



# Newsletter



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## President’s Message



Hello Dallas Chapter!

My name is Carla Flores, and I am the Data Analytics Lead in the IRS Office of the Chief Financial Officer. I am honored to serve as the AGA Dallas Chapter President for the 2021-2022 program year. I started my

federal career as a college intern 15 years ago and spent a good part of my career working in federal financial management, mostly in accounting and financial reporting roles, before transitioning to data analytics. Throughout my career, AGA has played a pivotal role. I have been an AGA member for over 13 years and have served in various leadership roles at the Chapter and National levels. Volunteering in AGA has provided me with the unique opportunity to not only develop my leadership skills, but also build long-lasting relationships that have allowed me to grow both professionally and personally. If you would like to hear more about volunteer opportunities with our Chapter, please [reach out to me](#).

It's been a busy couple of months for our Dallas Chapter Executive Committee Members. Over the summer, we welcomed Chris Pate (Programs Director), Dorothy Hines (CGFM Director) and Cierra Augillard (Newsletter Editor) to our board. This past October, we held our first virtual training event of the

## Connect with Us!



program year on a new virtual platform. Over 35 attendees participated in a variety of sessions including using automation and analytics to improve performance, a recap of the AGA Inspector General survey, and the challenges of risk management. We started planning our next virtual training event, scheduled for January 19, 2022. And we issued our [Fiscal Year 2020-2021 CCR](#).

As we reflect on the challenges and successes of the past year, I am genuinely excited for the year ahead. Please feel free to [reach out to me](#) if there's anything we can do to support you in your career development.

Carla Flores  
AGA Dallas Chapter President

## Upcoming Events

### January 2022 Professional Development Training (PDT)

Join us for our Virtual January 2022 PDT!

**Date/Time:** Wednesday, January 19, 2022 | 12:00pm-4:00pm CT

**Where:** Virtual via Zoom Webinar

**CPEs:** Up to 4 CPEs

**Cost:** AGA Members: \$40 | Non-Members: \$50 | Group (5 or more): \$40/registrant

**Prerequisite:** None

#### Topics and Speakers:

- Artificial Intelligence and the Federal Government: A 70 Year Old Love Story Still Going Strong (Fola Ojumu, Partner, Kearney & Company)
- Mobile Device Management: Opportunities to Strengthen Data Security and Identify Cost Savings (Loren Schwartz, Partner, Cotton & Company and Matt Gorman, Senior Manager, Cotton & Company)
- A Behind the Scenes Look at the CDC's Response to COVID-19 (Joe Hungate, Deputy Chief Financial Officer, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)

**Registration:** [Register online via Eventbrite](#).

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### January 2022 Bingo & Networking

We hope you can also join us for a fun Bingo & Networking hour following the training. Bingo participants have a chance to win some Amazon e-gift cards!

**Date/Time:** Wednesday, January 19, 2022 | 4:30pm-5:30pm CT

**Location:** Virtual via Zoom

**Cost:** Free to PDT attendees

We hope to see you there!

## Membership Spotlight

### Welcome New Members!

- Mr. Larry B. Allen, Jr., CGFM
- Ms. Cierra Augillard
- Mr. Philip Emswiler
- Mrs. Elaine Hardrick
- Mrs. Catherine Carroll Healey
- Mrs. Josslyn Ideghe
- Ms. Jonnie G. Stice, CGFM
- Mr. Michael C. Thomson
- Mr. Kevin D. Vandenberg
- Ms. Sylvia Vega
- Ms. Amy Lo

## Community Service

### 2021 Angel Tree (The Salvation Army of North Texas)



The Salvation Army Angel Tree Program is one of the largest giving programs in the Nation, running for over 40 years to ensure that children and seniors will have a wonderful holiday season. The Angel Tree serves millions of people every year and Angel Trees are on-site in shopping malls, corporations, churches, and organizations.

Families in our community are still struggling. With COVID-19 becoming a “poverty pandemic,” so many families are facing the effects of lost income and other economic impacts of the coronavirus. Therefore, the AGA Dallas Chapter is again supporting The Salvation Army of North Texas Angel Tree to help these families this holiday season. The Chapter has committed to matching up to \$500 worth of toys and gift cards donated by chapter members through The Salvation Army of North Texas Angel Tree registry. Here's how you can get involved:

- [Click here](#) to access The Salvation Army of North Texas Angel Tree registry.
- Purchase a toy or gift card by adding it to your Walmart shopping cart and choosing the "delivery" option during checkout.
- Email your receipt to [agadallaschapter@gmail.com](mailto:agadallaschapter@gmail.com) by December 17, 2021.

Thank you for your consideration and continued support!

## NCC Representative Corner



Dallas Chapter Members,

Thank you again for the opportunity to serve as the representative for the Dallas chapter for the AGA's National Council of Chapters (NCC) and as the Chapter Director for

Area 3 on AGA's National Governing Board (NGB).

In previous newsletters, I described how the AGA made updates the Chapter Recognition Program to include new/revised key performance/health indicators within chapter reports. The goal of the updated program was to remove the administrative burden of reporting on items that are not indicators of health and focus on managing the business of our chapter. The new program, named "Achievements in Chapter Excellence (ACE)" was implemented for the 2020-2021 program year. ACE consists of two parts – one is a checklist of compliance items to be completed annually, while the other part is what chapters are evaluated on for their annual award. The evaluation part allows chapters to measure against how they achieve their goals for the year using three Tiers, each corresponding with a level by which the chapter met or exceeded its goals. The chapter receives points for each Tier, with Tiers corresponding to the chapter exceeding its goals having additional point value.

In recognition of our chapter's key accomplishments in pursuit of our 2020-2021 [strategic goals](#), the Dallas Chapter received the Platinum recognition (the highest designation). The purpose of the Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum designations is to encourage chapters to participate in ACE at the level they feel comfortable with and to develop continuity of sound leadership and programs.

As we continue our efforts in the 2021-2022 program year, especially given the continued COVID-19 environment and the limitations that has placed on all of our members, I look forward to updating you on the chapter's key

accomplishments in support of our 2021-2022 [strategic goals](#).

In regard to our goals related to Education, we held our Fall virtual event on October 13, 2021. This event offered four hours towards our goal of providing 14 continuing professional education credits. We were pleased to have speakers from Eide Bailly LLP and Kearney & Company. We also were excited to host a virtual Bingo Night. We were also able to virtually socialize and two lucky participants won the Bingo games and received gift card awards.

Throughout 2021-2022 program year, we will continue to collaborate with the Oklahoma City and Ozarks chapters, and benefit from the guidance and lessons learned from other chapters (such as best practices employed by the Shenandoah Valley, Virginia Peninsula and Richmond Chapters that help us plan our virtual CPE and social events).

On behalf of the Dallas AGA CEC, I want to thank all of our members and your continued support of the chapter. Enjoy the holiday season and we look forward to 2022.

Melinda DeCorte  
NCC Representative and NGB Chapter Director



## 2021-2022 Chapter Executive Committee

[Carla B. Flores, CGFM](#)

President

**Vacant**

President-Elect

[John D. Rich, CGFM](#)

Immediate Past President

[Shino Knowles](#)

Treasurer

[Regina M. Stevenson, CGFM](#)

Secretary

[Tonyan L. Geans](#)

Membership Director

[Chris Pate](#)

Programs Director

[Dorothy A. Hines, CGFM](#)

Certification Director

[Cierra Augillard](#)

Newsletter Editor

[Carla B. Flores, CGFM](#)

Webmaster

[Melinda J. DeCorte, CGFM, CPA](#)

Dallas NCC Representative and  
NGB Area 3 Chapter Director

To hear about our volunteer opportunities for this program year, please contact [Carla Flores](#), AGA Dallas Chapter President.

## Connect with Us!

 <https://www.agacgfm.org/dallas>

 [agadallasChapter@gmail.com](mailto:agadallasChapter@gmail.com)

 <https://www.facebook.com/AGADallasChapter>

 <https://twitter.com/AGADallas>

 <https://www.linkedin.com/in/agadallas/>

 <https://forms.gle/nDW1MJHW8cYFcb7N6>

## Corporate Partners

Thank you to our Corporate Partners. We have partnered with these organizations to further the educational and networking opportunities we provide to our members. Click on the logos below to learn more about each of them.

### Silver Partner



### Bronze Partners

**Becker+**

**KEARNEY &  
COMPANY**

We have various corporate partnership opportunities to meet your organization's needs. [Learn more](#) about becoming a corporate partner.