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AGA Announces Pandemic Management and Oversight Series

Series Highlights Valuable Insights Gained from COVID-19 Pandemic Response

Alexandria, Va. — AGA is pleased to announce the availability of a research series focused on the lessons learned and innovations related to managing and overseeing pandemic relief programs.

The series comprises three AGA research reports, all of which consider the issue from a state and federal intergovernmental perspective. Common themes emerge among them, such as how challenges with data-sharing impacted program integrity and how the self-certification of benefits eligibility contributed to improper payments. As a whole, the series' findings align with and amplify several recommendations that have been made by the Pandemic Response Accountability Committee (PRAC).

The recently published Fraud Mitigation Lessons from U.S. COVID-19 Response Aid report offers key insights into enhancing fraud prevention strategies during emergencies. Providing a deep dive into the topic, the report includes five strategic recommendations to bolster fraud mitigation efforts, proven tactics to uphold fiscal integrity and public trust, and research findings gleaned from meticulous analysis and expert consultations.

The 2023 Inspector General (IG) and State Auditor Survey: Embracing Innovations in Oversight, sponsored by Kearney & Company, presents the perspectives of federal IGs and state auditors on a central question: Are the innovative approaches and lessons learned from the pandemic response changing the way oversight will be conducted in the future? Respondents highlighted the increasing emphasis on data-sharing, the use of data analytics to enhance capability and effectiveness, and the assessment of pandemic relief program impacts.

Finally, the 2022 Professional Development Training (PDT) Intergovernmental Grants Forum report represents an early assessment on managing and overseeing these programs shared during an Intergovernmental Grants Forum at AGA's 2022 PDT in Anaheim, California. The forum brought together representatives from various levels of government in management and IG and state auditor offices to share experiences and insights.

Ann Ebberts, AGA's Chief Executive Officer provided that "key tenets of AGA's mission include *facilitating* collaboration among multiple disciplines, sectors, and levels of government and providing forums for dialogue and information-sharing. We are thrilled to share these reports with the broad accountability community, developed through our collaboration with our corporate partners and inspired by the willingness of government leaders to express their viewpoints about what worked and what can be done to improve processes for the future."

"Taken together, these three reports sponsored by AGA's Corporate Partner Advisory Group provide an overarching view of what went wrong and what went right in managing and overseeing pandemic relief programs. They are all good examples of how AGA can facilitate and inform a dialogue on important issues and challenges in government management and accountability," added David Zavada, IG and State Auditor Survey Director, Kearney Senior Partner, and Chair of AGA's Corporate Partners Advisory Group.

The research can be accessed by visiting:

- Fraud Mitigation Lessons from U.S. COVID-19 Response Aid
- The 2023 IG and State Auditor Survey
- 2022 Professional Development Training (PDT) Intergovernmental Grants Forum

About AGA

AGA is the association that connects and empowers professionals who support government, from financial management to IT, human resources, cybersecurity and more, to advance good government initiatives, grow their expertise and accelerate their careers. For more information, visit www.agacgfm.org/.

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