



# The Washington Connection

Association of Government Accountants, Washington, DC Chapter

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## Budgeting and Accounting for Results

### October 3, 2001 Meeting



*Justine Farr Rodriguez*

As an economist, Ms. Rodriguez is concerned with developing the macroeconomic framework for the budget and assessing fiscal policies. Her office also provides guidance for benefit/cost analysis,

**J**ustine Farr Rodriguez is Deputy Associate Director of the Office of Economic Policy, a career position at the Office of Management and Budget. As an

assesses financial risks to the government, and provides economic consulting services throughout OMB.

As a budgeteer, Ms. Rodriguez is working with OMB staff and Federal agencies to improve the integration of planning and budgeting, assess the alignment of budget accounts with programs and activities, and charge costs to the appropriate accounts. She has developed reforms in budgeting for capital investment, support services, employee benefits, credit and insurance programs.

*continued on page 3*

## Luncheon Logistics

### Monthly Luncheon Meeting

Wednesday, October 3, 2001

### Grand Hyatt Hotel

1000 H Street, NW (At Metro Center – 11th Street Exit)

11:30 – 12:00 Social

12:00 – 1:10 Luncheon Meeting (1CPE)

<b>Cost:</b>	Members	\$20.00
	Non-members	\$35.00

*For reservations, please call the AGA Washington DC Chapter voice mail line at (703) 758-4080 and select option 1. If you prefer, you can register by email to [mkubaki@hq.nasa.gov](mailto:mkubaki@hq.nasa.gov) or you can register at our homepage: [www.agadc.org](http://www.agadc.org). Please forward your name, agency/company, and telephone number.*

## President's Message



Janet McBride, President

We all know that the month of October ends with Halloween. So you might notice a little Halloween flavor in the lunch itself this month.

As indicated on the front cover, Justine Rodriguez will be our featured speaker. I had the pleasure of hearing Justine speak several years ago, so I know you'll find her as informative and entertaining as I did.

Last month, I spoke about the members of the Board that are most visible. This month, I want to mention the other 5 members of the Board that work behind

the scenes to take care of chapter business.

I also outlined the two essential goals for my year as your President. Remember my first goal - rebuilding the treasury? John Webb is the Director of Budget and he is responsible for forecasting the financial resources that we will need during the year. John also is responsible for keeping key contacts informed of chapter events through agency liaison activities.

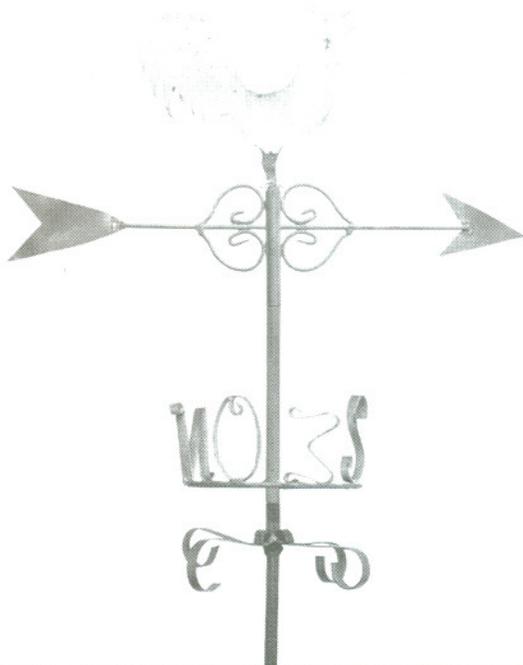
You may recall that the second goal was to recapture our all-star status. This status is obtained by meeting certain goals established for all AGA chapters by the national office. These goals are focused in specific areas such as chapter administration, education, chapter meetings and activities,

newsletter, membership, and community service. Points are awarded when certain activities are completed. As you might imagine, keeping up with who is doing what and when - to ensure that we get all of the points that we are entitled to get—can be hard work. This responsibility lies with our Director of Administration, Pat Clark. Pat is new to the Board this year, and she is doing an absolutely fantastic job.

Simcha Kuritsky is the Director of Publications. As such, he is responsible for the publication of the newsletter. In addition, Simcha also researches accounting issues and authors those "Black Box" articles for the newsletter. I am grateful to him for moving into this critical position. Fortunately, Simcha does not have to work alone. Although not an elected director,

*continued on page 4*

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## Inside the Black Box: Governmental-Type Versus Business-Type Collections

by Simcha Kuritzky, CGFM, CPA



The U.S. Standard General Ledger (SGL) and the required financial statements are based, in part, on economic principles. One of those principles is that governments act both in ways that are similar to any other large economic entity and in ways that are unique to governments.

Like any large economic entity, governments buy and provide goods and services. When a government agency receives income in exchange for goods or services it provides, that income is considered to be exchange revenue (see FASAB Statement 7, Appendix C). Exchange revenues are reported on the Statement of Net Cost. Unlike businesses, governments also have sovereign authority that allows them to coerce a transaction. These types of transactions are considered non-exchange revenues. Non-exchange revenues include taxes and penalties. Non-exchange revenues are reported on the Statement of Changes in Net Position. Both are reported on the Statement of Financing.

This distinction is also reflected in the financial resources section of the SGL.

The FACTS I definition lists revenue from goods sold (5100) and services provided (5200), and insurance and guarantee premiums (5500) as exclusively exchange revenues. It also lists donations (5600) and taxes (5800) as strictly non-exchange. The revenues that can be either exchange or non-exchange are interest and penalties (5310 and 5320), benefit program revenue (5400), and other revenue (5900). Accounts in the 5700 series such as 5700—Expended Appropriations and 5780—Imputed Financing Sources are not revenue at all—they are referred to solely as financing sources.

Starting in FY02 the budgetary collection accounts will reflect this distinction as well. Account 4261—Actual Collections of Fees has now been divided into 4260 for "governmental-type" [quotes are theirs] and 4261 for business-type. Account 4266 for other actual collections has been similarly divided into 4266 for business-type and 4267 for governmental-type.

What are "governmental-type" collections? The SGL defines governmental-type revenues as those revenues resulting from an exercise of sovereign powers, which means they are non-exchange revenues. In these transactions, an agency collects a fee but does not provide value in return. Another way of looking at it is if an agency can coerce the collection it is a governmental type, whereas if the other party pays the fee willingly (in exchange for value) it is a business type. There is no Exchange/Non-exchange flag for the budgetary accounts reported in FACTS II, which may be the reason for subdividing these accounts.

Curiously, not all transactions listed by the SGL Board in their May, 2001 Supplement S2 to the Treasury Financial Manual are consistent with this usage. A notable example is entry B118 for tax

## E-mail Mailing List

Would you like to receive e-mail reminders of our monthly meetings and conferences? If so, please go to <http://www.agadc.org> to sign up for our mailing list in the Member Services section of the website.

## October 3, 2001 Meeting

*continued from page 1*

Ms. Rodriguez served on many task forces of the Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board, including Objectives of Federal Financial Reporting; Accounting for Liabilities; Property, Plant, and Equipment; and Managerial Cost Accounting. She developed the conceptual framework used in "Stewardship: Toward a Federal Balance Sheet," a chapter in the Analytical Perspectives volume of the Budget.

Ms. Rodriguez has been on the Executive Board of the Association for Budgeting and Financial Management, and spoken before the American Association of Budget and Program Analysts, the Association of Government Accountants, the FASAB, the JFMIP, and the National Audit Summit.

Between her first employment in OMB in 1972 and her return in 1981, Ms. Rodriguez worked in the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, and the Department of Education. Before coming to the Federal Government, she was an officer of the Chase Manhattan Bank, and a researcher at the National Bureau of Economic Research. •

*continued on page 4*

## Call for Leadership Award Nominations

Please help AGA acknowledge visionary leaders, innovative managers, and exceptional professionals who have advanced the financial management profession!

AGA's National Awards Committee is now accepting nominations for our Federal Leadership Awards:

- The Distinguished Federal Leadership Award
- The Elmer Staats Award

### ■ The Andy Barr Award

This is a terrific opportunity to acknowledge the accomplishments of dedicated, energetic individuals who have worked hard to advance our profession. Individuals do not have to be members of AGA to be eligible.

Visit AGA's website at [www.agacgfm.org](http://www.agacgfm.org) for more information.

Nominations are due Friday, November 9, 2001. •

## Save this Date

Save this date for the following education event:

### November 19 & 20 Technical Assistance

A presentation of financial system applications and the hardware, software, communications, reporting, and other technical infrastructure components that make financial systems work.

## President's Message

*continued from page 2*

Diane Wright has volunteered to serve as the newsletter editor for this year. As you can see from last month's newsletter, Diane is doing a superb job.

Doug Gandy joined the Board last year as the Director of Awards. Doug continues to serve in that same capacity. With the help of other committee members, Doug makes sure that deadlines associated with AGA awards are met. He also coordinates that fabulous awards dinner that the chapter has been hosting for the past several years.

The 10th Director is MelaJo Kubacki, Director of Meetings. MelaJo is also new to the Board this year and has graciously consented to coordinate registrations for chapter events. This is one of those thankless tasks that is highly visible when missing and often overlooked when performed well. MelaJo is a great addition to your Board of Directors. As I said last month, I am fortunate to be surrounded by such fine people.

If you haven't made your luncheon reservations, you still have time, and don't forget about our technology and systems conference next month. It's not too early to make those reservations!!! •

## Coming Soon—Federal CFOs Today!

During the course of this program year, we will be presenting a series of interviews profiling CFOs throughout the Federal Government. CFOs in the government play a critical role in agency management. These articles will provide the CFOs an opportunity to share their background and vision with AGA members. While they will set the agenda for each profile, we hope to have them cover a

number of topics. For example, we hope to have them address the recently announced President's Management Agenda, their role as a provider of financial information throughout their agency, and the changing role of today's CFO from accountant to strategist. If you have any topics you would like to see covered in these interviews, please send them to [diane\\_wright@ams.com](mailto:diane_wright@ams.com). •

## Inside the Black Box

*continued from page 3*

refund, which uses a non-exchange revenue account (5890) but the business type budgetary account (4266). Entry C158 for donations does the same (5600 revenue, 4266 budgetary). Since taxes are the primary example of revenue resulting from the exercise of sovereign powers, it is likely that the board intended to use 4267.

Another problem with the SGL use of 4266 is that transactions A306 and C182 use 4266 for collections of reimbursable advances (recorded on the proprietary side in account 2310—Advances from Others). This is inappropriate; instead, agencies should only use the alternate account shown

on these transactions—4222—Unfilled Customer Orders With Advance, because both 2310 and 4222 are permanent accounts, while 4266 closes at year-end. If an agency records an advance in 4266 in one year, and the advance is not applied or returned until the next year, the return or application will cause an unnatural credit balance in 4266. On the other hand, if 4222 is used, the debit balance will remain in 4222 after annual close, so the credit activity recorded in the next year will simply reduce the 4222 balance.

*Comments, suggestions, and critiques are welcome. Send them to [Simcha\\_Kuritzky@ams.com](mailto:Simcha_Kuritzky@ams.com), and not to the AGA.* •

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Successful candidates will possess a minimum of 4 years auditing experience in the Federal government environment or in public accounting serving commercial clients in the retail & distribution, manufacturing, R&D, or Aerospace & Defense industries. Other large engagement experience would be valuable including those where health care, insurance, and/or financial services backgrounds are important. CPA certification is required and CGFM certification is a plus. Exceptional analytical, communication, and interpersonal skills are essential. In addition, applicants must have excellent written and verbal communication, problem solving, organizational, and project management skills. All candidates should be skilled in commonly used computer applications, e.g. Microsoft Office. Travel of 30%-50% may be required.

Experience with one or more of the following is crucial:

- Preparing/auditing Federal agency financial statements
- Performing audits of large commercial or public sector entities
- Federal accounting principles and procedures
- Statutory Federal financial reporting requirements
- Executing CFO Act, FMFIA, and OMB Circular-related services
- Activity Based Costing
- Performance Measurement
- Performance and compliance audits

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# Education 2001 Survey

To better serve the educational needs of our membership, we are asking you to provide us with some information about yourself and your preferences. Please fill out the survey below and return it to us. Your feedback is important. Thank you for participating.

## Tell us about yourself—Optional

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

eMail \_\_\_\_\_

Agency \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate how important the following non-content factors are in your overall satisfaction with a conference.

Duration	Least Important	Somewhat Important	Important	Very Important
1/2 day	1	2	3	4
1 day	1	2	3	4
2 day	1	2	3	4

## Location

Walk to Metro	1	2	3	4
Shuttle from Metro	1	2	3	4

## Month

September	1	2	3	4
October	1	2	3	4
November	1	2	3	4
December	1	2	3	4
January	1	2	3	4
February	1	2	3	4
March	1	2	3	4
April	1	2	3	4
May	1	2	3	4

## Speakers

From Your Agency	1	2	3	4
Federal Agency	1	2	3	4
Private Sector	1	2	3	4

**Format/Content**

Briefing/Update	1	2	3	4
Best Practices	1	2	3	4
Mix	1	2	3	4

Please indicate how important the following non-content factors are in your overall satisfaction with a conference.

	Least Important	Somewhat Important	Important	Very Important
Hard copy of presentations available at conference	1	2	3	4
Soft copy of presentations available at conference	1	2	3	4
Bound conference book for handouts	1	2	3	4
Vendors appropriate to conference topics present at breaks	1	2	3	4
Seating at tables during sessions	1	2	3	4

Please let us know your preferences and suggestions for education events next year. If you have a preference, please indicate preferred month.

	Probably Not Attend	Less Likely to Attend	More Likely to Attend	Probably Attend
Systems Conference	1	2	3	4
Financial Reporting and Compliance Update	1	2	3	4
Audit and External Reporting	1	2	3	4
Human Resource Management and Training	1	2	3	4
Performance Management and GPRA	1	2	3	4

**Your Suggestions?**

**Description**

**Month**

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**Mail to:**

AGA DC Education Survey  
 Karen Holmcrans  
 11951 Freedom Drive  
 Reston, VA 20190-5651

**Fax to:**

AGA DC Education Survey  
 Karen Holmcrans  
 303-947-2200

**Online:**

[www.agadc.org](http://www.agadc.org)

Any Comments? Contact Karen Holmcrans at 703-947-1847 or [karen.j.holmcrans@accenture.com](mailto:karen.j.holmcrans@accenture.com)

## CGFM Roundup

by Wendolyn Comes

As your new CGFM Chapter Coordinator I plan to focus on (1) promoting the CGFM credential widely, (2) supporting individuals in attaining the CGFM, and (3) making sure your questions are answered (e.g., questions you may have about CPE requirements or general qualifications). I have been involved with the CGFM program for a number of years. I began as an exam writer, then became a member of the Professional Certification Board (PCB), and now serve as Chair of the PCB. As you may have guessed, I—and many others—are committed to seeing the CGFM program through. We see it as the premiere credential for financial managers in government.

In the coming year, I hope that you will contact me with any questions or

suggestions you have about the CGFM program. Some of the ideas I will be pursuing are scholarships, brown bag briefings at interested agencies, mentoring and study groups designed to encourage and assist CGFM candidates. For those of you preparing to take the CGFM exams, I wanted to remind you of some existing resources:

- The Technical Requirements listing for the CGFM indicates what percentage of the exams are related to each technical area so that you can tailor your study time for each exam,
- A reading list is available on-line and many of the items are accessible on-line as well,
- Management Concepts Inc. offers review courses locally, and

- Course 1: Government Environment is available via Internet.

For current CGFM's, requirements for maintaining your status include Continuing Professional Education and compliance with the code of ethics. If you have questions about meeting these requirements, please feel free to call or e-mail me.

I can be reached at (202) 512-7350 or comesw@fasab.gov. •



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## Luncheon Meetings

The schedule for this year's luncheon meetings is:

**October 3, 2001**

**November 8, 2001**

**December 6, 2001**

**January 10, 2002**

**February 5, 2002**

**March 7, 2002**

**April 23, 2002 (Awards Dinner)**

**May 2, 2002**

Ron Longo, Programs Director, is in the process of lining up an outstanding group of speakers. So far, speakers include:

**Bob O'Neil**

National Academy of Public Administration

**Justine Rodriguez**

OMB

**Keith Rhodes**

GAO

**Karen Alderman**

JFMIP

**Susan Irving**

GAO

**Richard Norment**

AGA National President

## CPE Opportunities

**10/9/01 Washington, D.C.**

**Course 1: The Governmental Environment**

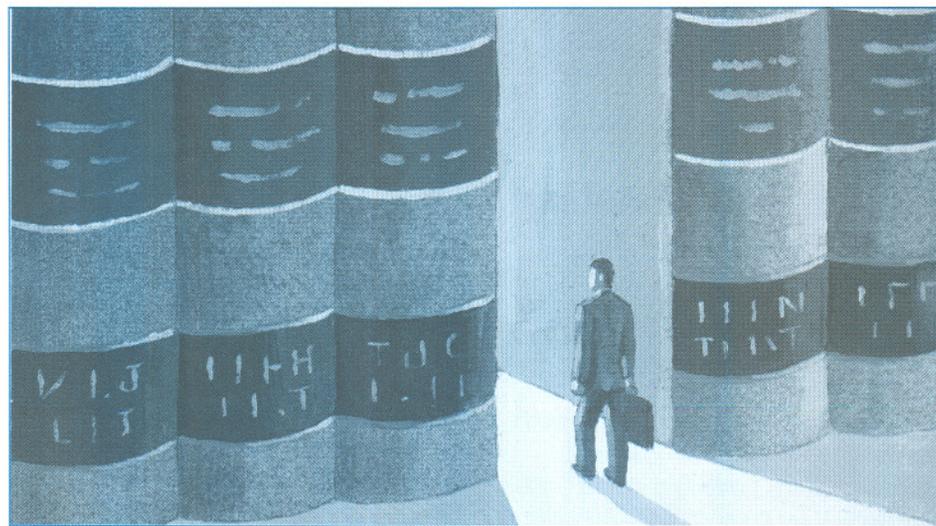
This course is designed for financial management professionals who are interested in learning more about the government environment in which they work. Participants will examine ways in which government entities differ from private entities and will discuss interactions among the different levels of government and the people whom they serve. Contact **Management Concepts** at (703) 790-9595.

**10/10/01 – 10/11/01 Washington, D.C.**

**CGFM Course 3: Government Financial Management Control**

This course is designed for financial management professionals who are interested in learning more about the government environment, specific to management and control. Participants will learn about the internal and management control process in government organizations, and how this process can aid managers in meeting objectives for reliable financial and performance reporting. They will also learn about efficiency and effectiveness of organization operations, and compliance with laws and regulations. Contact **Management Concepts** at (703) 790-9595.

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## Job Announcements

Job type	Series	Agency	Announcement No.	Application Period	Contact
Auditor	FS-0511-04/07	Agency for Int'l. Devl.	FS-01-01	12/31/01	(202) 712-4189
Accountant	GS-0510-07/12	HHS, Program Spt. Ctr.	PSC-01-079	12/31/01	(301) 443-3201
Financial Auditor	GS0511-07/11	General Acctg. Off.	GAO-400-FMA-2002-1	12/21/01	(800) 967-5426
Accountant	GS-0510-09/	HHS, Program Spt. Ctr.	PSC-01-005	12/31/01	(301) 443-3201
Financial Analyst	GS-0501-09/	HHS, OFC Sec HHS	OS-01-068	12/31/01	(301) 443-3201
Budget Analyst	GS-0560-13/13	Treasury, US Customs	HQFIN/01-016GJA	10/11/01	(202) 927-3733
Systems Accountant	GS-0510-13/13	Army, Acquisition Spt.	PN0100769	10/27/01	(703) 588-1473
Auditor	GS-0511-13/	Treasury, US Customs	HEADQ/01-036ACE	11/01/01	(202) 927-3733

*If your organization would like to list job announcements in the newsletter, please send announcement information to [diane\\_wright@ams.com](mailto:diane_wright@ams.com).*

# Washington Chapter 2001-2002 Recognition Program Summary

by Patricia Clark

Our goal for the 2001 – 2002 Chapter Recognition Program is to recapture the Chapter’s all-star status. For this program year The Chapter Recognition Program begins on May 1, 2001 and ends on April 30, 2002. To receive all-star status designation we have to receive 14,000 points. The awards will be presented at the 2002 AGA Professional

Development Conference & Exposition in Atlanta, Georgia.

Quarterly we report our Chapter’s activities to the National Office. As the Administrative Officer for our Chapter, I’m responsible for preparing the quarterly report. The first quarterly report for May, June and July, 2001 activities was due on August 15. For your infor-

mation, I have included the summary page of our report in this article.

The National Office recommends that we take the time each month to compile our credits. If you would like a copy of the 2001–2002 Chapter Recognition Program, I will send it to you. Please send your AGA and community service activities to me at clarkpatricia@dol.gov. •

Report Due Dates	8/15/01	11/15/01	2/15/02	4/15/02			
Section	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	TOTAL	MAX	Percent
Chapter Administration	950	575	-	-	1,525	2,000	76%
Chapter Meetings	210	-	-	-	210	2,000	11%
Newsletter	140	-	-	-	140	2,000	7%
Chapter Education Events	1,350	400	-	-	1,750	3,000	58%
Membership	-	-	-	-	-	2,000	0%
Community Service	725	200	-	-	925	2,000	46%
Chapter Awards Program	-	-	-	-	-	1,000	0%
<b>Monthly Total</b>	<b>3,375</b>	<b>1,175</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,550</b>	<b>14,000</b>	
<b>Cumulative Total</b>	<b>3,375</b>	<b>4,550</b>	<b>4,550</b>	<b>4,550</b>			

## Second Annual Washington AGA Chapter Walk to D’Feet ALS

by Andy Killgore

Amiotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), often called "Lou Gehrig's disease," is a progressive and fatal neuromuscular disorder that attacks certain nerve cells and pathways in the brain and spinal cord. The brain loses control of the muscles, leaving the patient paralyzed, unable to speak, swallow or even breathe. Although ALS robs a patient of virtually all voluntary muscle action, it does not affect the mind. Half of all ALS patients die within three years of diagnosis. ALS has no known cause or cure.

The ALS Association - National Capital Area Chapter is having its second annual Walk to D’Feet ALS to raise funds to help find a cure for ALS and respond to the critical unmet needs of ALS patients and their caregivers.

Teams of walkers are organized and sponsored in support of individual patients. AGA sponsored a team of walkers at the inaugural walk last year in support of Joan Killgore, the wife of one of our longstanding members, Andy Killgore. Joan works at the Department of the Interior and Andy works at the Government Printing Office. Last year AGA was recognized for raising over \$300. We hope to be even more successful this year.

About 2500 people attended last year’s walk around the reflecting pool in beautiful weather. Everyone had a great time and the outpouring of joy by the patients and their caregivers was emotional and fulfilling. Just knowing that so many friends and supporters recognize and care about

what those afflicted and their families are going through is uplifting beyond the ability to describe.

This year’s walk is also around the reflecting pool, starting at the Lincoln Memorial. It begins at 10:00 AM, Sunday, October 21, 2001. Registration begins at 9:00 AM. Come on out and be part of the team. For pre-registration and more details contact Andy Killgore at (202) 512-0040. See you there! •

# COMING IN OCTOBER

A PUBLICATION OF

autumn 2001

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interview

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CTO of webMethods, on the perfect enterprise solution

focus

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What e-government will mean five years down the road

insider

## Stephen Goldsmith,

Bush technology guru, on the evolving role of federal CIOs... and more

Jim Green, CTO of webMethods

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# Chapter Officers, Directors and National Representatives

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