

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**AGA to Award Five Federal Agencies with Certificates of Excellence in
Accountability Reporting (CEAR)**

Alexandria, VA - The National Science Foundation, the Social Security Administration, the U.S. Department of Commerce, the U.S. Department of the Interior and the U.S. Department of Labor will be honored with Certificates of Excellence in Accountability Reporting (CEAR) from the Association of Government Accountants (AGA) on November 14, 2001.

A distinguished panel of government financial managers chose to honor these five federal agencies for their exceptional fiscal year 2000 Accountability Reports.

AGA, along with, CEAR Board members, federal agency administrators and chief financial officers will celebrate the accomplishments of these five agencies and present them with special awards to honor their outstanding efforts. The event will be held on November 14, 2001, at the Library of Congress, Jefferson Building, Room 119, from 10 - 11:30 a.m.

"We hope that through these awards, the public will come to see that the production of an outstanding Accountability Report requires a grand cooperative effort among many agency departments and staff," stated AGA Executive Director, Charles W. Culkin Jr., CGFM. "We saw the extent of this effort throughout our entire review process and we are extremely pleased with the progress these government agencies have made. The program has come a long way in three years—and so have the agencies' accountability reports."

In 1997, the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the CFO Council called for a certificate program to encourage and recognize excellence in Accountability Reports. AGA was asked to step forward and answer that call. AGA established this award program in conjunction with the federal Chief Financial Officer's (CFO) Council. Its goal is to recognize federal agencies that have achieved excellence in the preparation, issuance and timeliness of Accountability Reports. This distinction is a significant accomplishment and honor for a federal agency and its management.

If you would like to attend this event, or if you would like further information, please contact Jennifer Curtin at jcurtin@agacgfm.org, or at 864.246.6550.

The Association of Government Accountants is an 18,000-member professional Association devoted to meeting the continuing professional education needs of financial managers at all levels of government, the private sector and academia. For more information about the Association, or the Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) Program, call 800.AGA.7211.

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