



## 2020 HCCP of the Year – Matt Rayburn

*Written by Scott Michael Dunn, CEO/Owner, Costello Compliance*

I met Matt shortly after he started working for Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority (IHCDA) in 2007. IHCDA was a client of mine at the time, and we have continued to have a strong business relationship over the years. Additionally, I have also come to value his friendship. As the outgoing HCCP of the Year, it is a special honor to pass the torch to Matt. I cannot think of anyone else I would be happier to see carry on the tradition.

Matt is an excellent example of a hardworking and knowledgeable housing professional. The evidence can be found in his work as a top executive for the state allocating agency in Indiana and his continued participation on the HCCP Board of Governors.

As Indiana Housing's Deputy Executive Director & Chief Real Estate Development Officer, he leads the pack among housing finance agencies (HFAs) in obtaining up-to-date knowledge and determining practical application of federal guidance. For example, Indiana has extremely thorough and helpful tax credit and HOME compliance manuals. These have been developed and refined over the years by Matt and his compliance team. I have heard them referred to by many compliance experts as gold standard in the industry. I have assisted several states in developing or revising compliance manuals, and I know the monumental amount of work that these documents represent.

The year 2020 brought unprecedented challenges for many of our friends at housing agencies, and Indiana was no different. As Matt and I periodically spoke during the year, I noted that he not only helped manage the IHCDA state and federal assistance programs from a pragmatic standpoint, but he did so with great compassion. Millions served by our housing programs experienced life-altering pain, and he never forgot that human element.

Matt served multiple terms on the Board of Governors, including a one-year term as chair. My personal observation as a technical advisor to the board is that he very effectively positioned the



designation for future growth. To this day, he continues to support the HCCP as a technical advisor to the board. All of this speaks to the highly qualified tax credit professional that Matt is.

Finally, a personal note: Have you ever heard the phrase, “It couldn’t have happened to a nicer guy”? Well, the HCCP of the Year 2020 truly could not have happened to a nicer guy. He is intelligent, compassionate, witty and an unapologetic genre nerd — a badge of honor in my eyes. I have personally known most, if not all, of the HCCP of the Year recipients. I am absolutely convinced that Matt has a preeminent place among them. To Matt, my colleague and my friend, I sincerely hope that you enjoy the recognition as HCCP of the Year. It is well deserved!