

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Improving Government Financial Management Performance Headlines
Upcoming AGA Conference**

Fourth Annual National Leadership Conference to Attract Over 500 Government Leaders

Alexandria, VA – Experienced leadership that includes Chief Financial Officers (CFO), Inspector Generals (IG), State Auditors, Comptrollers and Treasurers will share valuable insights on improving government financial management at the Association of Government Accountants' (AGA's) Fourth Annual National Leadership Conference. The conference, set for Feb. 2-3, is expected to attract more than 500 government leaders to the International Trade Center - The Ronald Reagan Building, in Washington, D.C.

In today's citizen-centric environment where taxpayers are demanding to know how federal, state and local resources are being spent effectively, sound financial management is more important than ever. Governments are grappling with a growing list of homeland security issues — how to keep our cities and our nation safe, and how to pay for it – as well as social welfare issues such Medicaid, natural disaster clean-up, transportation systems, education and the environment. Government financial managers will take center stage, confronting these challenges and the difficulties of balancing the many competing demands on taxpayers' money. At the same time, governments are focusing more intently on performance to ensure that every dollar is spent wisely, and can be accounted for later. These developments are bringing financial managers into the spotlight.

State governments, receiving fewer dollars from the federal government, are facing budget crises of their own. In turn, local governments are making tough decisions on how to stretch scarce dollars. Tough times mean cooperation is paramount.

The theme of this year's conference is "**Measuring Government Performance – Managing for Results.**" and it will bring together more than 450 federal, state and local government leaders to discuss leadership issues and common challenges in today's complex environment.

Subject experts speaking at the Conference include:

- **Phyllis K. Fong**, Inspector General, U.S. Department of Agriculture
- **Johnnie E. Frazier**, Inspector General, U.S. Department of Commerce
- **Robert L. Childree**, Controller, State of Alabama
- **Christopher B. Burnham**, *Under-Secretary-General for Management, United Nations*
- **Kathleen Grimm**, Deputy Chancellor, Finance and Administration, New York City Department of Education
- **William C. Thompson Jr.**, City Comptroller, New York, NY

- **Dale W. Sopper, CGFM**, Deputy Commissioner for Finance, Assessment and Management, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Acquisition Officer, U.S. Social Security Administration
- **James Webster, CIA**, Audit Director, Prince William County, VA
- **Edward M. Henry III**, Congressional Correspondent, CNN, Former Roll Call Editor
- **Linda M. Combs**, Controller, Office of Federal Financial Management, U.S. Office of Management and Budget
- **Charles E. Johnson**, Chief Financial Officer, Assistant Secretary for Budget, Technology and Finance, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- **Jennifer Main**, Chief Financial Officer, Small Business Administration
- **Jack Martin**, Chief Financial Officer, U.S. Department of Education
- **Thomas Modly, MBA, MA**, Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Financial Management), Office of the Comptroller, U.S. Department of Defense

Government financial managers are expected to make accountability their top priority. In an age of heightened security and an increased demand for services, the three levels of government are ever more dependent upon each other. Join us to hear from top-ranking government leaders who are facing these challenges head on.

To review information about this conference go to www.agacgfm.org/nlc. If you would like to obtain press credentials to attend this conference, please contact Jennifer I. Curtin, MPA, at 703.562.0770, or at jcurtin@agacgfm.org.

The Association of Government Accountants is an 15,000-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, or visit our website at www.agacgfm.org.

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