

Association of Government Accountants San Francisco Chapter



President’s Message



Hi all,

Every day we are bombarded with the Coronavirus pandemic news. Our daily lives have been inevitably changed. During this unprecedented time, I hope you are all doing well and observing the social distancing requirement to “flatten the curve.”

On March 17, 2020, despite being the first day of the shelter-in-place order for the City and County of San Francisco, our chapter held a webinar from the comfort of our own homes. Three auditors and their manager from the City and County of San Francisco’s Office of the Controller, City Services Auditor division, shared their knowledge of their IT penetration testing and cybersecurity audits. The presentation was easy for a non-IT auditor to follow. I was impressed with their slideshows. The numbers were presented in eye-catching charts and the facts were shown in easy-to-read graphs and images. Over a dozen attendees attended the virtual training session. We are glad that our chapter is able to provide the virtual training sessions during this critical time. We would like to thank all of our guest speakers who made our training event possible.

Our next webinar is still on our schedule! The Oakland City Auditor, Courtney Ruby, will discuss her recent audits on Wednesday, May 20, 2020. We have always found her presentation enjoyable. The detailed announcement and the registration information are on page 3 of this newsletter.

Because of the shelter-in-place mandate, our chapter has rearranged our in-person 8-hour trainings. Please re-register with Chuck Hester CharlesHester@msn.com for the regulatory class if you are interested.

- Regulatory Review and Ethics for California Accounting and Auditing Professionals is moved from April 28, 2020 to June 16, 2020
- Fraud and Internal Controls is moved from June 16, 2020 to sometime in the next fiscal year
- Revised 2 CFR Uniform Requirements is still on August 25, 2020

AGA national chapter has extended the membership renewal deadline from March to June. I hope you are enjoying our chapter events and maximizing your member’s [benefits](#).

Stay safe!
Linda

April 2020

Contents

Journal of Government Financial Management: <i>Guidance and Standards</i>	2
AGA San Francisco Webinar	3
Regulatory Review and Ethics for CA Professionals.....	4-5
Revised OMB Uniform Guidance.....	6-7
Credit Card Authorization Form.....	8

Quick Links

- [About AGA SF](#)
- [AGA Membership](#)
- [CGFM Certification](#)
- [AGA National](#)

Guidance and Standards

AGA Journal of Government Financial Management

How will your organization prepare for the next wave of accounting and auditing standards?

The Summer 2017 edition of the AGA Journal of Government Financial Management includes several articles on various accounting and auditing standards affecting government agencies.



- **Best Practices for Implementing New GASB Statements** – State and local governments are faced with an average of three new accounting standards to implement each year. This article describes best practices for implementation of new standards that can be used as a consistent, overall process integrated with the government’s annual financial statement preparation process.
- **GASB-77 Tax Abatement Disclosures – What Every Taxpayer (and Government) Needs to Know** – Many state and local governments provide tax abatements primarily for economic development. These agreements may result in large amounts being abated for the foreseeable future, potentially hindering much-needed revenues. GASB-77 Tax Abatement Disclosures improves disclosure of such agreements to afford taxpayers an opportunity to measure their full effect.
- **Hold Your Head and Standards High** – Audit and accounting standards are constantly changing. How will your organization prepare for the next wave of changes? Standard setters have a plethora of resources available to keep you in the know and help you prepare. Here, we examine several significant updates and the impact they may have on affected organizations.
- **Closing the Gap on Subservice Organizations** – The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants recently issued Statement on Standards for Attestation Engagements (SSAE) 18, Attestation Standards: Clarification and Recodification, which supersedes several standards including SSAE 16, Reporting on Controls at a Service Organization. Learn what the change means for service organizations, subservice organizations and service auditors.
- **Online Financial Reporting: a Balancing Act** – Online financial reporting is becoming more commonplace among all levels of government, as evidenced by the federal government’s adoption of the DATA Act. The article examines the needs of users, the professional standards for third-party assurance for online financial reporting, and actions.
- **Why Municipalities Go Out of Business** – We explore the where, why and how. Because the most common reason for dissolution is citizens’ desire for greater efficiency, we also discuss state initiatives to help local governments improve efficiency. Our findings will be useful to policymakers, administrators and citizens concerned with the efficient functioning of municipal governments.

AGA members can log in to assess the latest issue of the [Journal of Government Financial Management](#) under the Resources section.

Board of Directors

President

Linda Gee
Linda.Gee@cms.hhs.gov

Past President

Sefton Boyars
seftonboyars@gmail.com

Treasurer

Humberto Melara
humberto.melara@sbcglobal.net

Chapter Recognition

Bill Stark
bill2stark@yahoo.com

Membership

Terri Ahuruonye
Terri.Ahuruonye@oig.dot.gov

Education

Chuck Hester
CharlesHester@msn.com

Historian

Lyndon Coggin
lcoggin@acera.org

Meetings

Connie Tan
Connie.Tan@dhs.gov

Communications/ Webmaster

Daniel Flores
danielflorescpa@gmail.com

Vacant:

Bylaws & Procedures
Secretary
Community Services



AGA San Francisco Webinar

One-hour Webinar

Wednesday, May 20, 2020 | 10:30 am to 11:30 am

- Topic:** Oakland City Auditor's Audits
- Presenter:** Courtney Ruby, Oakland City Auditor
- Date:** Wednesday, May 20, 2020
- Time:** 10:30 am to 11:30 am, 1-hour CPE credit
- Cost:** Free for AGA San Francisco Chapter members
\$5 for non-AGA San Francisco Chapter members
- RSVP:** Please register at the following link ([register](#)), and remit payment either at the following PayPal link (paypal.me/AGAsanfrancisco) or by filing out a credit card payment form attached at the end of this newsletter. For PayPal Link questions, please contact Daniel Flores (danielflorescpa@gmail.com). For credit card payment questions, please contact Connie Tan (connie.tan@dhs.gov) and Humberto Melara (Humberto.melara@sbcglobla.net).
- CPE Info:** To earn the free one-hour CPE, participants will need to jot down the letters that will appear at unannounced time on the top right-hand corner of the PowerPoint slides during the webinar. Participants must enter the letters correctly at the end of the webinar survey in order to verify their attendance. Partial credits will not be issued. Within a week, a CPE certificate will be emailed to participants who entered the letters correctly.

About the Speaker: Courtney Ruby, CPA,CFE:



City Auditor Courtney Ruby was re-elected as Oakland's City Auditor on November 6, 2018, and sworn into office on January 7, 2019. She previously served as Oakland's City Auditor for eight years, between 2007 and 2014. During her previous tenure, she turned around a troubled agency and made it a model of accountability, transparency, and results. The office was honored in 2014 with a national award for its work and Courtney was named one of the most influential professionals in government auditing.

She has been an executive in governmental and political organizations for over twenty years, including Chief Financial Officer for the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG), Chief Financial Officer for the State of Illinois Department of Human Rights, Deputy Chief Financial Officer for the Democratic National Committee and 1996 Democratic National Convention Committee. Courtney most recently served as the Director of Administration and Facilities at the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, the transportation planning, financing and coordinating agency for the Bay Area's nine counties.

A graduate of American University, a Certified Public Accountant and Certified Fraud Examiner, Courtney has dedicated her life to the service of others, creating organizational change and ensuring organizations manage their financial resources effectively.

Prior to becoming Oakland's elected City Auditor, Courtney spent almost a year in Ghana Africa creating an independent educational support system for children and their families, in addition to providing capacity building for a national NGO. Courtney resides in East Oakland with her two boys, ages eleven and twelve.

Regulatory Review and Ethics for CA Professionals

Eight Hour Training Session

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 | 8:30am – 5:00pm

- Topic:** Regulatory Review and Ethics for California Accounting & Auditing Professionals
- Presenter:** Charles W. Hester, CPA/CFE/CGFM
- Location:** Room 4-400, Federal Building
90 7th Street – San Francisco
- Cost:** \$125 for AGA SF Members
\$150 for non-members
- RSVP:** If you would like to attend this training, please contact Chuck Hester via e-mail at CharlesHester@msn.com. Space is limited and spots will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. If you register, and discover you cannot attend, please notify Chuck no later than Friday April 24th.

For payment information or question, please contact Daniel Flores (danielflorescpa@gmail.com) or remit payment at the following PayPal link (paypal.me/AGAsanfrancisco). You may also pay by check or credit card (see credit card authorization form at the end of this newsletter) at the training site.

About the Course:

Ethics is a cornerstone in every profession, especially for Certified Public Accountants. The public, and employers, place a significant trust in CPAs and there is inherent in that trust, the expectation that a CPA will know and understand the legal and ethical standard that apply. However, those standards are of an ever-increasing complex order and lack of understanding the ethical and legal standards can expose a CPA to risk of breach in compliance or even malpractice. This course is designed to provide CPAs with critical guidance and updated information on the current standards.

A portion of this course is designed to meet the California Board of Accountancy's requirement for two-hour of Regulatory Review. This session, approved by the Board of Accountancy and entitled *Conduct and Ethics Requirements for California Accounting and Auditing Professionals*, will provide a review that is specific to the practice of public accountancy in California, the current California Accountancy Act, and California Board of Accountancy regulations. The session will also cover historic and recent disciplinary actions taken by the California Board including highlights where the conduct of the licensee led to the discipline.

A separate portion of the course is designed to meet the four-hour ethics education requirement of the California Board of Accountancy. The ethics content includes a review of nationally recognized codes of conduct emphasizing how the codes relate to professional responsibilities; case-based instruction focusing on real-life situational learning; ethical dilemmas facing the accounting professional; and business ethics, ethical sensitivity, and consumer expectations.

The final separate two-hour portion of the course is designed to provide government auditors, accountants, and fraud specialists and/or forensic accountants, with the critical guidance and updated information on their current standards.

CPE CREDIT: Total 8.0 CPE (Continuing Professional Education)

- 2.0 Hours Regulatory Review
- 4.0 Hours General Behavioral Ethics
- 2.0 Hours Technical CE (Government/Fraud)

Objectives:

- Ensure that participant's knowledge and understanding of ethical and professional conduct standards, as well as statutory and regulatory requirements in California, is current
- Ensure that participants knowledge and understanding of ethical and conduct standards of their chosen profession is current, whether they are in public, private or government practice
- Review the current California Accountancy Act, including but not limited to the specific Articles required by the Board
- Examine current California Board of Accountancy Regulations, including but not limited to the specific Articles required by the Board
- Provide a general understanding of the types of activities that have caused other accounting and auditing professionals to be perceived as in violation of conduct and ethical standards
- Provide a general overview and update of current ethical standards for various professional organization, such as the AICPA, CalCPA, GAO, PCIE, AGA, IIA, ACFS, ACFE, IMA, and others
- Provide a reference guide of recent publications on conduct and ethics for accounting and auditing professional, including (but not limited to) copies of the California Accountancy Act and the California Accountancy Regulations
- Provide a review of disciplinary actions taken by the California Board of Accountancy and other professional organizations

Key Topics:

- The California Business and Professions Code and the California Board of Accountancy Regulations
- Codes of Professional Conduct of various professional accounting organizations
- Codes of Professional Conduct of various fraud specialist and forensic accounting organizations
- California and National case law involving public accountancy
- Duties of accounting professionals under the Sarbanes Oxley Act
- A CPAs duty when fraud is discovered
- California Board of Accountancy disciplinary actions, including highlights of historic and recent misconduct which led to licensees being discipline

About the Speaker: Charles W. Hester, CPA/CFE/CGFM:

Charles (Chuck) Hester, Sr. served as the Western District Inspector General and Audit Manager for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) until his retirement on September 30, 1995. Chuck currently conducts training sessions for numerous organizations, including the Association of Government Accountants' Education and Research Foundation, and various other professional accounting and auditing organizations. In addition, Chuck has served as the Team Leader for External Peer (Quality Control) Reviews for Various national, state, and local government audit agencies.

Chuck is a member of various professional auditing and accounting organizations and has written several articles that have been published in professional journals. Chuck currently serves as member of the Qualifications Committee for the California Board of Accountancy.

Chuck is the recipient of the Faculty Excellence Award from the Graduate School. Chuck has also received numerous other awards including the Jack Birkholz Leadership Award presented by the Western Intergovernmental Audit Forum and the Education and Training Award presented by the National Association of Government Accountants.

Revised OMB Uniform Guidance

Eight Hour Training Session

Tuesday, August 25, 2020 | 8:30am – 5:00pm

Topics: Revised OMB Uniform Guidance and its Impact on the Grant Community

Presenter: Charles W. Hester, CPA/CFE/CGFM

Location: Room 4-400, Federal Building
90 7th Street – San Francisco

Cost: **\$125** for AGA SF Members
\$150 for non-members

RSVP: If you would like to attend this training, please contact Chuck Hester via e-mail at CharlesHester@msn.com. Space is limited and spots will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. If you register, and discover you cannot attend, please notify Chuck no later than Friday August 21st.

For payment information or question, please contact Daniel Flores (danielflorescpa@gmail.com) or remit payment at the following PayPal link (paypal.me/AGAsanfrancisco). You may also pay by check or credit card (see credit card authorization form at the end of this newsletter) at the training site.

About the Course: Revised OMB Uniform Guidance

Revised grants management reform is here! And you need to begin now to adjust your procedures to shift their focus from “process” to “performance.” On January 21, 2020, Office of Management Budget issued proposed revisions to regulations covering Federal grants and agreements. The document has been dubbed “Super-Circular²” because it revises virtually all of the general grant regulations: the administrative rules, the cost principles, and the Single Audit requirements. All persons who deal with Federal grants will need to be aware and be ready for the coming changes. This course will present:

- The federal shift from compliance to performance
- Additional focus on risk
- Additional rules on procurement
- Additional controls on cash management and allowability
- Additional rules on travel, meals, and conferences
- Additional controls on computers
- Conflicts/fraud/gratuity rules
- Administrative costs/Indirect costs
- Additional rules on audits/monitoring
- Changes to close-out/management decisions

Learning Objectives: For the past few years, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), in conjunction with the Council on Financial Assistance Reform (COFAR), has been working on plans to further streamline and improve the Federal grant requirements. Understanding the actions underway, and their implications by program officials who award grants, recipients who receive grants, and auditors who audit those grants is critical to improving accountability and transparency.

The Office of Management and Budget is proposing to revise sections of Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Subtitle A—OMB Guidance for Grants and Agreements. The proposed revisions are limited in scope to support implementation of the President’s Management Agenda, Results-Oriented Accountability for Grants Cross-Agency Priority Goal (Grants CAP Goal) and other Administration priorities; implementation of statutory requirements and alignment of 2 CFR with other authoritative source requirements; and clarifications of existing requirements in particular areas within 2 CFR. These proposed revisions are intended to reduce recipient burden, provide guidance on implementing new statutory requirements, and improve Federal financial assistance management, transparency, and oversight.

About the Speaker: Charles W. Hester, CPA/CFE/CGFM:



Charles (Chuck) Hester, Sr. served as the Western District Inspector General and Audit Manager for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) until his retirement in 1995. Chuck is currently an instructor for various organizations, including Graduate School’s Government Audit Training Institute in Washington, DC, and the Pacific Islands Training Institute in Honolulu, HI. Chuck has also taught for the Association of Government Accountants’ Education and Research Foundation, the California Association of State Auditors, and various other accounting and auditing professional organizations.



Association of Government Accountants – San Francisco Chapter

Credit Card Authorization Form

Event Name _____

Date _____

Total \$ _____

Attendee Names

1.	9.
2.	10.
3.	11.
4.	12.
5.	13.
6.	14.
7.	15.
8.	16.

CREDIT CARD SECTION

Credit Card Type (AMEX/VISA/MASTERCARD) _____

Credit Card Number _____

Name on Credit Card _____

Expiration Date _____

CVV (3 or 4 digit number on back of credit card) _____

Billing Zip Code _____

AUTHORIZATION SECTION

Name _____

Organization _____

Signature _____

Phone _____

Date _____

Email Address _____