place virtually, on Thursday, December 9, at 2:30 pm (ET). The annual Honor Awards ceremony provides special recognition to teams and individuals for noteworthy achievements. As in past years, Comptroller General **Gene Dodaro** and the executive committee will officiate at the event.

This year's ceremony will be held via Zoom Webinar. All employees are invited to attend. A link to the event will be posted in GAO Notices and provided to awardees so they may invite family and friends.

### COMPTROLLER GENERAL'S AWARD



**Lawrance Evans, ARM**



**Tim Bowling, APQA**



**Michele Mackin, CNSA**

**Lawrance Evans**, Managing Director ARM

For extraordinary and sustained leadership in promoting analytically rigorous work, upholding GAO's people values, and encouraging organizational change and institutional knowledge building and transfer.

**Tim Bowling**, Chief Quality Officer APQA

For outstanding dedication and commitment to ensuring the quality of GAO's products and providing sound advice and guidance to engagement teams, senior leaders, and the Executive Committee.

**Michele Mackin**, Managing Director CNSA

For extraordinary and sustained leadership to further GAO's reach and influence on federal contracting and acquisition issues and balancing it with an enduring commitment to GAO's people values.

## INTEGRITY AWARD

### **CARES Act Team**

For exceptional support to the Congress in its oversight of the federal response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and exemplary teamwork, collaboration, dedication, and commitment across the agency during this unprecedented time.

## BIG PICTURE AWARD

### **AI Oversight Framework Team**

For ground-breaking joint work by STAA and SPEL that resulted in a first-of-its-kind accountability framework for artificial intelligence that will guide future deployment and evaluation of AI systems across federal programs.

### **Fast Facts Team**

For creating informative, visually engaging, plain-language online summaries of GAO reports that enhance the agency's professional reputation and expand the reach of GAO's work to audiences across various media platforms.

### **Financial Stability Oversight Framework Team**

For an exceptional framework for assessing national efforts to promote financial stability, leveraging internationally recognized academic researchers and policy leaders.

### **Health of the Mission Team**

For significantly contributing to GAO's ability to monitor and understand the impact of the pandemic on the mission and the workforce.

## GRAND FINALE AWARD

### **Tom Armstrong**, General Counsel OGC

For 43 years of exemplary service and leadership in providing legal support to GAO's operations and engagements, as well as recent contributions to a supportive work environment for employees during the pandemic and to GAO's Centennial celebrations.

### **Steve Cohen**, Assistant Director PI

For steadfast and outstanding leadership and vision in the field of surface transportation, resulting in substantive agency change, value to clients, and collaborative team building.

### **Chris Mihm**, Managing Director SI

For more than 37 years of dedicated public service, 17 years as SI Managing Director, tens of billions in financial accomplishments, more than 1,000 other benefits, and a final year that included leading the 2020 Census work.

### **Kate Siggerud**, Chief Operating Officer COO

For decades of dedicated federal service and exceptional leadership on a range of initiatives over the last year including overseeing the federal response to COVID-19 and supporting GAO employees during the pandemic.

## JOHN HENRY LUKE MENTORING AWARD

### **Yecenia Camarillo**, Senior Analyst DCM

For devotion to, caring for, and focused mentoring of fellow analysts at GAO, and for modeling the agency's People Values.

**Gretta Goodwin**, Director HSJ

For longstanding commitment to mentoring, coaching, and developing GAO staff from all backgrounds in a manner that values, respects, and treats everyone compassionately and fairly.

**Jennifer Grover**, Managing Director PDP

For tirelessly working to ensure participants in GAO's Professional Development Program have access to resources for support and mentorship during the pandemic.

**Kristen Jones**, Senior Analyst EWIS

For exceptional dedication in mentoring a wide range of EWIS staff and helping recruit and train GAO's future cadre of leaders all while exemplifying the very best in motivating, coaching, developing, and empowering people.

**Jennel Lockley**, Assistant Director HC

For dedicated efforts to formally and informally mentor staff within Health Care and across GAO, and helping staff grow and succeed within the organization.

**Latesha Love**, Director IAT

For thoughtful and compassionate mentorship of staff at all levels and pay plans across the agency, which led to improved performance and a more inclusive work environment.

**Patricia MacWilliams**, Senior Analyst FMCI

For exemplary mentorship of FMCI staff and imparting a commitment to GAO's core values and auditing excellence.

**Nhi Nguyen**, Senior Analyst EWIS

For sustained commitment to EWIS staff development through exemplary mentoring and coaching, resulting in improved employee performance, engagement, and utilization.

**Janet Temko-Blinder**, Assistant General Counsel OGC

For consistently encouraging intellectual curiosity and continuous development through exceptional mentoring of staff at all levels.

## **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS**

**Aditi S. Archer**, Assistant Director HSJ

For exceptional leadership and numerous significant results on disaster-related work, including serving as a key GAO point of contact with internal and external stakeholders.

**Darreisha M. Bates**, Director Domestic Relations SPEL

For exceptional leadership supporting the domestic and federal audit community, innovation in the intergovernmental audit forums, and effective coordination with the accountability community during GAO's pandemic response.

**Denise Bennett**, PDP Operations Program Manager PDP

For sustained exceptional contributions and extra effort toward GAO's entry-level hiring process and the development of a mature, agency-wide PDP Operations program.

**Kathryn Bernet**, Assistant Director HSJ

For many years of exceptional leadership and stewardship on a broad portfolio of work examining complex, sensitive border security and immigration issues, including outstanding matrixing across teams and staff mentoring.

**Marcia Carlsen**, Director FMA

For outstanding contributions and exceptional teamwork practices in support of FMCI's evaluation of the Small Business Administration's Emergency Loan Programs.

**Ana Caro**, Telework Special Assistant CAO

For leading the development and implementation of the agency-wide wellness program aimed at improving the health and connectedness of GAO staff during the pandemic.

**Marisol Cruz Cain**, Assistant Director ITC

For leadership and collaboration on key cybersecurity and privacy reviews, as well as sustained excellence in fostering and coaching colleagues, resulting in high-performing teams and exceptional results.

**John Dicken**, Director HC

For outstanding and dedicated service to clients by providing sophisticated, balanced, and original analyses on a range of drug pricing, nursing home, and private insurance issues.

**Heather J. Dunahoo**, Assistant Director FAIS

For sustained leadership on multiple complex engagements to better identify and mitigate fraud risks across the federal government, as well as GAO and FAIS initiatives to enhance product quality and advance staff development.

**Elizabeth Field**, Director DCM

For exemplary leadership of GAO's body of work assessing the Department of Defense's business and management functions and for commitment to quality.

**Thaiwanna Flanders**, Lead Security Specialist IO

For outstanding leadership and innovation in revitalizing GAO's Personnel Security Branch.

**Sandra George**, Assistant General Counsel OGC

For extraordinary performance and inspiring leadership in connection with GAO's recurring CARES Act reports and individual COVID-19 engagements.

**Kimberly Gianopoulos**, Director IAT

For outstanding leadership of international trade issues and GAO's DE&I effort.

**Jonathan M. Gill**, Assistant Director NRE

For exceptional leadership of GAO's body of work on nuclear stockpile programs while focusing on building and sustaining strong client relationships, developing staff, and ensuring quality.

**Leslie Holen**, Assistant Director IAT

For exceptional leadership and stewardship in support of GAO's International Affairs portfolio.

**Terrance Horner, Jr.**, Director of Enterprise Content Management CPI

For exemplary commitment and leadership in facilitating timely contract award and effective operationalization for the effort to replace GAO's DM system, including ensuring that GAO's business segments were comprehensively represented.

**Shirley Jones**, Managing Associate General Counsel OGC

For exemplary leadership of the Appropriations Law group, including notable legal decisions addressing the Impoundment Control Act and testimony supporting the congressional power of the purse.

**John A. Karikari**, Assistant Director, Economics ARM

For years of creative, rigorous economic analysis, advanced analytics, and a willingness to take on the most difficult empirical questions to meet congressional demand.

**Julia Kennon**, Assistant Director ARM

For years of exceptional and sustained contributions through sophisticated data analysis and mastery of federal contracting information while building analytical capability at GAO.

**Amy Lyon**, Director, Learning Center Operations LC

For sustained exceptional dedication and leadership of GAO Learning Center operations and customer support over the past decade.

**Triana McNeil**, Director HSJ

For sustained leadership and service to Congress, GAO, and the taxpayers on a range of complex issues, including domestic counterterrorism, domestic intelligence information-sharing, and drug misuse.

**Peter Rudman**, Director, Financial Management FMBO

For exceptional contributions to high-quality financial system migration, saving the agency over \$5 million as a result.

**David Sausville**, Assistant Director PI

For outstanding leadership across several bodies of work in federal real property, telecommunications, and aviation, including developing staff and building expertise that have enhanced GAO's work.

**Warren Simmons**, Director, Security and Emergency Management IO

For exceptional leadership, commitment, and insightful critical thinking that greatly enhanced the efficiency and effectiveness of security and emergency management across GAO and throughout the Headquarters building.

**Dawn Simpson**, Director FMA

For exceptional commitment to and leadership of the annual audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements of the United States Government.

**Beth Sirois**, Assistant Director EWIS

For exceptional leadership of a high risk body of work on Bureau of Indian Education schools, which has resulted in improved school facilities and services for American Indian students.

**Paige Smith**, Assistant Director FMCI

For sustained exceptional leadership across a variety of critical issues facing the nation, including pandemic emergency lending, disaster recovery, and small business programs.

## **MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARDS**

**Nora Adkins**, Senior Attorney OGC

For exceptional support to the STAA team, including in the expansion and development of the STAA portfolio and its Innovation Lab, and for key contributions to reviews of COVID-19 vaccine development.

**Juanita A. Aiken**, Special Assistant/Management Officer STAA

For exemplary dedication to STAA staff during a period of robust growth that included the successful onboarding of dozens of staff; and for crafting innovative and efficient practices to improve team operations.

**Darnita Akers**, Senior Analyst STAA

For sustained, outstanding contributions across a range of complex supply chain and intellectual property reviews; exemplary collaboration in managing matrixed work; and providing excellent coaching to team members.

**Beatrice Alff**, Senior Auditor FMA

For exemplary leadership and subject matter expertise on DOD financial management and related areas and engagements, and for being a consistently sought-after repository of knowledge for colleagues and GAO stakeholders.

**Alexander Anderegg**, Senior Analyst, ITC

For consistently demonstrating exceptional collaborative, leadership, and supervisory abilities while directing highly complex cybersecurity engagements.

**Cheryl Andrew**, Assistant Director CNSA

For exemplary leadership of CNSA's work on the defense industrial base and protection of critical technologies.

**Marie Bancroft**, Senior Analyst NRE

For ground-breaking work on the Department of the Interior's management of oil and gas that has contributed to understanding the large and growing unfunded potential fiscal liability.

**Scott Behen**, Senior Analyst DCM

For sustained exceptional leadership and commitment to fostering outstanding collaboration on reviews of Navy ship maintenance.

**Alisa Beyninson**, Senior Analyst NRE

For outstanding leadership and dedication to the development of GAO's work on nuclear nonproliferation and international nuclear security issues, and to the improvement of GAO staff knowledge and expertise in these areas.

**William Black**, Assistant Director HC

For exceptional skill, dedication, and strategic thinking in carrying out a range of responsibilities as Health Care's Chief of Staff.

**Ted Burik**, Senior Analyst EWIS

For outstanding leadership of GAO's work that shed light on cybersecurity risks facing retirement plans and necessary federal oversight of executive retirement plans; and commitment to GAO's effort to improve financial literacy.

**Ramona Burton**, Senior Analyst EWIS

For exceptional leadership, analysis, and collaboration on multiple reviews of sensitive child welfare issues, such as protecting student athletes from abuse, and a dedication to mentoring and staff development.

**Mark Canter**, Assistant Director ITC

For comprehensive support of GAO's ongoing IT audit and computing needs for both performance and financial audits at IRS, and for serving as a key liaison between the FMA and ITC teams.

**Janice Ceperich**, Assistant Director NRE

For extraordinary leadership on multiple engagements looking at the federal response to disaster- and climate-related electricity grid disruptions, and for exceptional attention to staff opportunities and development.

**Westley Chang**, IT Specialist ISTS

For dedicated and unwavering efforts in managing all aspects of GAO's IT network, from vendor support to detailed technical aspects of equipment configuration and operations.

**Heather Chartier**, Senior Analyst FMCI

For sustained contributions to GAO's work on housing affordability and development costs, as well as reviews of the pandemic response.

**Amanda Cherrin**, Senior Analyst HC

For exceptional contributions across a range of health care issues, including work on the 340B Drug Discount Program, the Veterans Health Care High Risk area and the HHS scientific integrity review.

**Grace Cho**, Senior Analyst EWIS

For outstanding contributions to a variety of K-12 and Human Services engagements; skillful, empathetic mentoring of newer staff; and sustained leadership in DE&I.

**Brian Chung**, Senior Analyst PI

For outstanding leadership and contributions on engagements across multiple PI portfolios leading to agency improvements, and for commitment to coaching staff and improving team performance.

**Antoine Clark**, Senior Analyst PI

For significant contributions to PI's surface transportation portfolio resulting in positive agency change, and for commitment to building and supporting collaborative team environments.

**Sharon Coar**, Program Analyst HC

For outstanding efforts in organizing and administering the appointment cycle for multiple health care commissions each year.

**Willie Commons III**, Senior Attorney OGC

For sustained commitment to excellence in providing timely, thoughtful, and sophisticated legal advice and assistance to the HSJ team on a wide range of law enforcement issues.

**Michael Dickens**, Senior Biological Scientist STAA

For excellent technical support to multiple congressional committees on COVID-related topics, including providing several briefings and Q&A sessions about vaccines in an exceptionally professional and effective manner.

**Julia DiPonio**, Senior Analyst FAIS

For notable contributions in advancing the use of data analytics, thereby furthering staff development in FAIS and across GAO and enhancing fraud risk management throughout multiple federal programs.

**Marissa Dondoe**, Senior Analyst NRE

For exceptional leadership on a broad range of Energy, Climate, and Environment engagements and for key contributions to the INTOSAI Working Group on Environmental Auditing.

**Kathleen Drennan**, Assistant Director SI

For sustained, insightful, and outstanding leadership of a body of work on open data and evidence resulting in multiple accomplishments; clear client communication; constructive agency relationships; and staff development.

**Wesley Dunn**, Assistant General Counsel OGC

For exemplary performance providing expert legal support on a wide range of pandemic-related and operational issues and in managing the legal support provided to the agency on labor management relations issues.

**James East Jr.**, Director Insider Threat CAO

For successfully building GAO's Insider Threat Program from the ground up.

**Rebecca Eyler**, Communications Analyst ITC

For outstanding responsiveness and commitment to quality in helping engagement teams develop multiple reports, briefings, and testimonies, often under tight deadlines.

**Charles R. Fox**, Assistant Director FMA

For sustained commitment and exemplary leadership on the financial audits of the IRS, and significant contributions to FMA's financial audit practice.

**Ellen Fried**, Senior Communications Analyst NRE

For exemplary dedication, expertise, and good humor in ensuring clear, compelling communication in numerous GAO products.

**Brody Garner**, Protocol Officer SPEL

For outstanding support to the Executive Committee, including events with international and domestic partners, advisory board meetings and centennial events, enabling connectedness and continuity of operations during remote work.

**Josephine Gaytán**, Administrative Officer FO

For exemplary performance and leadership as the Chicago Field Office Administrative Officer, including facilitating the office move and creating a positive work environment during a time of transition.

**Robert Gebhart**, Supervisory Communications Analyst SI

For exceptional leadership and contributions that helped ensure high-quality SI reports and testimonies, and for dedication to clarity and impact in written products.

**Dorothy Goldsmith**, Writing Curriculum Manager LC

For exceptional leadership of GAO's writing curriculum and creativity and vision in developing and managing new courses that emphasize writing clarity in GAO products.

**Cheryl Goodman**, Assistant Director IAT

For exceptional leadership on engagements supporting multiple portfolios, while also making significant contributions to staff development.

**Diana Goody**, Assistant Director APQA

For outstanding assistance to the Chief Quality Officer, the Chief Operating Officer, and the Comptroller General in successfully compiling, analyzing, and reporting on GAO's annual performance measures.

**Schirra Gray**, Senior IT Engineer ISTS

For exceptional performance on complex IT projects, managing the Linux environment, establishing the DevSecOps infrastructure, and collaboration and team-building both within and outside of the Engineering Services Group.

**Natasha Guerra**, Senior Auditor FMA

For significant contributions to staff learning on the General Fund team, and building connections among team members—which was very important to the success of the work.

**Brian S. Harechmak**, Senior Auditor FMA

For exceptional sustained contributions to GAO's recurring CARES Act reports on the impact of COVID-19.

**Kevin Heinz**, Assistant Director HSJ

For outstanding leadership across numerous high-impact reviews of transportation security and countering violent extremism; for providing critical assistance to the Hill; and for excellent service as a DPM and HSJ report reviewer.

**Christoph Hoashi-Erhardt**, Program Manager CPI

For outstanding leadership of two CPIO programs that provided significant insight to the Executive Committee and value to the GAO community, which required superior skills in organization, communication, and teamwork.

**Brent Hoefler**, Financial Systems Branch Manager

For exceptional contributions to improved financial management at GAO and an efficient and collaborative approach to managing many complex, time-sensitive projects, earning great respect from among his colleagues.

**Laura Holliday**, Assistant Director

For outstanding leadership of several simultaneous, high-profile, rapid turn-around products, including the Operation Warp Speed report, OWS dashboard content, and the mandated report to Congress on STAA progress and plans.

**Laura Hook**, Senior Analyst CNSA

For outstanding leadership on complex military space acquisition issues.



**Gina Hoover**, Senior Design Methodologist ARM

For outstanding methodological support and stewardship of GAO's survey capabilities and meeting complex engagement survey challenges with intellectual rigor.

**Tyrone Hutchins**, Senior Auditor FMA

For sustained commitment and significant contributions to GAO's financial statement audits of the IRS.

**Kendrick Johnson**, Senior Analyst ITC

For effective support of ITC's matrixed work with DCM, support to the priority recommendation letter process, and completion of ITC's mandated work evaluating adoption of the NIST Cybersecurity Framework.

**Sonya Johnson**, Director Privacy and Records IO

For outstanding contributions to GAO's strategic goals using expertise of Records and Privacy policies and procedures to maintain highly effective relationships with GAO customers at all levels.

**Thomas Johnson**, Assistant Director OIG

For exceptional and sustained performance simultaneously leading work on diverse and highly visible issues, including pandemic testing and Medicare.

**Diamond Juggins**, Budget Analyst FMBO

For exceptional efforts and dedication to the improvement of FMBO Operations and commitment to customer service and teamwork.

**Sarah Kaczmarek**, Director of Public Affairs OPA

For exceptional leadership of a multi-year redesign of GAO's website, providing numerous critical enhancements, such as a responsive mobile design, that have increased website use and attention to the agency's work.

**J. Kristopher Keener**, Assistant Director CNSA

For outstanding leadership of Army weapon system engagements and other critical support to CNSA.

**Michael Kniss**, Senior Analyst EWIS

For leadership of GAO's workforce issues, notably on the challenges of administering and implementing unemployment insurance during COVID-19, as well as exceptional commitment to staff development as a supervisor and mentor.

**Sherri Lea**, Management and Program Analyst PDP

For extra effort and sustained timely contributions to the year-round hiring process, which was critical to meeting GAO's hiring goals and maintaining our robust entry-level talent pipeline.

**Gay Hee Lee**, Senior Analyst HC

For outstanding contributions and collaboration across a range of work on public health issues, including FDA drug regulation and vaccine implementation in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Kun-Fang (K.F.) Lee**, Senior Analyst FMCI

For exceptional contributions to and leadership of GAO's work on the Bank Secrecy Act and CARES Act Federal Reserve lending facilities.

**Latrealle (L.V.) Lee**, Senior Analyst DCM

For outstanding commitment and leadership in conducting a range of DOD reviews, including contingency contracting and unmanned aircraft systems.

**Stacey Lemma**, Enterprise Architect ISTS

For sustained commitment and leadership in improving GAO's EA program and IT Investment Lifecycle that has enabled more effective multi-year planning of GAO's IT portfolio of projects and investments.

**Robert Lowthian**, Senior Analyst FMCI

For exceptional contributions to GAO's financial markets portfolio, including analyses of the financial sector's cybersecurity and SEC's oversight of FINRA.

**Grace Lui**, Assistant General Counsel OGC

For exceptional legal support to IAT across a range of engagements, including exemplary contributions to GAO's trade work on tariff exclusions and USDA's trade damage estimates, and outstanding work on the CARES Act reports.

**Joshua Marcus**, Assistant Director FMA

For exemplary work on the JFMIP Initiative to reduce improper payments through identity verification, and for collaborative leadership of financial management projects resulting in high levels of team cohesion and performance.

**Colleen Marks**, Disability Program Manager HCO

For demonstrated commitment to supporting GAO's workforce during the COVID-19 pandemic by leading contact tracing efforts and conducting research.

**Michael Maslowski**, Senior Analyst IAT

For sustained commitment and outstanding achievement in furthering GAO's contributions related to international economic sanctions.

**Taylor Matheson**, Assistant Director HSJ

For outstanding, consistent leadership across numerous border security and immigration-related reviews, including significant contributions to detention issues, and for excellent service as an HSJ report reviewer and DPM.

**Jean Mathew**, Senior Analyst FMA

For significant contributions to the Yellow Book Quality Management revision project, including developing a methodology to analyze extant guidance to a revised approach.

**Sheila R. McCoy**, Assistant General Counsel OGC

For providing exemplary support to a diverse array of OGC and GAO programs, meeting needs in a wide range of complex legal areas.

**Janet McKelvey**, Assistant Director CNSA

For outstanding leadership on a wide array of CNSA contracting reviews.

**Jeanette McKinney**, Manager Procurement Law Control Group OGC

For outstanding performance managing the Procurement Law Control Group during the COVID-19 pandemic, and for ensuring that all bid protest staff were prepared to meet GAO's statutory bid protest obligations virtually.

**Mara McMillen**, Senior Analyst HSJ

For significant contributions and exceptional leadership and collaboration across mission teams and with external stakeholders on engagements spanning high-risk DHS management functions, drug misuse, and border security.

**Maria McMullen**, Visual Communications Analyst FAIS

For continually and cheerfully going above and beyond to design visually compelling messages for FAIS products and create materials to further investigative work, while also actively collaborating and contributing across GAO.

**Michael Meleady**, Senior Analyst NRE

For exceptional contributions to NRE's environmental protection and nuclear areas, including an assessment of EPA's compliance with the Clean Water Act that will serve as the foundation for many GAO audits.

**Angela Messenger**, Legislative Research Specialist CR

For sustained and outstanding contributions to CR, including tracking mandates, conducting research and analysis, and supporting mission teams' annual outreach efforts.

**Marycella Mierez**, Senior Analyst HSJ

For outstanding leadership across a range of issues in the justice, immigration, and disaster portfolios, and for exceptional co-leadership of the HSJ Data COP.

**Alana Miller**, Senior Analyst IAT

For exceptional leadership and accomplishments on multiple high-impact engagements related to Customs and USTR.

**Jaelyn Mullen**, Senior Analyst PI

For leadership across several bodies of work for PI which furthered GAO's relevance in key policy issues, and commitment to improving the community within the team and the Los Angeles field office.

**Leah Q. Nash**, Assistant Director SI

For exemplary leadership of numerous high-quality budget and human capital management engagements, as well as SI's efforts to track recommendation status and the realization of accomplishments attributable to SI's work.

**Erika Navarro**, Senior Analyst FMCI

For exceptional contributions to and leadership of GAO's work on Fintech, veterans' homelessness, and minority- and women-owned asset managers.

**Daniel Newman**, Senior Analyst FMCI

For sustained exceptional leadership of a body of work on SBA programs related to disaster loans, loan guarantees, and COVID-19.

**Parke Nicholson**, Senior Analyst DCM

For continuous outstanding support to the congress in improving Personnel Vetting and Intelligence Community management.

**Michael O'Neill**, Senior Analyst SI

For significant contributions in tax administration and regulatory oversight reviews while facilitating knowledge sharing activities in SI and sharing experience and insights with staff and teams.

**Eric Ofei**, Facilities Branch Chief IO

For demonstrating outstanding leadership of the Facilities Branch through the pandemic and overseeing environmental- and health-focused infrastructure projects with the largest facilities budget in decades.

**Moon Parks**, Senior Economist ARM

For outstanding contributions to GAO teams and congressional clients in the form of forward-thinking and innovative analytics, methodological rigor, and intellectual leadership.

**Regina Parks**, Pay and Processing Manager HCO

For demonstrated commitment in supporting GAO's workforce by ensuring continued onboarding in a virtual environment, timely processing of pay and personnel actions, and helping to acclimate new team members.

**Alice Paszel**, Senior Analyst DCM

For outstanding leadership of multiple reviews focused on improving Intelligence Community management.

**John Pistilli**, ACF Manager ISTS

For sustained and exemplary technical leadership in managing GAO's primary and alternate data centers, ensuring successful technology implementations and transitions.

**Nanette Porter**, Executive Assistant COO

For outstanding service to GAO and the Executive Committee, especially in organizing key communications, processes, and meetings as GAO continued maximum telework and began returning to the office.

**Maria G. Psara**, Analyst IAT

For demonstrating outstanding analytical skills while working on multiple challenging engagements simultaneously.

**Karissa Robie**, Senior Analyst EWIS

For exemplary intellectual leadership on complex higher education issues, including income-driven student loan repayment plans, student-parent childcare programs, children's savings accounts, and the online academic program manager industry.

**Luis E. Rodriguez**, Senior Analyst HSJ

For consistent outstanding work and contributions across a range of homeland security issues, including domestic intelligence and critical infrastructure, and for exceptional co-leadership of the HSJ DE&I committee.

**Matthew Rosenberg**, Senior Analyst PI

For outstanding leadership of engagements in telecom and surface transportation, and commitment to enhancing community within the Physical Infrastructure team in the Chicago Field Office.

**Stephanie Santoso**, Senior Analyst DCM

For exceptional leadership in using complex, quantitative analysis to inform reviews of military medical reform, military housing payments, and military personnel budgets, resulting in over \$2 billion in financial savings.

**Ronald Schwenn**, Assistant Director DCM

For exceptional support to CNSA in myriad areas, including staffing, workforce planning, PDP, and esprit de corps.

**Paul Seely**, Senior Analyst DCM

For outstanding leadership and analysis supporting reviews of child abuse and domestic abuse in the military, resulting in reports with impactful recommendations and legislation to help reduce the prevalence of these offenses.

**Kate Sharkey**, Assistant Director ITC

For outstanding leadership of evaluations of the cybersecurity protections of 2020 Census operations, leading to exceptional support of congressional oversight efforts and enhanced protections of sensitive Census data.

**Thomas Short**, Assistant Director SI

For sustained outstanding leadership on addressing the tax gap that resulted in hundreds of accomplishments and tens of billions of dollars in savings through improvements in IRS enforcement programs and tax law.

**Alison Snyder**, Senior Analyst PI

For outstanding leadership on engagements across the PI portfolio, leading to improvements in numerous federal programs, and for a commitment to coaching and mentoring staff.

**Roderick Thomas**, Administration Officer FO

For exceptional dedication and service as Field Operations' Deputy Security and Safety Liaison and as the Los Angeles Field Office's Administrative Officer.

**Meg Tulloch**, Director, Center for Library Science ARM

For exceptional vision, sustained intellectual leadership, and extraordinary effort in positioning the Center for Library Services to meet GAO's research and information needs.

**Ann Tynan**, Assistant Director HC

For outstanding leadership in the HC portfolio on veterans' and military health care.

**Sonya Vartivarian**, Assistant Director ARM

For exceptional intellectual leadership, quality assurance, an exemplary ability to transform analytical skill into meaningful recommendations, and a fierce dedication to professional development at GAO.

**Julia Vieweg**, Senior Analyst HSJ

For significant contributions and leadership in HSJ's justice and transportation security portfolios, including organizing the drug misuse COP, and for stewardship of HSJ activities that strengthen connectedness.

**Russell Voth**, Senior Analyst HC

For outstanding leadership, stewardship, and communication of GAO's Medicaid expertise to the Congress.

**Angela Watson**, Senior Analyst ITC

For outstanding contributions on GAO's highly complex IT supply chain risk management audit, leading to timely support of congressional oversight efforts to address key vulnerabilities in federal IT supply chains.

**Joshua Wiener**, Senior Analyst NRE

For exceptional leadership and significant contributions on multiple National Weather Service engagements, and for outstanding dedication to staff development.

**Tatiana Winger**, Assistant Director CNSA

For sustained, effective knowledge-sharing on a wide range of contracting issues within CNSA and across GAO.

**Rebecca Woiwode**, Assistant Director EWIS

For high-impact reports covering numerous issues, exceptional contributions to GAO's workforce portfolio, and inclusive leadership and outstanding development of staff in Oakland and across EWIS.

**Stephen Woods**, Senior Analyst DCM

For extraordinary achievements on reviews of DOD's capabilities to support worldwide military operations, as well as major contributions to GAO's continued long-term success through exceptional mentoring and leadership.

**Yiming (Ivy) Wu**, Senior Analyst FMA

For sustained dedication, enthusiasm, and exemplary performance on the financial audits of the federal debt, as well as FMA initiatives in the area of information system controls assessments.

## **CLIENT SERVICE AWARD**

**Rashmi Agarwal**, Assistant Director CR

For providing exemplary service and support to a vast portfolio of congressional clients.

**Phyllis Anderson**, Assistant Director FMA

For innovation, expertise, and extra effort in helping the Senate Budget Committee in its efforts to improve government-wide financial management through the CFO Vision Act of 2020.

**Ben Atwater**, Assistant Director HSJ

For outstanding efforts in the Critical Infrastructure portfolio that ensured timely and well-coordinated responses to numerous clients' requests for information—particularly on countering weapons of mass destruction and pipeline security issues.

**Tommy Baril**, Assistant Director DCM

For leadership and collaboration with congressional committees on defense cyber, electromagnetic spectrum, and information environment issues.

**Marc Castellano**, Senior Analyst IAT

For outstanding service to the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations in support of its legislative agenda and oversight responsibilities.

**Mary Denigan-Macauley**, Director HC

For exemplary client service in leading a high-profile and high-risk body of work on public health issues, including key aspects of the federal response to the pandemic.

**Melanie H. P. Fallow**, Senior Public Affairs Specialist OPA

For making GAO's work more accessible to the client by leading writing and editing for Fast Facts and the Highlights pilot, and providing communications leadership on agency-wide efforts.

**Holly Firlein**, Senior Staff Attorney OGC

For exceptional service to the Congress and the appropriations law community by providing timely legal observations related to Impoundment Control Act matters and Congress's constitutional power of the purse.

**Gregory Hanna**, Senior Analyst PI

For outstanding efforts leveraging deep subject matter expertise on postal issues to provide critical information to clients through timely technical assistance and preparation of GAO leadership for hearings and interviews.

**Susan Iott**, Assistant Director NRE

For developing long-standing and productive bipartisan relationships with House and Senate Committees with oversight of water and ecosystem management issues, and for building relationships in the area of environmental justice.

**Justin Jaynes**, Assistant Director CNSA

For exceptional, responsive service to Armed Services Committee clients on complex weapon system and defense contracting issues.

**Tom Jessor**, Assistant Director HSJ

For sustained, exceptional support of congressional oversight of elections-related issues through comprehensive reports, complex quantitative and qualitative analysis, and timely technical assistance.

**Joseph Kirschbaum**, Director DCM

For leadership and collaboration with congressional committees to highlight important emerging threats issues.

**Kaelin Kuhn**, Assistant Director ITC

For sustained excellence in supporting the cybersecurity needs of Congress by expertly leading key high-risk reviews and providing exceptional advice to congressional appropriations and oversight committees.

**Robert Marek**, Assistant Director STAA

For consistently providing expert advice to congressional committees on a range of intellectual property and patent issues and conducting outreach to key clients to develop oversight ideas.

**Jeffrey Mayhew**, Senior Analyst HC

For providing exceptional assistance and subject matter expertise through regular congressional briefings to support Congress' oversight of Operation Warp Speed and the development of COVID-19 vaccines.

**Lisa Motley**, Managing Associate General Counsel OGC

For exceptional efforts in drafting legislative language and GAO agreements, and providing expert counsel in support of Inspector General independence, government accountability frameworks, and federal accounting principles.

**Nyree Ryder Tee**, Assistant Director EWIS

For exceptional client service supporting oversight of a wide variety of issues affecting the well-being of veterans with disabilities and equitable, effective, and efficient operations at the Department of Veterans Affairs.

**Jillian Schofield**, Senior Analyst CNSA

For high-quality, timely, and exceptionally effective client service as a GAO detailee to the Senate Armed Services Committee.

**Zachary Sivo**, Senior Analyst CNSA

For dedicated and highly effective client service as a detailee to the House Veterans Affairs Committee.

**Rebecca Kuhlmann Taylor**, Senior Analyst EWIS

For exceptional client service concerning OSHA's efforts to ensure worker safety during COVID-19, and VA's efforts to protect employees from sexual harassment, including timely technical assistance to support legislation.

**Umesh Thakkar**, Senior Analyst ITC

For excellent client service by serving as a detailee with the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee.

**Melissa Wolf**, Assistant Director CR

For exceptional leadership of GAO's communication with and assistance to congressional clients, including working with engagement teams to manage a wide variety of high-profile and sensitive issues.

**Voice of the Client 2.0 Leadership Team**

For outstanding leadership of the Voice of the Client 2.0 project to collect feedback on GAO's products and services from 71 congressional staff on 19 congressional committees and subcommittees.

## **CUSTOMER SERVICE AWARDS**

**Pedro Almoguera**, Assistant Director ARM

For exceptional customer service to mission teams throughout GAO in the form of sophisticated microeconomics, cost-benefit analyses, quantitative rigor, and expertise in island economies.

**Bernice Benta-Jackson**, Senior Analyst/Operations Manager FMCI

For excellent contributions to FMCI operations, including providing timely and high-quality assistance to engagement teams.

**Christina Bixby**, Assistant General Counsel OGC

For outstanding collaboration and providing exceptional legal support and technical assistance with sensitivity, skill, patience, and humor.

**Dominick Dale**, Communications Analyst HSJ

For exceptional guidance and assistance to numerous HSJ engagement teams and staff that helped to ensure high quality products and further enable GAO staff to produce quality work.

**Aimee Doherty**, Administrative Officer FO

For providing exemplary customer service to HCO, Field Operations, and GAO staff as the Field Operations Deputy for Time and Attendance, as well as outstanding service as the Norfolk Field Office Administrative Officer.

**Wayne Engram**, Supervisory Security Specialist IO

For sustained exemplary performance in providing outstanding leadership and customer service support in the area of Personnel Security management.

**John Formica**, Senior Attorney OGC

For consistently and with total commitment, providing excellent and innovative legal advice in the specialized area of government contracts, especially in complex and urgent cases that affect many of GAO's major procurements.

**Barbara J. Galimore-Williams**, Manager Appropriations Law Support Branch OGC

For providing important contributions to GAO's appropriations law statutory responsibilities through outstanding and innovative leadership as the Appropriations Law Support Branch Manager.

**Aaron Harmon**, Senior Video Producer OPA

For impressive leadership in upgrading and streamlining GAO's video production capabilities, ensuring the agency's seamless transition to a remote communications environment during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Chad Hinsch**, Senior Data Analyst DCM

For exceptional customer support and contributions across an array of DCM engagements that have significantly improved both quality and efficiency.

**Tanisha Hoaney**, Executive Assistant CR

For outstanding customer service and support within Congressional Relations and across GAO.

**Ngoc Huynh**, Facility Operations Specialist IO

For expertise in implementing risk mitigation for the agency's HVAC system in Headquarters and Field Offices during the pandemic to maximize fresh air intake and implement appropriate filtration processes.

**Lori Kmetz**, Training Administrator LC

For providing exemplary service and commitment to staff in units and mission teams across the agency to support and meet a wide variety of critical and essential training requirements.

**Amy Laughery**, Mathematical Statistician CAO

For exemplary support to HCO and GAO, which helped to better leverage human capital data to make timely decisions, execute quality control functions, and respond to time-sensitive matters.

**Petronia Mercer**, Mission Support Associate APQA

For sustained customer support in all aspects of the APQA team's mission, including providing excellent customer service for all of GAO's audit teams as well as for all APQA team members.

**José Peña**, Program Manager CPI

For unusual commitment and unwavering, positive attitude in supporting GAO's ECM project and expertly gathering stakeholder input across GAO teams to ensure fulfillment of the need for a modern system to replace DM.

**Joi Reece**, DEI and OD Practitioner LC

For exemplary and sustained effort to improve the climate of multiple GAO mission teams and operational units through tailored organizational development interventions.

**Joy-Lynn Ruiz**, Management Analyst IO

For providing exceptional customer service and dedication on various Privacy Program initiatives throughout GAO Headquarters and Field Offices.

**Marilyn Smith-Winston**, Administrative Assistant, OPA

For outstanding support to staff across the agency on the timely issuance of products, compiling information on successful social media outreach, directing media inquiries, and volunteering to support OPA needs.

**Edward Staples**, Communications Analyst PI

For dedication to ensuring that PI's reports are not only accurate and polished but also quickly processed at the end of the engagement, when deadlines are most crucial.

**Christopher Turner**, Management and Program Analyst IO

For exemplary research and analysis in developing communications briefings on the capabilities of GAO facilities' ventilation conditions and recommendations in response to COVID-19.



**Betty J. Tyler**, IT Specialist ISTS

For exemplary customer service providing onsite support to Headquarters tax analysts.

**Larry Wilbanks**, Parking Manager IO

For exceptional and outstanding customer service, dedication, and support in providing daily parking and badging support to employees, tenants, and contractors during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Quiana Woodruff**, Senior Human Capital Consultant HCO

For outstanding customer service and professionalism in providing guidance and advice to meet GAO's critical recruiting needs.

**John Yee**, PhD, Senior Operations Research Analyst ARM

For exemplary leadership and exceptional service to mission teams in the area of advanced analytics, and a demonstrated dedication to enhancing analytical skill and modernizing computing at GAO.

**Health Care General Counsel Team**

For sustained and exemplary audit support and counsel to the Health Care team across multiple high-risk areas, as well as demanding and sensitive reviews of the federal response to the pandemic.

**Health Care Research Support Team**

For a wide range of technical and methodological support across the Health Care team's portfolio of work, including multiple CARES Act mandates.

**Labor Management Relations Team**

For successful representation and negotiation of numerous critical GAO operations under unusual time constraints and urgency as a result of the pandemic.

**Mission Delivery Segment Team**

For outstanding customer service in ensuring that mission needs are effectively articulated and incorporated into information technology system development and deployment.

**Records Management Team - GAO Centennial Celebration**

For providing exceptional customer service and dedication in support of the GAO Centennial Celebration.

**Re-Entry Planning Team**

For excellence in preparing plans and coordinating among numerous stakeholders in preparation for the return of GAO staff to its offices and facilities after over 1 year of remote work due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**SEM/ISSG Team**

For dedication, diligence, and thoughtfulness in ensuring that GAO staff were able to safely conduct priority classified work during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Shared Services and Mail Team**

For providing excellent customer service throughout 2020-2021 to Headquarters and Field Office staff on printing, processing supply requests, and handling incoming and outgoing express shipments.

**RICHARD J. HILLMAN HUMAN CAPITAL MANAGEMENT AWARDS**

**Sylvia Bascope**, Senior Analyst PDP

For sustained, top-notch commitment and excellent performance in leading human capital management through various roles in the Professional Development Program Office and Recruiting Office.

**Lakisha Green**, Training Program Manager LC

For exceptional productivity and expertise in designing, managing, and delivering multiple learning resources to GAO employees.

**Andrew Huddleston**, Assistant Director PI

For exemplary dedication and commitment to employee development, counseling, and performance management, while embodying GAO's values to ensure staff are valued, respected, and treated fairly.

**Farahnaaz Khakoo-Mausel**, Assistant Director STAA

For exemplary contributions and personal dedication in supervising, mentoring, coaching, and developing staff at all levels to achieve individual and organizational success.

**Danielle Novak**, Assistant Director, SI

For outstanding dedication to staff development through exceptional leadership and coaching, creating a collaborative environment of productive engagement teams.

**Holly Sasso**, Assistant Director NRE

For excellence in the professional growth and development of staff at all levels within NRE and a dedicated personal focus on people during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**John D. Sawyer**, Acting Director CNSA

For ongoing dedication and commitment to GAO's most important asset: its people.

Cheri Y. Truett, Training Administrator LC

For exceptional dedication and outstanding organizational skills in designing and implementing the foundational training curriculum for analysts in GAO's Professional Development Program.

## **EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION AWARD**

**Jasmine Berry**, Public Affairs Specialist OPA

For outstanding leadership of messaging and external communication on a range of key GAO diversity and inclusion initiatives during a time of widespread civil unrest and challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Alexandra Dew Silva**, Senior Analyst CNSA

For unflagging efforts to plan and facilitate open conversations on DE&I issues in CNSA and across GAO.

**Stephanie Gustafson**, Communications Analyst CNSA

For running the agency-wide Diversity in Literature group; contributions to diversity initiatives as part of GLEA's Executive Committee; and everyday mindfulness of making space for others at every level of GAO and CNSA.

**Caryn E. Kuebler**, Senior Analyst HSJ

For consistently championing and demonstrating GAO's people values and commitment to advancing equal opportunity within HSJ and across GAO.

**Elizabeth Morris**, Senior Analyst DCM

For exemplary leadership, creativity, and commitment in support of GAO's 24th Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Month Celebration, Caribbean American Heritage Month, and LGBTQA Pride Month.

**Michelle Wong**, Senior Analyst NRE

For exceptional leadership in fostering a diverse, equitable and inclusive environment in the Oakland Field Office, NRE, and GAO broadly, and for working to bring under-represented people to the agency.

**Carolyn Yocom**, Director HC

For sustained dedication to promoting and celebrating diversity, inclusion, and equity within the HC team through leadership and support of the team's diversity workgroup.

## **African American Senior Executives (AASE)**

For ongoing and dedicated leadership and support of GAO's diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives, and helping foster an inclusive environment for all employees.

## **Asian American Liaison Group (AALG) Board**

For sustained and impactful commitment to advancing equal opportunity and inclusion for GAO AAPI staff as well as fostering an understanding of racial diversity for all staff in an highly effective manner.

## **Hispanic Liaison Group (HLG) Board**

For exceptional contributions to promoting an inclusive workplace and leadership in supporting activities that foster diversity, equity, and inclusion.

## **Inclusive Language Improvements Team**

For outstanding leadership in developing GAO-wide guidance on inclusive language for immigration- and migrant-related terms to support using more humanizing and respectful terms in GAO reports.

## **RESULTS THROUGH TEAMWORK AWARDS**

### **100% Virtual PDP Training**

For exemplary teamwork and initiative in converting 100% of GAO's PDP training to virtual delivery.

### **Presidential and Congressional Transition Team**

For exceptional planning and teamwork across the agency to support the presidential and congressional transition website and communication efforts focused on addressing some of the federal government's most pressing issues.

### **Pandemic Travel Task Team**

For exemplary teamwork and initiative in developing principles and processes to guide GAO travel during the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **Fentanyl Scheduling Team**

For exemplary teamwork in developing a comprehensive body of work on a highly complex and politically sensitive topic that will directly assist Congress with future legislation related to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances, critical to helping address the opioid epidemic.

### **Client Brownbag on Critical Infrastructure and Colonial Pipeline Cyberattack**

For responsive and collegial collaboration to develop briefings for over 60 clients on a national incident, which ensured relevant, well-coordinated, and contextualized information, and drew on the breadth of GAO's expertise across mission teams.

### **GAO Analytics Foundry Cloud Infrastructure Initiative**

For exemplary teamwork and initiative in developing and deploying GAO's Analytics Foundry to meet GAO's analytic needs for today and tomorrow.

### **Operation Warp Speed Dashboard**

For exemplary, agile teamwork for the timely development and delivery of novel digital content to the Congress for its real-time oversight of the Operation Warp Speed program.

### **New Data Literacy Curriculum Website**

For exemplary teamwork and initiative in identifying and curating content, and creating a new Data Literacy Curriculum Website for mission team and operations staff.

## COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

### **David Gootnick, Director IAT**

For tireless service to communities during COVID-19 as a volunteer, providing contact tracing, counseling, and vaccinations in New York and Maryland.

### **Jennifer E. Kamara, Senior Analyst HSJ**

For selfless commitment and service during times of emergency and other critical needs as a volunteer EMT with the Greater Springfield Volunteer Fire Department.

### **Ned Malone, Senior Analyst PI**

For providing outstanding leadership and steadfast support of children and parents, and tackling unprecedented obstacles as Chair of the Tiny Findings Board during the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **Diona Martyn, Nurse Consultant HC**

For longstanding commitment and dedication to providing free health care to the community, both before and during the pandemic, and for inspiring others to volunteer.

### **Angela Miles, Senior Analyst, NRE**

For dedication to helping children and adolescents in crisis cope with myriad challenges, including the impact of the COVID pandemic, by providing mental health counseling services.

### **Thomas Moscovitch, Senior Analyst EWIS**

For volunteering at one of the first vaccination sites in Seattle, registering at-risk individuals and health care workers for the vaccine, and helping the citizens of Seattle begin the COVID-19 recovery journey.

### **OGC Pro Bono Housing Security Team**

For dedication and commitment to advocating for underserved members of the Washington, D.C. community by providing pro bono housing-related legal services.

## **From Here and There**

### ***Arrivals and Departures***

#### **Welcome to recently hired GAO employees:**

**FMBO:** Chase Brasher

**FO:** Robert Cortright (Chicago)

**CNSA:** Mary Sparks (Boston)

**HCO:** Catherine Callender

**STAA:** Nathan Hamm (Oakland), George Nelson, Joseph Rando III (Seattle)

#### **Goodbye and best wishes to employees leaving GAO:**

**CNSA:** Amos Mwesigwa

## **Job Market**

GAO is seeking applicants for the following position. Detailed information may be found at [USAjobs](#).

[Economist](#), PE 21, closes 12/2

[Interdisciplinary Computer Engineer / Computer Scientist](#), PE 22, closes 11/29

[Senior Actuary \(Retirement Security Programs\)](#), PE 22, closes 12/13

[Law Clerk/Attorney](#), PA1, closes 12/13

## **GAO PRODUCTS**

GAO products are available daily on GAO's [website](#), through the [daily email](#), and on a variety of social media platforms:

- **WatchBlog**: Highlights from GAO's work tracking taxpayer dollars and promoting accountability
- **Facebook**: New reports, testimonies, podcasts, and other materials
- **Twitter**: GAO tweets [new reports](#), [testimonies](#), [podcasts](#), [legal decisions and opinions](#)
- **YouTube Channel**: All agency videos, including report excerpts, are viewable on GAO's YouTube channel, as well as GAO.gov.
- **Flickr**: Report graphics can be viewed and downloaded
- **LinkedIn**: Job updates, product descriptions, and other information
- **Podcast**: GAO Watchdog Report, interviews with GAO officials on significant issues/new reports
- **Intranet**: Daily list and link to reports and testimonies

## **Office of the Inspector General**

GAO OIG products are available daily on [oversight.gov](#), as well as through the [OIG publications page](#) on the GAO intranet, and quick links on GAO's [website](#).

## **Speakers' Platform**

### **On the Air**

**Gretta Goodwin**, HSJ, and Anna Maria Ortiz, NRE, did a television interview with the ABC affiliate in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, about GAO's report on missing or murdered indigenous women ([GAO-22-104045](#), October 28), November 2.

**Carolyn Yocom**, HC, discussed the team's work on the health care costs of firearm injuries ([GAO-21-515](#), June 16) with Sky News Arabia, November 5.

**Alissa Czyz**, SI, spoke with Federal News Network about the team's work on evidence-based policymaking and the use of performance information in the federal government ([GAO-22-103910](#), November 3), November 8. She also discussed that work during a podcast with the Daily Scoop, November 15.



**Michelle Sager**, SI, appeared on WJLA-TV's Government Matters to discuss the tracking of federal spending on USAspending.gov ([GAO-22-104702](#), November 8), November 18.

## About *Management News*

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