

THE WASHINGTON CONNECTION

Association of Government Accountants / D.C. Chapter



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SNAPSHOTS



INAUGURAL LUNCHEON LUNCHEON SPEAKER



Mark Reger
Deputy Controller
Office of Management and Budget
September 15 - 11:30AM
at the Hamilton
(Lower Level, 14th and F Street)

[Read Bio](#)

CGFM NEWS AND EVENTS



Tri-Chapter Picnic
Hains Point Picninc Area
Sep. 25 | 12PM - 3PM
Catered by Famous Dave's

[More Info](#)



Training Opportunity
The Charleston Civic
3-Day Training
Nov. 15 - 17
CPE: 24 Hours

[More Info](#)



President's Message



Greetings Fellow Members,

Welcome to the 66th year of the Association of Government Accountants (AGA) Washington, DC Chapter's commitment to advancing government accountability and service to the members and the profession. AGA pays tribute to the victims, first responders, survivors and families as we remember September 11th.

Allow me to share highlights of the 2017 program year accomplishments and recognition over the summer. Congratulations to the AGA DC Chapter Officers and Directors on your Olympic Team efforts!

Month	Highlights
July	Winner of the 2016 Accountability and Transparency Award at the Professional Development Training (PDT)
	Winner of the 2016 Community Service Award at the PDT
	335 AGA Washington, DC Chapter members attended the PDT
	Completed the 2017 Operating Plan
	Donated to the National Community Service Fund (NCSF) PDT silent auction (American Express gift card and two White House ornaments)
August	Updated Chapter Bylaws and submitted to Nationals
	Launched mentoring events (Mentor/protégé pairing and leadership training)
	Hosted Strategic Planning Brunch "mindshare and mimosas"
September	Financial Review of Records & Transactions - fidelity and sound

More to come -- Continuing Professional Education (CPE) hours, dynamic public sector keynote luncheon speakers, networking, mentoring, community service, and capital region collaboration opportunities.

Thank you to our sponsors and members for your support, volunteer time and dedication to AGA and the profession. I look forward to seeing everyone at the monthly luncheon on September 15th at the Hamilton.

Best regards,

Wendy Morton-Huddleston, CGFM

"Allow the way to your great work to be guided by your service to others" – Mollie Marti

Luncheon Speaker: Mark Reger



Effective October 5, 2014, Mark Reger was designated the Deputy Controller of the United States. Mr. Reger was detailed to OMB from the US Treasury Department to serve as the Interim Controller on March 17, 2014, and then assumed the Deputy Controller duties in October. Since March, Mark has been responsible for coordinating OMB's efforts to initiate government-wide improvements in all areas of financial management, including financial reporting, internal controls, grants management, financial systems, improper payments, and real property management. He also serves as the OMB representative on the FASAB.

Mr. Reger was the Deputy Assistant Secretary Accounting Policy, Office of the Fiscal Assistant Secretary, Department of the Treasury prior to moving to OMB. As such, he had oversight responsibility for the consolidation and publishing of the Financial Report of the U.S. Government and the new Office of Financial Innovation and Transformation. Mark was the Treasury Department's representative on FASAB.

Prior to joining the Office of the Fiscal Assistant Secretary, Mr. Reger served as the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of the United States Office of Personnel Management (OPM) from 2007 through May 2010. As CFO, he led OPM's financial management operations including accounting, payroll processing, budget, financial policy, financial systems, strategic planning and coordination, performance and evaluation, internal control activities and OPM's President's Management Agenda program. Prior to joining OPM, Mr. Reger held leadership positions in federal, state and local government. He served as the CFO of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Chairman of the Small Agency Council Finance Committee. At FCC, he was responsible for the compilation of the Agency's first auditable financial statements which received an unqualified opinion. Before coming to Washington, D.C. he spent 20 years in Maryland government, serving in a series of senior management positions including CFO of the Maryland Department of Agriculture and culminating in his position as the Chief Deputy Treasurer of Maryland. Mark briefly served as a Deputy Treasurer for Baltimore County Public Schools and was responsible for the security and information technology functions of one of the largest school systems in the nation. He also served as a Deputy Treasurer for the District of Columbia responsible for banking and financial services.

Mr. Reger is a Certified Public Accountant licensed in Maryland. He has been a member of the Senior Executive Service since 1998 and graduated from the Federal Executive Institute in 1999. Mr. Reger was granted a Henry Toll Fellowship by the Council of State Governments in 1994 and is a 2005 graduate of the executive leadership program of Said Business School in Oxford, England.

CGFM News and Upcoming Events (cont'd)

2016 AGA Tri-Chapter Program Year Kickoff Picnic!



The Washington DC, Northern Virginia, and Montgomery/Prince George's County chapters of the Association of Government Accountants welcome you to join us for food, family, games, music, and fun! Famous Dave's catering and non-alcoholic beverages will be provided.

Cost:

Free!

Where:

Hains Point Picnic Area C (East Potomac Park)
National Mall & Memorial Parks
900 Ohio Drive SW
Washington, DC 20024-2000

When:

Sunday, September 25th | 12:00PM - 3:00PM

Register Now!

<https://www.agadc.org/upcoming-events/>

If you have questions about the event, please contact Sullivan and Susanne Selk:

Margaret.Sullivan@us.gt.com

Susanne.Selk@sba.gov



<https://www.google.com/maps>

CGFM News and Upcoming Events

Training Opportunity - Charleston Civic

By Robbie Jordan, Director CGFM Committee

This year we will be teaming up with some of the other chapters to provide study groups to assist our members in obtaining their CGFM Certification.

The Charleston Chapter of AGA is offering a Three-Day training opportunity November 15 – 17, 2016 at the Charleston Civic. Twenty-four hours of CPE will be available and it's another step in becoming a Certified Government Finance Manager. This course covers the general principles of governmental accounting, financial reporting and budgeting. Registration is limited, so if you are interested, please

email me as soon as possible. I will forward the detailed information to those interested in attending.

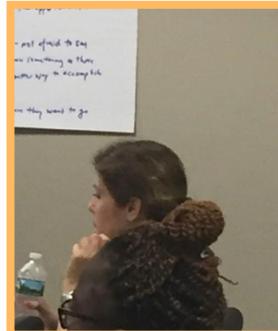
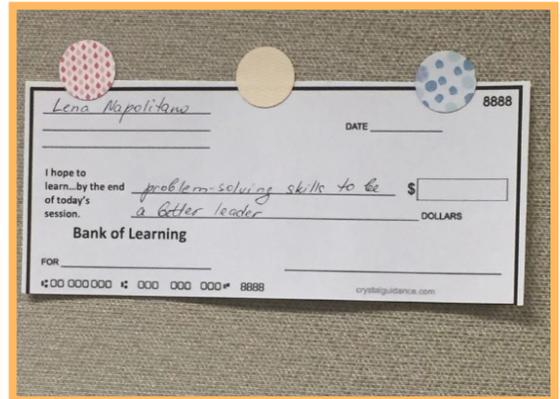
Thanks to all of our members for the continued support of the DC Chapter CGFM Program. This article is intended to update you on the latest CGFM developments and provide helpful information on maintaining your certification. If you have questions about the CGFM Program, or if we can be of assistance, please feel free to contact me at Roberta.Jordan@opm.gov or Wendy Allen, Assistant Director at wjallen@kpmg.com.



Mentorship Committee

Lunch and Learn Leadership Training

On Wednesday August 17th, the Mentorship Committee held its SECOND Lunch and Learn LEADERSHIP Training. The topic for this session was: **Essential Leadership Skills: Increasing Learning Agility and Problem-Solving Capabilities**. This event was held at Grant Thornton, LLP in Alexandria, facilitated by Concerning Learning, LLC. With 23 engaged participants, this event was developed to provide an opportunity for newly paired mentors and mentees and chapter members to **engage** and network amongst other chapter members, while earning 2 CPEs in Leadership and Development. Special thank you to all the participants for your active engagement, feedback and dialogue to help make this training a successful event. Based on the feedback received, we are hoping to provide schedule future sessions! Please contact **Montgomery.Sharnel@dol.gov** for more information regarding future events!



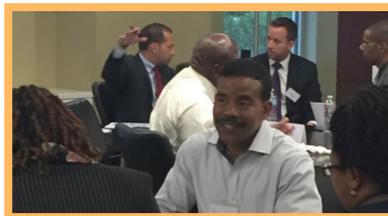
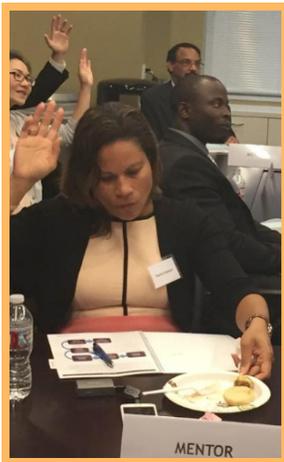
August Event Mentee:

"I am grateful for my first SES mentor from the AGA DC Chapter Mentoring program... thank you and the committee for making this mentoring relationship happen"

Mentorship Committee (cont'd)

Speed Mentoring

On Wednesday August 3rd, the Mentorship Committee held its **THIRD SPEED MENTORING** event at Grant Thornton, LLP in Alexandria, facilitated by Concerning Learning, LLC. This event allowed new mentees to engage with volunteer mentors. Each mentee was able to speak with the mentors for approximately 5 minutes and were able to ask questions about work/life balance, things to look for and receive in a mentoring relationships, and career advice. Based on feedback received from the mentee and mentor participants, pairings was made according to the best fit. Thank you to the approximately 24 AGA members (DC Chapter and PG/Montgomery Chapter) who were in attendance. We were able to pair 13 mentees! If you are interested in finding a mentee or mentor, please contact Montgomery.Sharnel@dol.gov for more information regarding future events!



SPECIAL THANK YOU to our wonderful facilitator, Mrs. Deadra Welcome, CEO and Founder of Concerning Learning, LLC and Mentorship Assistant Directors:

Charles Knewing
Boris Lyubovitsky

The Sponsors of AGADC

Diamond



Rhonda Cadogan



Joe Kull/Christina Vaneck



Lyndsay McKeown



CliftonLarsonAllen

Doreen Shute/Patrick Byer



Grant Thornton

Wendy Morton-Huddleston

Gold



Sallyanne Harper

Silver



Janice Ho



Tabatha Turman



Suzanne Pasternak

Bronze



savantage solutions

Nicole Mitchell



Jorge Asef-Sargent



Monica Callahan



ALLMOND & COMPANY, CPAs

Shari Griffin



Diana Ruggeri



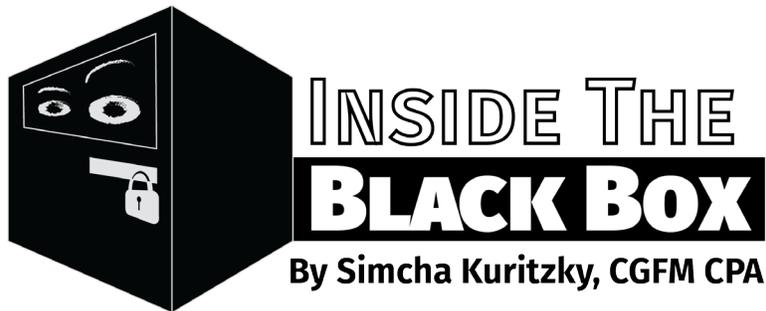
Jennifer Nielsen



Sara Starry



Rahul Jindal



Contract Authority

Introduction

Sometimes agencies need to obligate funds before they receive their appropriation or warrant. Congress may authorize the agencies to obligate in advance of the appropriation, which is called contract authority, though no expenditures or disbursements can take place until new authority (generally an appropriation warrant but it can be reimbursable authority or transferred in) is given. The Standard General Ledger (SGL) accounts and posting entries for contract authority can be confusing. While they have the same three stages (anticipated, authorized, and funded) as most funding sources, the accounts are not in strict logical sequence and are squeezed together in a narrow spectrum of the SGL account series.

Contract Authority Accounts

The contract authority account structure is complicated by a number of factors. (1) There are numerous accounts involved for each stage. (2) These accounts have accreted over the years, so they are not in strict logical order. (3) The intermediate stage accounts are not always reduced by the next step, but offsetting accounts are used instead. (4) The intermediate stages do not remain open, but close to account 413900 Contract Authority Carried Forward. (5) Some accounts are also used for other types of authority, such as repaying capital for a revolving fund or permanent reductions to appropriations or borrowing authority.

Inside the Black Box (cont'd)

The accounts are squeezed into the 403x and 413x sequence, and in FY2015 the SGL Board had to add three accounts in the 415x sequence. Even when the USSGL moved to 6 digits, Treasury didn't renumber them to keep similar accounts together and split out permanent reductions by the type of authority reduced. The FY2017 SGL accounts are:

Num	Name	Close
	Anticipated:	
40320 0	Estimated Indefinite Contract Authority	44500 0
40340 0	Anticipated Adjustments to Contract Authority	44500 0
	Authorized:	
41310 0	Current-Year Contract Authority Realized	41390 0
41320 0	Substitution of Contract Authority	41390 0
41330 0	Decreases to Indefinite Contract Authority	41390 0
41340 0	Contract Authority Withdrawn	41390 0
41350 0	Contract Authority Liquidated	41390 0
43920 0	Permanent Reduction - New Budget Authority	41390 0
43930 0	Permanent Reduction - Prior-Year Balances	41390 0

Inside the Black Box (cont'd)

41390 0	Contract Authority Carried Forward (remains open)	n/a
	Funded:	
41300 0	Appropriation to Liquidate Contract Authority Withdrawn	42010 0
41380 0	Appropriation to Liquidate Contract Authority	42010 0
	Transfers:	
41360 0	Contract Authority to be Liquidated by Trust Funds	41360 0
41370 0	Transfers of Contract Authority - Allocation	41370 0
41530 0	Transfers of Contract Authority - <u>Nonallocation</u>	
41540 0	Appropriation To Liquidate Contract Authority - <u>Nonallocation</u> - Transferred	each other
41550 0	Appropriation To Liquidate Contract Authority - Allocation - Transferred	41370 0

So the post-close balance of account 413900 is equal to the actual contract authority realized (413100) less what was appropriated (413500) as well as any decreases (413300), substitutions of reimbursable authority (413200), or withdrawals (413400). Account 420100 will be increased by the appropriation (413800) and reduced by withdrawals (413000).

Contract Authority Transactions

The main SGL contract authority transactions can be summarized by the following table:

Inside the Black Box (cont'd)

Entry	Anticipated	Authorized	Funded	Available
A176 anticipate authority	dr. 403200			cr. 445000/462000
A178 anticipate reduction	cr. 403400			dr. 445000/462000
A168 realize A176	cr. 403200	dr. 413100		
A172 realize A178	dr. 403400	cr. 413300		
A166 = A176 + A168		dr. 413100		cr. 445000/462000
A174 = A178 + A172		cr. 413300		dr. 445000/462000
A131 permanent reduction		cr. 439200/439300		dr. 445000/462000
A170/A171 liquidate w/warrant		cr. 413500	dr. 413800	
A169 withdraw funds		dr. 413500	cr. 413000	
A704 liquidate w/reimburse		cr. 413200	dr. 422100	
A187 earn reimbursement		dr. 413200 cr. 413500		
D136 withdrawal		cr. 413400		dr. 445000
post-close	must be zero	closes to 413900	closes to 420100*	

So the agency may anticipate not only contract authority but also a reduction. The realization comes from Congress granting the contract authority, but unlike a Congressional appropriation, this authority does not come with a warrant. The funding phase occurs when Congress grants either the appropriation with a warrant or reimbursable authority.

Anticipation accounts are increased by anticipations and decreased by realizations, but the authorization accounts use one account for the authorization and a different account (413500, though rarely 413000) for the funding or receipt of a warrant (413200 for receipt of reimbursable authority).

Inside the Black Box (cont'd)

Transfers

Another complication is that the funding can be transferred in from another source, sometimes ahead of the cash. Rather than try to map out all the possibilities, suffice it to say that there are essentially three models. The first is used when the warrant comes after the appropriation: the contract authority is recognized with a debit to 412600 and credit to 413600 (entry A173), which is then reversed when the warrant comes in and the regular A170 entry (above) is posted. A transfer in the other direction (debit 431600 or 413800, credit 412600 or 413500) is recorded by A175. If an allocation transfer is used, then the entry is dr. 417500 cr. 445000 or 415500 (A181), but if the cash is delayed, account 413700 stands in for 417500 and then is reduced (entry A177). The debits and credits are reversed for the agency providing the authority (entries A179 and A180). The Department of Transportation has some special situation where the entry is dr. 461000 cr. 415300 (A165) or dr. 415300 cr. 445000 (A167), but the pre-cash entry debits 415300 (A161) and the cash entry instead credits 415400 (A157), with these two accounts closing against each other at year end. The debits and credits are reversed for the provider (entries A163 and A160).

Conclusion

Both the account structure and transaction sequences for contract authority are complicated, but keeping in mind which stage of the funding process a transaction or account is associated with will help add clarity.

Comments and critiques, as well as specific questions or suggestions for future topics, are always welcome. Send them to Simcha.Kuritzky@CGI.com, and not to the AGA.

Contact Us

Whether you're looking for more information, or you'd like to give us your suggestions or comments, you'll find easy ways to contact us right here.

The quickest and most direct way to get your question answered is to send an email directly to the AGA DC Board Member. Check out the Officers and Directors for their contact information. For example, if you have a question about the AGA DC monthly luncheon, contact Eric Schaefer at eschaefer@kpmg.com.

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