



News Release

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AICPA Names Lawrence F. Alwin 2004 Outstanding CPA in Government

Washington, D.C., August 23, 2004 – Lawrence F. Alwin, Texas State Auditor, is the 2004 recipient of the Outstanding CPA in Government Award from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). The award recognizes CPAs in government who have made significant contributions to increased efficiency and effectiveness of government organizations and to the growth and enhancement of the profession.

The award was presented today by Costa Triantaphilides, chairman of the AICPA Government Performance and Accountability Committee at the AICPA's 21st Annual National Governmental Accounting and Auditing Update Conference being held in Washington, D.C.

Alwin has served as the Texas State Auditor for the past 19 years. Under Alwin's direction, the Texas State Auditor's Office has been a leading advocate for excellence in financial management and reporting, performance measurement and management, government strategic planning and managing for results. During Alwin's tenure as the State Auditor, Texas has been the recipient of 14 consecutive *Certificates of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting* from the Governmental Finance Officers Association.

Under Alwin's direction, the Texas State Auditor's Office has used innovation to provide more efficient auditing and more effective communication without increasing costs. These efforts led to the identification of findings valued at more than \$1 billion in the last four years alone. In addition, Alwin's leadership has helped to develop a series of electronic audit tools and guides used by auditors and organizations around the world, to implement the first state agency balanced scorecard and to streamline internal operations to reduce administrative costs by approximately \$225,000 per year.

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Alwin has long been a recognized leader in knowledge management, public sector strategy development and performance measurement. He was an early leader in auditing technology, as well as in the discussion of the effects of e-government on the field of auditing. Alwin was a founding member of the National Electronic Commerce Coordinating Committee (NECCC), a national think tank of public and private sector leaders and practitioners working to identify and develop best practices for electronic government.

Alwin has devoted himself to the financial management profession throughout his career and has been an active member and a tireless leader in a number of leading organizations. Alwin currently serves as a member of the Domestic Accountability Working Group of the U.S. General Accountability Office. He was the president of the National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers and Treasurers from 2002-2003, on the Governmental Accounting Standards Advisory Council to the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, a member of the board of directors of the Texas Society of CPAs, and an advisory member to the Texas State Board of Public Accountancy. Alwin is a member of the AICPA and has served on the AICPA's Members in Government Committee.

Alwin has received numerous awards for his achievements during his distinguished career. Earlier this year he received the *Excellence in Government Leadership Award* from the Association of Government Accountants. In addition, he has also received awards from the President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency, the National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers and Treasurers, Harvard University's Institute for Democratic Governance and Innovation, the Government Finance Officers Association, the federal Joint Financial Management Improvement Program, the National Conference of State Legislatures, the Centex Chapter American Society for Public Administration, and the American Society for Industrial Security Foundation.

Alwin was chosen for the Outstanding CPA in Government Award from a group of five finalists by a distinguished panel of judges that included Linda Blessing, former Executive Director of the Arizona Board of Regents; Tom Bloom, Senior Deputy Comptroller and CFO, Office of the Comptroller of the Treasury, Washington, D.C., and Gerald Silva, San Jose City Auditor and the 2003 winner of the award.

The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (www.aicpa.org) is the national, professional organization of CPAs, with more than 340,000 members in business and industry, public practice, government, and education. It sets ethical standards for the profession and U.S. private auditing standards.

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