



For Immediate Release

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California State IT Projects Named Finalists for National Technology Awards

SACRAMENTO – The National Association of State Information Officers (NASCIO) announced it has selected three California public information technology projects as finalists for its State IT Recognition Awards.

The award nominations showcase the use of information technology to address critical business challenges, better connect residents to government services, improve business processes and create new opportunities that improve the lives of residents.

Nominations were considered in 10 categories ranging from Business Process Innovations to providing Special Recognition to the State Chief Information Officer (CIO) Office. The three California finalists were selected from a pool of more than 130 submissions from states throughout the U.S.

“These awards demonstrate California’s leadership in developing innovative technology projects to improve the lives of residents,” said Amy Tong, State Chief information officer and Director of the California Department of Technology (CDT).

Two of the state departments recognized by NASCIO are under the purview of the Government Operations Agency.

The California award finalists are:

Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) – *Emergency Management Innovation Project*, under the Information Communications Technology Innovations category.

In response to the fires that ravaged California beginning in 2017, DTSC’s Office of Environmental Information Management and Emergency Response Unit began collaborating on a prototype to deliver an innovative Emergency Response Solution that included a series of geospatial dashboards, mobile field-ready applications and web-based mapping tools to replace its outdated paper-based checklists and inventory forms.

California Department of Human Resources (CalHR) – *Examination and Certification Online System (ECOS)*, under the Enterprise IT Management Initiatives category.

The ECOS system is the back end of CalHR's CalCareers job site. The system provides more than 160 agencies, departments, boards and commissions statewide with the ability to advertise for job openings and examinations, administer online exams, and conduct hiring. The custom developed project has replaced legacy systems and manual, paper-driven processes, streamlined code and infrastructure, and delivered new and much needed functionality.

California departments of Consumer Affairs, Food and Agriculture, Public Health, and Technology were jointly selected for – *California Cannabis IT Initiative*, under the State CIO Office Special Recognition category.

The Cannabis IT Initiative demonstrated the CDT leadership and ability to facilitate and motivate collaboration among state partners to move quickly and effectively in a short development timeframe. In just 12 months after the voter-approved Proposition 64, the three agencies set up separate web portals to implement the Control, Regulate, and Tax Adult Use of Marijuana Act. CDT served as the central coordinating agency that provided oversight by facilitating communications among licensing entities, taxation agencies, the legislature, and the Governor's Office.

Award recipients will be announced during the NASCIO Annual Conference in Nashville, TN, October 13-16.

About the California Department of Technology: The CDT provides quality assurance for state government IT projects and services, and is committed to partnering with state, local government and education entities to deliver digital services, and develop innovative, responsive solutions for business needs. The Department's "Vision 2020" Strategic plan is to create One Digital Government delivered securely by a dynamic workforce.

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