**Harold I. Steinberg Excellence in Accountability Reporting Award**

As a result of Hal Steinberg’s vision, the Certificate of Excellence in Accountability Reporting (CEAR) program was established by AGA in 1996, in conjunction with the Office of Management and Budget and the CFO Council, to further federal agency performance and accountability reporting. Hal often reminded us that, in the absence of a clear federal “bottom line,” federal financial and mission performance reporting should “assist report users in evaluating the service efforts, costs and accomplishments of the reporting entity” and “the manner in which these efforts and accomplishments have been financed.”[[1]](#footnote-1) These objectives, critical to displaying integrated financial and mission results, can only be met with significant, continuing efforts of federal agency leaders.

Each year, the recipient of the Harold I. Steinberg Excellence in Accountability Reporting Award will be a clear and consistent champion of the key beliefs, stated above, which were important to Hal throughout his career. Specifically, the recipient will be a current or recently-retired federal career employee, political appointee, or contractor who is recognized by his or her peers as one or more of the following:

* A champion for integrating financial and mission performance reporting, such that the reader understands the value (outcomes) funded by public monies and receives a full accountability for service efforts, costs, and accomplishments.
* An active role model for and teacher or mentor of others, through the spoken and written word as well as actions, who espouses belief and promotes excellence and integrity in performance and accountability reporting.
* An active leader and contributor to the development of one or more agency’s Performance and Accountability Report or Agency Financial Report or governmentwide accountability reporting that comprehensively links mission performance results and spending and financial information for full accountability reporting.
* A person who understands the value to stakeholders in improving reporting through new and insightful means, such as embracing ideas and best practices highlighted in the AGA CEAR program.
* A standard setter who advances state-of-the-art mission performance and financial reporting for full accountability reporting.

The CEAR Board may present one Steinberg award each year but is not obliged to offer an annual award when it is unwarranted. The recipient need not be a member of AGA.

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Nomination Form with Questions:

* **Who is eligible?** Current or recently retired federal career employee, political appointee, or contractor who is recognized by his/her peers to have demonstrated evidence of serving as a champion of integrated mission performance and financial reporting, as a role model for others, and/or has helped to set standards that further advance full accountability reporting.

Eligible nominees are not required to be AGA members.

* **Nominee Name:**
* **Email address:**
* **Current employer and title:**
* **Shipping address:**
* **Telephone:**
* **Nomination Questions:**

**Question 1**: Describe how you or this nominee served as a champion for integrating financial and mission performance reporting.

**Question 2**:Describe how you or this nominee served as a role model for others in promoting excellence in performance and accountability reporting.

**Question 3**:Describe how you or this nominee’s contributions to the development of one or more agency’s Performance and Accountability Report or Agency Financial Report or the Consolidated Financial Report of the U.S. Government effort comprehensively links performance to spending and financial accountability. Or, describe your (or the nominee’s) actions and impact as a standard setter who advances state of the art performance results and accountability reporting.

***\*Note:*** “and/or” – because we don’t necessarily want to “count out” someone just because they aren’t on an agency team developing a PAR or AFR. The person could be an influencer at the C-Suite level or from the private sector supporting the CFO/PIO etc.

**Question 4**: Explain how this nominee continues to “raise the bar” by demonstrating value to stakeholders through new and insightful improvements to reporting, such as embracing ideas and best practices highlighted in the AGA CEAR program.

* **Biographical sketch of the nominee**

1. Statement of Federal Financial Accounting Concepts No. 1, *Objectives of Federal Financial Reporting* [↑](#footnote-ref-1)