



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CORRECTION - San Diego County Taxpayers Association Seeks Nominations for Annual Golden Watchdog and Fleece Awards

Taxpayers can now nominate public agencies for the 27th annual Golden Awards, hosted by San Diego's local government watchdog

UPDATED September 20, 2023 at 5:30pm: Our original release incorrectly stated that the Golden Award Ceremony would be held on November 3rd from 2:30-7:00pm. The event is actually scheduled for Thursday, November 16th.

San Diego (September 20, 2023) – Today, the San Diego County Taxpayers Association announced that it is seeking nominations for the 27th annual Golden Watchdog and Fleece Awards. The Golden Watchdog and Fleece Awards recognize the best and worst of local government working effectively and efficiently in San Diego County. This year's theme is "Beyond the Budget: The Homelessness Reality."

Golden Watchdog Awards are given to public agencies whose actions exemplify effective and efficient local governance. Fleece Awards are presented to public agencies whose use of taxpayer dollars is wasteful or inefficient. This year, the Association is soliciting nominations for Golden Watchdog and Fleece Awards, as well as Media Watchdog and Public & Private partnership Award. The Media Watchdog award symbolizes excellence in reporting on behalf of taxpayers, and the Public & Private Partnership Award is intended for innovative collaborations between public and private sector partners — **particularly in the development of housing**. The association is accepting nominations in the following public good areas: homelessness and housing, public health, public safety, and water and utilities

All San Diego residents can submit nominations using this [form](#). The nomination deadline for all awards is Friday, October 20th, 2023.

Last year, winners of the Golden Watchdog Awards included Cajon Valley Union School District, the San Diego County District Attorney, and the City of Carlsbad. Fleece winners included Sweetwater Union High School District, the San Diego County Sheriff's Office, and the City of Solana Beach.

Award recipients will be announced at the Golden Awards Ceremony on **November 16th**, from 2:30-7:00pm at the Lane in downtown San Diego.

"The Golden Awards Ceremony is a unique opportunity for San Diego residents to recognize exceptionally effective and ineffective uses of their tax dollars," said Haney Hong, President and CEO of the San Diego County Taxpayers Association. "These awards embody the spirit of what the San Diego County Taxpayers Association strives to accomplish, which is not only to hold local government



accountable, but also to celebrate effective and efficient local government. I encourage any and all San Diego residents to nominate their public agencies. We look forward to seeing your nominations!”

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San Diego County Taxpayers Association (SDCTA) is a non-profit, non-partisan organization, dedicated to promoting accountable, cost-effective, and efficient government and opposing unnecessary new taxes and fees. Since 1945, SDCTA has served as “San Diego’s Taxpayer Watchdog Group” by educating the public and helping save the region’s citizens millions of dollars. Public opinion polls consistently rate SDCTA as the most “influential” and “trusted” public policy institution in San Diego. For more information, please visit www.sdcta.org, @sdcta on Twitter/ Facebook/ Instagram, call 619-234-6423, or email info@sdcta.org.