PROGRAM YEAR 2021-2022

ISSUE 01 | JULY 2021

MEET A CGFM LEARN ABOUT THE

and how the Guam Chapter can help you pass the exam

Nominations O

PROFESSIONAL JOHN M. PHILLIPS EXCELLENCE IN GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY AWARD

Deadline to submit is Aug 27. Forms available on website or here.

IT'S A NEW PROGRAM YEAR!

Our theme for this Program Year is Resiliency: Turning Obstacles into Opportunities

Projected Calendar of Meeting Topics

Free training details

PITI-VITI, APIPA, & AGA Member-Only

See pictures from the 2021-2022 Officer Induction Ceremony, the June 26 End of Year Family Picnic, the Strategic Planning Meeting, and the first CGFM Coffee Klatch.

PDT 2021 Chapter **Awards** won by the Guam Chapter



PDT 2021 Chapter Awards Meet scholarship winners who got to attend the PDT!



Meet Jamie and find out how she won a \$3,000 scholarship from AGA National!

guåhnngasetn GUÅHANGASETA

PROGRAM YEAR 2021-2022

ISSUE 01 | JULY 2021





table of contents

IN THIS ISSUE

President's Message	2
Recap of Events	4
Upcoming Meetings and Events	7
Membership Highlights	10
CGFM Corner	16
Accountability News	18
Links and Resources	
Student Connections	20
Contact Us	21

president's MESSAGE



Buenas yan Hafa Adai!

It is a great honor for me to serve as your Chapter President for program year 2021-2022, which started on July 1st. I would like to congratulate our new AGA National President Gerry Boaz who will be leading us through 2022. During the Passing of the Gavel ceremony at the 2021 Professional Development Training, Gerry shared his platform and the vision for AGA during his term. Key objectives included seeing opportunities and not obstacles; inclusivity, diversity, and accessibility; and doubling our size and impact by having every members recruit one new member. Our president also wants to focus on holding up AGA members as though-leaders and problem solvers. In line with our National President's key objectives and focus, our Guam Chapter's theme for 2021-2022 is "Resiliency: Turning Obstacles into Opportunities."

The changes around us—"the new normal"—require that we become more resilient and navigate through new and increasingly complex

environment, which impacts our workplace, communities, and the accountability profession. Our chapter and national organization is a vast network of robust resources and provides a great asset when facing these new challenges. I draw the theme of resilience in 2021-2022 as most attention turns to post-COVID recovery. This could translate to less support by employers to our members. Resilience can help us get through and overcome hardships. It will be a trait that will help our chapter going through the difficult times ahead.

Turning obstacles into opportunities is withstanding difficulties and bouncing back and growing despite the downturns. Your Guam Chapter will embrace this new normal and continue to fill the need for more communication and collaboration on strategies as we adapt. We are planning to offer hybrid meetings this program year where we'll have face-to-face General Membership Meetings every quarter (September & December 2021 and March & June 2022). The meetings will be limited with the applicable capacity and with appropriate social distancing. Leveraging the very talented pool of our members and other professional organizations, we will continue to have guest speakers to present on various topics for continuing professional education credits.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

I am proud of our Chapter's successes over the last year. Despite the pandemic, our chapter did an excellent job delivering high-quality guest speakers; hosting a very successful virtual Professional Development Conference for the first time; and reaching out to our students by being guest speakers in their classes or general meetings. Our chapter also remained true in advancing accountability by ensuring that government agencies prepare their Citizen-Centric Reports and provided guidance to comply with the reporting requirements. The CGFM certification committee continued its various outreach programs and conducted several virtual meetings in efforts to continue to encourage our accountability professionals and advance the CGFM as the certification of choice. We also gave back to our community through 50 minutes of community service, beach and village clean-up, tutoring, presenting at career days, and donating food at the homeless shelters.

I am very proud and blessed to have a great and dynamic team this program year. Your committee leaders are dedicated and will continue to hold a wide variety of events, including more opportunities to engage with each other face-to-face and online. Your Membership Committee are looking to create an incentive program that would benefit both the members and the chapter. Some incentives include free monthly meals for sponsoring a member or free training opportunities. The Certification Committee has a full slate of various outreach, scholarships, presentations, and get together events for all CGFM's. They are also working on safe ways for opportunities to mentor and encourage other AGA members to take the CGFM exams. Other exciting activities planned include more frequent mentorships and coffee klatch meetings.

Engaging more with our future accountability professionals at the University of Guam (UOG) and Guam Community College (GCC) is a collaborative effort being planned by our Young Professional and Standards Committee leaders. The committee's plan is focused on cultivating and supporting the career paths of our young professionals through networking, career presentations, and offering educational opportunities. This is further enhanced by our Scholarships Committee where they will continue to offer academic scholarships to our UOG and GCC students. Also, our Accountability Committee plan is focused on ensuring that our Government of Guam gaencies prepare Citizen-Centric Reports that are informative, pertinent, timely, and meets the established reporting guidelines. This key objective is one of the cornerstones where AGA helps to improve our government's accountability and transparency to its citizenry.

Creative and frequent communications strategies are being developed by our Communications Committee. They will continue to communicate timely chapter business, events, and training opportunities through various outlets. Our members are our significant assets and celebrating our members through member features and their achievements is in the works. Moreover, we are a very caring and communityconscious group. Our Community Service Committee has a line-up of various community service events, like feeding the homeless and school supplies and canned food drive—which addresses genuine community needs. Members are also highly encouraged to volunteer at least 50-minutes of their time in giving back to the community by road or beach clean-ups, tutoring, or educational presentations.

As we start our Guam Chapter's 51st year, I would encourage you not only to join our association, but also to volunteer by contributing to the newsletter, participating in our committees, and assisting us in advancing government accountability. Please let me know of you have any questions or if you would like to get involved in a committee for our chapter. Visit our website at http://aga.guam.net for more information. You may send us an email at agaguamchapter@gmail.com. We look forward hearing from you.

Our chapter is comprised of many talented, diverse, and dedicated professionals. We thank you members for your continuous support and participation in our association and in our professional community. I look forward to working with you all. Let's make 2022 another one of our best year as we turn obstacles into opportunities!

Resiliency: Turning Obstacles into Opportunities

RECAP OF EVENTS

PROGRAM YEAR 2021-2022 OFFICERS







Program Year 2021-2022 officer induction ceremony held during the June 2021 General Membership Meeting. L-R: Pilar Pangelinan (Immediate Past President), Maripaz N. Perez (President), Josie G. Villanueva (President-Elect), Justin B. Castro (Treasurer-Elect), Llewelyn R. Terlaje (Treasurer), and Joy V. Bulatao (Secretary). Officiated by Honorable Joe S. San Agustin.

PROGRAM YEAR 2021-2022



The Chapter Executive Committee (CEC) Members held a Strategic Planning Meeting for Program Year 2021-2022 at Hilton on July 10, 2021. We welcomed new and returning officers and directors. So many exciting plans were discussed, and we look forward to it all!

Once approved, the Strategic Plan can be found on our website by clicking here.











Our End of Year Family Picnic was so much fun! Our members and their families enjoyed food, games, raffle prizes, free t-shirts... and we finally got to enjoy each other's company. Yay to meeting new faces and reuniting with old friends! Thanks to all who came and enjoyed. We look forward to more opportunities to see each other in person.



















Resiliency: Turning Obstacles into Opportunities

COMMUNITY TRAINING EVENTS

Thank you
GBOA/GSCPA/UOG

The Guam Board of Accountancy, in coordination with the University of Guam, Guam Society of CPAs, and the AGA Guam Chapter, provided 8 CPEs on July 22 and 23, 2021 as part of the UOG Visiting Accounting Professor and Lecturer Program.





UPCOMING TRAININGS

August & September



The **PACIFIC & VIRGIN ISLANDS TRAINING INITIATIVE** (PITI-VITI) is offering several trainings for the month of August & September 2021.

Attendees can receive up to 18 CPEs and are FREE of charge for government accountability professionals within the insular areas.

Intermediate Grants Management (6 Hours CPE), instructed by David Rykken MPH Guam Date/Time: August 3 – 5, 2021 ★ 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Registration Link: https://learn.pitiviti.org/59

Pandemic Relief Funding: Reviewing and Auditing Awarded Contracts (12 Hours CPE), instructed by Bob Adachi

Guam Course Date: **September 28 – 30, 2021 ★ 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

Registration Link: https://learn.pitiviti.org/67



ASSOCIATION OF PACIFIC ISLANDS PUBLIC AUDITORS (APIPA)

The **32nd Annual APIPA Conference** will be delivered **virtually** from **Monday**, **August 23 through Friday**, **September 3**, **2021**. Registration is <u>FREE</u> for insular government professionals.

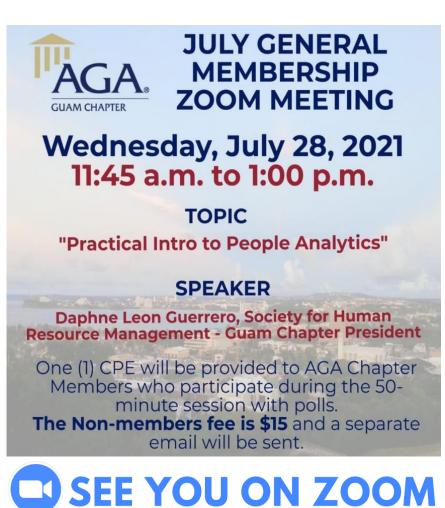
Additional information about courses, instructors, CPE credit hours and local course times are all available online at https://www.apipa2021.org.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

While the island continues its path to Pandemic Condition of Readiness (PCOR) 4, we will continue to host our meeting over Zoom to ensure safety of our members and speakers. We are exploring options to hold face-to-face meetings and will be seeking your thoughts on it. Be on the lookout for our **MEMBERSHIP SURVEY** and be sure to send your reply.

Meetings are held every fourth Wednesday of the month and will begin at 11:45 a.m. (to ensure sufficient time is available to complete the CPE requirements). Meeting invites will be sent to members at least two weeks in advance.



GENERAL MEMBERSHIP	
MEETING DATES DATE TENTATIVE	
TENTATIVE	
TOPIC/EVENT	
People Analytics (SHRM)	
Covid GMH Funding	
Technology Improvements:	
Electronic Digital Customs	
Form	
*John Phillips Award	
Presentation*	
DOL Controls in Place to	
Address Fraud	
Retirement/Investing/	
Social Security	
*AGA Guam Chapter	
Christmas Party*	
Ethics	
ERM / Tax Updates	
Budget	
CGFM Month	
Economics	
Safety in the Workplace -	
Hearing	
Awards	
Leadership	
Oath of Office	

CHAPTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (CEC) MEETINGS

CEC Meetings are held every second Wednesday of the month at 12:00 p.m.

If you are interested in joining discussions for Chapter events or joining a committee, feel free to contact President Maripaz Perez or President-Elect Josie Villanueva.

Refer to the agenda for discussion items from July's CEC meetina.

Minutes of General Membership meetings are posted on our website upon approval. Click here to view.



Advancing Government Accountability

Association of Government Accountants

P.O. Box 1124 Hagatna, Guam 96932 http://aga.guam.net

Maripaz N. Perez, CGFM, CGAP, CICA, CIA, CFE President mznperez671@gmail.com

Josie G. Villanueva, MBA, CPA, CGMA, CGFM , CSAF, PMP President-Elect josiegv@gmail.com

Llewelyn Terlaje, CGFM, CGAP, CFE Treasurer lrterlaje@gmail.com

Justin B, Castro, CFE Treasurer-Elect justinbcastro@gmail.com

Joy B. Bulatao, CGFM Secretary joy.bulatao@gmail.com

Pilar O. Pangelinan, AFC, CB Immediate Past President pangelipc638@yahoo.com

Yukari Hechanova, CPA, CGFM, CIA, CGAP, CGMA National Council of Chapters Representative yukahechanova@gmail.com



AGA Guam Chapter Chapter Executive Committee Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, July 14, 2021 at 12:00 PM Virtual Meeting via Zoom

- Call to Meeting to Order
- Approval of June 2021 CEC Minutes
- III. Treasurer's Report
- President's Report
 - A. Turn-Over 2021 to 2022 Officers & CEC: Documents, Reference Materials, Tips, etc.
 - B. Guam Chapter By-Laws: Updated & Approved 4/29/2020
 - C. Guam Chapter Policies and Procedures Target Completion 12/31/2021
 - Congratulations National Awards to Our 2021 Officers & CEC Leadership
 - A. 2021 Chapter Accountability and Transparency Award
 - B. 2021 Chapter CGFM Award
 - C. 2021 Chapter Community Service Award Guam Chapter
- VI. Close-Out & Turn Over of Finances Target Date: _
- VII. **New Business**
 - A. Program Year 2021-2022 Theme:
 - B. Membership Survey for 2022 Task Force Members: _
 - C. Strategic Plan 2022 ACE Goals To Be Emailed
 - D. 2022 Committee Budgets Due July 31, 2021
 - E. 2022 Strategic Plans Due July 31, 2021
 - F. **Vote on General Membership Meetings Monthly or Quarterly (Sept/Dec/March/June)
 - G. Quarterly Meetings Luncheon Rate Discussion
- Committee Reports
 - A. * Programs & Technical July Speaker
 - B. Accountability (CCR)
 - C. Education
 - D. Certification /CGFM
 - E. Communications Website
 - F. Communications Newsletter
 - G. *Membership Discuss Membership Recruitment for 2022 PDT Raffle
 - H. Young Professionals
 - **Community Service**
 - **Budget & Finance**
 - K. Scholarship
 - L. By-Laws
 - M. Awards (ACE)
 - N. Research/Standards
- IX. Other Matters
 - A. 2022 PDT Conference Email Complimentary Registration
 - B. National Council of Chapters Representative Report
- XI. Next Meetings
 - A. General Membership Meeting Virtual July 28
 - CEC Meeting August 25 (Virtual or Face to Face??)_
- VIII. Adjourn Meeting - ___

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT - PROFESSOR JOHN M. PHILLIPS **EXCELLENCE IN GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY AWARD**

The AGA Guam Chapter is seeking nominations for the 2021 Professional John M. Phillips Excellence in Government Accountability Award. Nominations are due on Friday, August 27, 2021, and may be emailed to agaguamchapter@gmail.com. The Award will be presented during the September 2021 General Membership Meeting. See below for a summary of the award description or visit our website for more information and to download the nomination form.

Award Description: This annual award recognizes the cumulative achievements of a government professional that has, throughout his/her public career, served as a role model for others and has consistently exhibited the highest personal professional standards. Nominations are open to federal, local, state government employees, elected or appointed officials, or private sector employees in Guam.



st recipients Professor John M. Phillips Excellence in Government Accountability Award Past Recipients



Doris Flores Brooks CPA, CGFM **Public Auditor** Office of Public Accountability



2013

Ed.D. President Guam Community College



Mary A. Y. Okada Vicente "ben" C. Pangelinan (Posthumous) Senator and Former Speaker Deputy Superintendent Guam Legislature



Taling M. Taitano CPA, CGFM Department of Education



Robert J. Torres, Jr. Chief Justice Unified Courts of Guam



Benjamin J.F. Cruz Speaker Guam Legislature



Joanne M.S. Brown General Manager Port Authority of Guam Department of Education



Jon J.P. Fernandez Superintendent



Carmen Kwek Santos (Posthumous) Vice President Guam Community College



MEMBERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES



28 YEARS BARBARA S. HOWARD. CPA

Tokio Marine Pacific Insurance

13 YEARS

University of Guam

NANCY CUETO

11 YEARS RIZALITO GINO F. PAGLINGAYEN

Ernst & Young

6 YEARS

MARGARET TM ARTERO

Guam Dept of Education

MARIE A. GARCIA

Guam Dept of Education

ARLITA MABINI

Guam Dept of Education

THELMA C. PEREZ

Guam Dept of Education

HELEN LEGASPI

Guam Dept of Education

3 YEARS EDWARD M. BIRN

Guam Dept of Administration



LAWRENCE JAY M. ALCAIRO ANTHONY JM MACIAS

Government of Guam

PHILLIP M. BAMBA

Guam Dept of Administration Guam Dept of Administration

Guam Dept of Administration

RESY NOVAH R. SAPUNGAN

KRYSTYNA RAY M. ILAGAN

Guam Dept of Administration

NEW

TRICIA L. BALAJADIA

Guam Power Authority







2021 YOUNG PROFESSIONAL TRAINING SCHOLARSHIP

For our **Young Professional** members, **AGA National** annually selects up to five young professionals to attend AGA's Professional Development Training (PDT) in July. The participants in this program will act as ambassadors for attendees and assist with other activities throughout the training event.

We were pleased to learn that two of our YP members were awarded this scholarship for this past PDT. They shared their experiences below.

SUMCH CHIN ★ JUNIOR AUDITOR ★ OPA-REPUBLIC OF PALAU

Alii!

My name is Sumch Chin, and I'm a Junior Auditor at the Office of the Public Auditor in the Republic of Palau. I was presented with the opportunity to apply for AGA's Young Professionals Training Scholarship to attend this year's Development Training from Ms. Professional Panaelinan - former President of AGA Guam Chapter. Since I met the application requirements of being a firsttime PDT attendee, an AGA member in good standing, working directly for the government and meeting the criteria to be an AGA Young Professional, I decided to apply for the Scholarship. The application process was fairly simple with links and instructions to create an account and submit answers to some questions on eligibility. If you Scholarship application requirements, I meet the encourage you to try it out.

I'm truly thankful to have been selected as one of the YP Scholarship recipients to attend PDT 2021 that was held virtually on July 19-21. I had the opportunity to listen to and learn from top-level speakers ranging from federal, state, and local government to academia and private sector. As scholarship recipients, we assisted in monitoring the chatrooms based on guidelines provided by AGA. We helped in engaging meaningful conversations as well as network with other attendees.





PDT*21

This year's PDT was a great learning experience and a greater addition to my professional development as an auditor. I would like to express my appreciation to Palau OPA for their support during this Training and also AGA Guam Chapter and AGA National for the opportunity. A special shout-out to all recipients of this year's YP Training Scholarship, all our mentors and most especially to AGA's Programs Coordinator, Ms. Dess Cruz, for guiding all the recipients throughout the PDT. I hope to meet you all in person in future AGA events!

Kom Kmal Mesulana! Sumch Chin

2021 YOUNG PROFESSIONAL TRAINING SCHOLARSHIP

DANICA BATAC ★ ACCOUNTING ANALYST II ★ RCUOG





My name is Danica Anne Batac. I am currently working as an Accounting Analyst II at Research Corporation of the University of Guam. I want to acknowledge and give my gratitude to Ms. Pilar Pangelinan, AGA Guam Chapter President, for encouraging me to join the free training scholarship for young professionals. Ms. Pilar was so kind to share the AGA web application and requirements needed for me to take part in the program. Thank you, Ms. Pilar!

Eligibility requirements for the scholarship are as follows; it should be the first time attending Professional Development Training (PDT), a member of AGA, working in government agencies for less than three years, and at least 35 years old or younger. If interested, AGA provides an online application link where requirements can be submitted and should include a short essay stating why should be selected to attend PDT21.

PDT is an opportunity to connect with other professionals who work in federal, state, and local. As a first-time attendee, it enlightens my perspective in terms of leadership, perseverance, and determination. Each session has panelists who shared their actual experiences and how they became good problem solvers. One of my favorite quotes is from Jessica Donoher, "Sometimes you need to take two steps back to take three steps forward" (2021, Young Professionals Making M.O.V.E.S). Work is a commitment; however, some young professionals are discouraged because of the workloads and high demands of the job. Therefore, taking a step back helps reassess one's goal on WHY and HOW one can be efficient given new responsibilities.

I've truly learned so much from attending PDT. Thank you once again to Ms. Pilar and to AGA staff who supported me throughout this journey, Ms. Dessamine Cruz, Mr. Jerome Bruce, and Ms. Kia Lor. I also would like to thank Mr. Bill Hughes who guided me throughout my PDT journey. Thank you!



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT ON

Justin B. Castro

Justin has been appointed to serve as a member of the Supervisory Committee for Community First Guam Federal Credit Union.

The Supervisory Committee is a Board appointed Committee tasked with monitoring the Credit Union's internal controls, managing the election process of the BOD, supervising the external audit and responding to member complaints.

Congratulations on your appointment

Justin has also moved from the Guam Department of Education and is now with Guam Waterworks Authority's accounting division.





TO SEND US OUR INFO

Member Mondays



SHORT QUOTE ON WHAT AGA MEANS TO YOU AND BE FEATURED ON OUR SOCIAL MEDIA &/OR NEWSLETTER.





CONGRATULATIONS GUAM CHAPTER!

on the following awards

FOR PROGRAM YEAR 2020-2021

To view the PDT 2021 Awards Program Booklet, click here.

Under PILAR PANGELINAN'S role as PRESIDENT, she, along with the support of the CEC, the members of the Guam Chapter, and the chapter's partners and community members, the Guam Chapter was able to meet its goal in obtaining Platinum recognition.

Achievements in Chapter Excellence (ACE) Awards

The ACE program is designed to support, encourage and promote AGA's mission and to provide flexible guidelines for a well-rounded chapter. Award levels are based on the number of points earned during the year. Each chapter is listed with their 2020–2021 chapter president.

PLATINUM (4,400-5,500 points)

Guam Chapter Pilar Pangelinan Trenton Chapter
Jessica Lippincott

Virginia Peninsula Chapter



Chapter Communications Award

The chapter communications program is evaluated using a holistic strategy, analyzing the quality and effort made to utilize newsletters, the chapter website, and social media platforms.

GROUP B (150-299 members)

Guam Chapter

COMMUNICATIONS - NEWSLETTER:
DEBBIE NGATA

COMMUNICATIONS - WEBSITE:

CLARIZA MAE G. ROQUE

MARIELLA CRUZ

What stands out in your communication with your members?

Our webpage has a wealth of information about our chapter. It shows past, current and future events that our chapter has accomplished.

Our social media accounts on Facebook and Instagram, has increased our visibility and our latest events recognizing local CGFMs has garnered us even more followers.

Our newsletter this program year has been consistently prepared each month. We regularly send it out the same week as our weekly membership meeting reminders. Our newsletter has a local flair as it showcases beautiful images from Guam. Our regular features include our Member Highlights, President's Letter, Upcoming Meetings and Events and CGFM Corner. Our immediate past president, Debbie Ngata has done a tremendous job with our newsletter.

Our communication director, Clariza Roque, is an invaluable asset as she is responsible for our website, emails, and our social media accounts. She shares job openings and chapter matters on a timely basis with the membership. We also have Mariella Cruz (a recent University of Guam graduate and former Junior Accountants Society Member) assisting with the creation of artwork. We are very pleased with the teamwork demonstrated by our communications committee.

GUÅHAN GASETA

Chapter CGFM Award

This award recognizes AGA chapters for outstanding promotion of the CGFM program to members, government financial management professionals and their communities.

Chapters with 150–299 members GUAM CHAPTER

This chapter encourages members to pursue the CGFM designation through scholarships to cover registration and exam fees, study groups, mentoring programs, and outreach to government professionals and students. The chapter reaches out to financial-related professionals in the government of Guam with reminders that Guam Public Law 33-18 provides a 10% salary increase as incentive pay to earn the CGFM designation.

CERTIFICATION DIRECTORS: MARIPAZ N. PEREZ MERCEDES F. POLIARCO

ACCOUNTABILITY DIRECTOR: DR. DOREEN T. CRISOSTOMO

Chapter Accountability and Transparency Award

This award recognizes chapters for outstanding promotion of AGA's accountability and transparency programs to members and the government financial community, particularly AGA's Citizen-Centric Reporting initiative to promote clear and concise communications between governments and their citizens through four-page publications called CCRs.

Chapters with 150–299 members GUAM CHAPTER

This chapter continues to promote the CCR as a valuable tool, offer trainings on CCR development, and acknowledge agencies that have prepared CCRs. Chapter leaders sought recognition of AGA and their chapter through a legislative resolution and an executive proclamation to honor the organization and its mission to advance government accountability. "Future accountants" share in the mission by taking part as judges in the CCR award decisions and through other accountability projects.

Chapter Community Service Award

This award recognizes chapters that demonstrate outstanding commitment to community service.

Chapters with 150–299 members GUAM CHAPTER

In keeping with their Hafa Adai spirit, this chapter continues to contribute to the profession on their island. To celebrate their 50th anniversary, the chapter challenged its members to give back to the community through 50 minutes of community service. Activities in this "50 for 50" event included a beach and village clean-up, preparing care packages for the homeless and thank you notes for veterans, tutoring, presenting at a career day, and assisting at an animal shelter and a recycling program.

COMMUNITY SERVICE DIRECTORS: MARGIE FRANCISCO VANESSA D. VALENCIA



CGFM CORNER

The AGA GUAM CHAPTER supports its members with their CGFM godies

The AGA Guam Chapter Certification Committee has various initiatives to promote the CGFM designation. This includes the following:

- CGFM Scholarship Reimbursement,
- CGFM Review Exam Questions Scholarship Reimbursement,
- Study Guides Loan Program,
- CGFM E-Book Study Guides Scholarship Reimbursement, and
- CGFM Mentorship Program

For more information, visit our website and view the section on CGFM Initiatives (or click Here).

You may also review our updated SOP-3: CGFM Certification Programs, Testing, and Reimbursement Scholarships on the Chapter By-Laws section (or click **Here**).

For more support as you start your CGFM journey, contact the Certification Director to be added to the **CGFM chat group/mailing list**. There, you will get news on when the next Coffee Klatch will be, get advice from other CGFM candidates, as well as encouragement from CGFM members.

GPO PORT OF MOCHA I JUL 25. 2021



The Certification Committee held the first **Coffee Klatch** meeting for the Program Year on Saturday, July 25, 2021, at the Port of Mocha (GPO). Virtual access was also provided for interested members.

The Coffee Klatches are held to provide future CGFM Test Takers information on the CGFM Exam, provide support and encouragement, and to provide any assistance or support on the exam registration and preparation for our members.

To find out about the next meeting, contact our Certification Committee Directors to be added to the CGFM Chat Group and/or Mailing List.

MEET A CGFM



PASSED THE CGFM EXAM IN APRIL 2021 MICHAEL S. MORENO, CGFM

CHIEF FISCAL OFFICER PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICE CORPORATION **MEMBER SINCE OCTOBER 2017**

Let's get to know a little bit about Michael S. Moreno, Chief Fiscal Officer at Public Defender Service Corporation and AGA member since October 2017, who passed the CFFM Exam in April 2021.

He shared a bit about why he sought the CGFM designation and how he passed the exams.

Thank you, Michael, for sharing!

THE WHY

After many years in the private sector's accounting environment, I started work as a government accountant about 8 years ago. The CGFM certification will add further credibility to my current skills and knowledge acquired from my previous work experiences.

THE HOW

CGFM learned about the designation through AGA.

THE JOURNEY

I had originally applied in 2018, but due to personal and medical reasons. it took an extended time beyond the expiration of my first eligibility period, to pass all three exams.

THE CHALLENGES

The biggest challenge was trying to decide whether to leave my "comfort zone" and go to the next level. My lifepartner's encouragement was all that I needed.

ADVICE FOR FUTURE CGFMs

Become a member of AGA and use the resources provided to assist you in getting started on your path to certification. A formal education can give you only a certain amount of insight and knowledge in the scheme of governmental accounting, and acquiring the certification is the first of many steps in enhancing your career aoals.

Why be a CGFM?

The Certified Government Financial Manager® (CGFM®) credential exemplifies experience and proficiency, distinguishing individuals who have made a significant commitment to their professional development. A CGFM

Increased knowledge of government financial management: CGFMs must pass three rigorous examinations, covering key topics including federal, state and local accounting and reporting; financial management functions; performance measurement: internal controls and auditing.

Better understanding of the big picture of government: CGFMs recognize how the different components of government financial management fit together, and they understand their role in the process.

Greater confidence on the job: The CGFM certification is directly applicable to the everyday duties of government financial professionals, at every level. It can help a new employee hit the ground running, while enhancing the performance of existing employees.

ACCOUNTABILITY NEWS

Public Law 30-127

With the enactment of Public Law 30-127, An Act Relative to Adopting the Association of Government Accountants' "Citizen-Centric Report" Initiative, CCRs are mandated by law to be completed by each government of Guam entity no later than sixty (60) calendar days after the independent audit report for a government entity has been released by the Guam Office of Public Accountability.

Furthermore, Title 1 Guam Code Annotated Chapter 19 §1922(a), every director, administrator, president, or head of a Government of Guam agency, including line agencies, autonomous and semi-autonomous agencies, public corporations, the Guam Mayors' Council, the Courts of the Judiciary of Guam and the Guam Leaislature shall submit an annual Citizen-Centric Report: (1) via .pdf email attachment; (2) to the Public Auditor of Guam and the Speaker of the Guam Legislature; (3) no later than 60 calendar days after the release of the entity's independent audit report; and (4) to be posted on the entity's website.

Friendly reminder for **agencies that are under the GovGuam audit**, your CCR is due on July 31st. However, since July 31st is a Saturday, it is highly recommended that you submit your CCRs to OPA and the Legislature, and upload it on your website by **Friday**, **July 30**, **2021**.

Guam Chapter Best CCR Contest

To recognize the outstanding CCRs that meet the design elements cited in Public Law 30-127. CCRs meeting the three requirements before their CCR due date: 1) posted on their website; 2) posted on the OPA's website; and 3) sent to the Guam Legislature will be automatically entered in the AGA Guam Chapter contest and the winning CCR will be presented.

2019's Best CCR Winners were the Port Authority of Guam, Guam Visitor's Bureau, and the Judiciary of Guam.



AGA National Certificate of Excellence

For consideration of the National Certificate of Excellence in CCR, email a copy of your agency's CCR to ccr@agacgfm.org, and a team will review and provide constructive feedback on ways to make your report more informative and meaningful. Additionally, AGA National recognizes well designed and informative CCRs with an AGA Certificate of Excellence.

For more information on the **Certificate of Excellence in CCR**, click **here** to access AGA National's guidance.

LINKS AND RESOURCES



AGA members enjoy multiple free learning opportunities throughout the year. Members-only webinars are 75-minutes long and offer 1.5 CPEs. Click Free Members-Only Webinars for more information.



September Members Only Webinar

Maintaining Professional Ethics in a Culture of Oversharing September 2 | 2:00-3:15 PM ET | 1.5 CPEs | FOS: PD



The June Members-Only Webinar is reported to be one of the best of its kind. Access the archived recording of this and other past free webinars or Tech Thursday Presentations here as part of your member benefits.







AGA National is starting a new member-get-amember recruitment campaign: Everyone Get One! For the 2021-2022 Membership Year, their target is to recruit 2,022 new members by April 30, 2022.

In case you didn't know, top recruiters get a special award from AGA National during the PDT Awards. For PDT21, Top Recruiters that were acknowledged recruited a minimum of 4 new members each. If you would like more information on recruiting for the Guam Chapter, contact any of the Membership Directors.

Like the Guam Chapter, AGA National is under YouTube new leadership. The AGA Passing the Gavel 2022 to our new President Gerry Boaz was played during the 2021 PDT. We had the honor of having Gerry as one of our speakers in our 2021 GPDC conference. Click here to view the video.

STUDENT CONNECTIONS



Congratulations to **Jamie Masangkay**, who was awarded a **\$3,000 Academic Undergraduate Scholarship** for full-time studies from **AGA National**. We asked Jaime how she went about applying for the scholarship and if she could provide an excerpt from her essay submission. She shared the following:

The Junior Accountants Society (JAS) sends email notifications to its members about possible academic and career opportunities, and these include job openings as well as scholarships. I find it to be an extremely valuable experience to join student organizations such as JAS, as this is how I came to learn about the scholarship.

The essay prompted us to answer: What does accountability in government mean to me? An excerpt of my response is as follows:

Accountability is essential in government as it acts as an incentive for authoritative bodies to act in the public's interests and in turn foster general welfare. The relationship between the power that leaders have in a community, the consequences of their actions have on that community, and the effects of their actions on their authority and credibility are the core elements of accountability.

As an authoritative body, governments are given the power to make decisions for the public, and consequences are an inevitable effect of acting on decisions. With a low degree of accountability, a government that is not liable for the consequences of their actions are less inclined to make decisions that will minimize the negative consequences, simply because it is not their responsibility. Similarly, those who do not face consequences for their actions are less inclined to assume ownership of it and are therefore more inclined to make decisions without considering the possibility of their decisions being at the expense of others.

[...] I will actively contribute as a member of my community through voicing my opinions to provide feedback to my government's performance, because although it is the government's responsibility to regulate their community, it is also the community's responsibility to ensure that they are exercising their need for an accountable government.

To find out more about the Scholarship, click <u>here</u>. Submissions for the 2022 Scholarships are due by **April 17, 2022**.

CONTACT US

OFFICERS

President

Maripaz N. Perez, CGFM, CGAP, CICA, CIA, CFE

President-Elect

Josie G. Villanueva, MBA, CPA, CGMA, CGFM, CSAF, SHRM-CP, PMP

Treasurer

Llewelyn R. Terlaje, CGFM, CGAP, CFE

Treasurer-Elect

Justin B. Castro, CFE

Secretary

Joy V. Bulatao, CGFM

Immediate Past President

Pilar O. Pangelinan, AFC, CB

National Council of Chapters Representative

Yukari Hechanova, CGFM, CPA, CIA, CGAP, CGMA

Accountability

Doreen T. Crisostomo, Ph.D, CGFM, CFE, CICA

Awards (ACE)/Historian

Talina M. Taitano, CGFM, CPA Royelle Mae S. Carter

Budget and Finance

Fierce Louie Catoc, CPA

By-Laws and Procedures

Yukari Hechanova, CGFM, CPA, CIA, CGAP, CGMA

Certification

Josie G. Villanueva, MBA, CPA, CGMA, CGFM, CSAF, SHRM-CP, PMP Mary Grace Edrosa, PMBA, **CGFM** Odeth F. Ignacio

Communications-Website

Clariza Mae G. Roque, CGFM, CGAP, CICA Mariella Cruz

Communications-Newsletter

Debbie Ngata Mercedes F. Poliarco, CGFM

Community Service

Maraie Francisco, CPA Vanessa D. Valencia

Education

COMMITTEE DIRECTORS AND CO-DIRECTORS

Rodalyn May A. Gerardo, CGFM, CIA, CPA, CGAP, CGMA, CICA

Membership

Jose B. Guevara, III, CGFM Amacris V. Legaspi, CGFM Lawrence Jay Alcairo

Programs and Technical

Pilar O. Pangelinan, AFC, CB Pamela R. Aquiqui, CM

Research/Standards

Rizalito Gino F. Paglingayen, CPA Rahnne Joy A. Belonio

Scholarship

Lorbea P. Kim, CPA Jorizaira R. Boria

Young Professionals

Rachel F. Cubacub Christel Espiritu



AGA GUAM CHAPTER



Hagatna, Guam 96932



AGA NATIONAL



2208 Mount Vernon Avenue Alexandria, VA 22301-1314

