



Washington D.C.  
Chapter

*In partnership with the AGA Northern Virginia Chapter  
presents:*

**21<sup>st</sup> Annual AGA Washington DC Chapter  
Spring Training Event**

March 29 – 30, 2023

Virtual and Live at Marymount University – Ballston Campus

## Detailed Agenda – Wednesday, March 29

8:15am – 8:20am

### Welcome Remarks/Introduction

- **Caitlin Holmes**, AGA DC Chapter President

8:20am – 9:10am

### W101 Certain Uncertainty

- **Taka Ariga**, Chief Data Scientist, GAO
- **Teresa Hunter**, Chief Financial Officer, IRS
- **Serena Sowers**, Executive Director, Financial Services, Payments, J.P. Morgan (Moderator)

Join us for a session on "Certain Uncertainty: Using Analytics and Insights to Identify Opportunities in an Unpredictable Economic Environment". In this session, we will explore how businesses can leverage data and insights to prioritize opportunities and navigate the third consecutive year of uncertainty. Discover how analytics can serve as critical tools to objectively evaluate risks and opportunities, and how businesses can move forward with innovating. We will also examine real-world examples of disruptive innovation that emerged during the 2007-2009 global financial crisis, and how data-driven insights can help companies across industries grow amid difficult economic times. Don't miss this opportunity to learn how to use payments data and insights to make thoughtful and growth-oriented decisions that will guide your organization through uncertain times.

9:10am – 10:00am

### W102 SBR and What you Need to Know

- **Dominic Savini**, Assistant Director, FASAB
- **Debbi Thomas**, Partner, RMA Associates (Moderator)

Come learn about FASAB's training specifically addressing the SBR. This session will provide an overview of the SBR and how to read it like a Balance Sheet, as well as how to link to the Fund Balance with Treasury.

10:00am – 10:10am

### Coffee / Networking Break - Lobby

10:10am – 11:00am

### W103 Catching up with the Comptroller General

- **Gene Dodaro**, U.S. Comptroller General, GAO
- **Caitlin Holmes**, Partner, Guidehouse (Moderator)

Please join us as Gene Dodaro, Comptroller General provides a GAO update. Gene will focus his updates and discussion around the performance of cabinet-level agencies over the past fiscal year.

11:05am – 11:55pm

### W104 Emerging Issues: Climate Related Financial Risk and Financial Reporting (Executive Order 14030)

- **Robin Gilliam**, Assistant Director, FASAB
- **Candace Vahlsing**, Associate director for Climate, Energy, Environment and Science (CEES), OMB
- **Joe Thompson**, Assistant Director for Natural Resources and Environment, GAO
- **Jesse Carpenter**, Partner, Cotton, a Sikich Company (Moderator)

Subject matter experts will provide an overview of the EO 14030 on climate-related financial risk. The discussion will include an overview by OMB of climate risk in the President's Budget; research efforts by FASAB to develop climate-related financial disclosures for Federal financial reports; and GAO audits on limiting the federal government's fiscal exposure by better managing climate change risks.

12:10pm – 1:00pm

### Lunch Break – 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room

## Detailed Agenda – Wednesday, March 29

1:00pm – 1:50pm

### W105 Engaging Vendors to Expand Grants Management Marketplace

- **Andrea Sampanis**, Grants QSMO Solutions and Services Lead, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- **Joseph Hungate**, Director, RMA Associates (Moderator)

We will discuss how the Grants QSMO works across government improving the way agencies buy services and share systems. We will speak with a customer agency about how the Grants QSMO mission is offers federal awarding agencies shared IT solutions & services that empower them & grant recipients to efficiently & effectively deliver on the \$1T+ annual grants mission.

1:55pm – 2:45pm

### W106 Communication and Connection in a Hybrid Work Environment

- **Karin Dasuki**, Director, Office of Finance and Accounting, U.S. Department of Energy
- **Erika Mesen**, Director, Secretary of the Air Force Financial Management and Comptroller – Budget Systems
- **John Goodwin**, Principal, Kearney & Company (Moderator)

In a post-COVID-19 world, we have adapted to create a new work environment that enables our team members to be their most effective and productive selves. This panel examines those changes in the work environment and the resulting impacts on the way we lead.

2:45pm – 3:05pm

Coffee / Networking Break – Lobby

3:05pm – 4:45pm

### W107 Virginia Ethics – Virginia’s Regulatory Landscape for CPA’s 2023: What You Need to Know

- **Clare Levison**, VSCPA, Inspired Responsibility

In this course learn how to navigate the many different laws, regulations, and guidance that CPAs must understand and abide by while providing services to a company, agency, or the public as a licensed CPA in the Commonwealth of Virginia. This course contains the foundation of what you need to know to maintain your license and make sound decisions while practicing everyday.

4:45pm – 4:50pm

Closing Remarks

4:50pm – 6:30pm

Evening Networking Reception – Lobby

## Detailed Agenda – Thursday, March 30

8:15am – 8:20am

### Welcome Remarks/Introduction

- **Brittany Hopwood**, Senior Manager, KPMG; AGA DC Conference Director

8:20am – 9:10am

### T101 SFFAS 54 is upon us: Are you audit ready?

- **R. Alan Perry**, Senior Analyst, FASAB
- **Christi Dewhirst**, Senior Financial Management Analyst, PBS Financial Operations Division, GSA, Office of the Chief Financial Officer
- **Cara Greene**, Vice President and Controller, United States Postal Service
- **Melissa Sizemore**, Partner, Cotton & Company (Moderator)

Successful implementation of the new accounting standards promulgated by FASAB, FASB, and GASB has required organizations to make changes to their accounting and reporting of leases, processes, internal controls, systems and resources. This panel of experts will discuss best practices, strategies, lessons learned, and technologies and tools used for successful implementation of the new lease standards and how to align these practices to ensure a successful audit result.

9:15am – 10:05am

### T102 Planning, Programming, Budgeting, and Execution (PPBE) Reform

- **Rich Brady**, Chief Executive Officer, American Society of Military Comptrollers (ASMC)
- **Tom Harker**, ASMC PPBE Reform Task Force
- **George Kovatch**, ASMC PPBE Reform Task Force
- **Victoria Leone**, Managing Director, KPMG

The 2022 National Defense Authorization Act established a commission to review and make recommendations on reforming the DoD PPBE system for the first time in 60 years. Hear from subject matter experts about what the PPBE system is, why it's ready for reform, how professional organizations are helping to shape the discussion, and the current status of reforms.

10:05am – 10:25am

### Coffee / Networking Break – Lobby

10:25am – 11:15am

### T103 Combating Systemic Fraud with Preventative Approaches

- **Scott Gaines**, Payment Integrity Managing Director, AmeriCorps
- **Tammie Johnson**, Acting Manager, Do Not Pay Agency Outreach at Bureau of the Fiscal Service
- **Cory Baumhardt**, ERM and Internal Controls Manager, Department of Transportation
- **Taylor Larimore**, Senior Manager, Forensic & Integrity Services, EY (Moderator)

In March 2023, the White House released its sweeping Pandemic Anti-Fraud Proposal, which committed significant resources to addressing systemic fraud in government programs. One of the key elements of the White House proposal was a major investment in fraud prevention. This session will explore leading practices for fraud prevention from agencies on the front lines of dealing with this major threat to the financial and reputational security of our government programs.

11:20am – 12:10pm

### T104 ESG: Integrating Payment Integrity Data for Better Decisions

- **Joe Pika**, Director, Division of Payment Integrity Improvement at U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- **S. Benita Turner**, Senior Risk Management and Compliance Officer/ Office of Inspector General Liaison, Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services
- **Caroline Berk**, Principal, Kearney & Company, (Moderator)

Having the ability to translate, integrate and curate payment integrity data effectively enhances its usefulness and better supports management decision-making and oversight at all levels. Representatives will share their experience capturing and using payment integrity data. Hear about recent trends, lessons learned, and opportunities for using payment integrity data to strengthen programs and gain insights on what has worked in leading agencies.

12:10pm – 1:00pm

### Lunch Break – 9<sup>th</sup> Floor CGI Conference Center

## Detailed Agenda – Thursday, March 30

1:00pm – 1:50pm

### T105 Creating Compelling Financial and Audit Reports

- **Kathleen Cooper**, Director of Communications, Office of the Washington State Auditor
- **Evangeline Labador**, Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary for Financial Reporting, Department of Veterans Affairs
- **Paul Marshall**, Vice President, MIL Corporation (Moderator)

In this session, we learn how to make reports more interesting to stakeholders with compelling visualizations and impactful storytelling. The Washington State Auditor's Office will share how they use online report summaries, a journalistic style and immersive visualizations to speak to their readers. The Department of Veteran's Affairs will share their journey to add visualizations and storytelling techniques to their CEAR Award Winning Annual Financial Reports.

1:55pm – 2:45pm

### T106 Innovation through financial ecosystems

- **Dorothy Aronson**, Chief Information Officer, National Science Foundation
- **Erica Gaddy**, Deputy CFO, Small Business Administration
- **Hyesi Jun**, Executive Director, Treasury and Working Capital Advisory Payments, J.P. Morgan (Moderator)

In this session, we will discuss the importance of innovation through ecosystems and how it can benefit the public sector. By creating end-to-end customer journeys and expanding across industries, businesses can attract new business opportunities and use financial services to elevate their ecosystems. The potential for a \$70 trillion network economy by 2030 across at least a dozen sectors is significant, and businesses can use payments to support their ecosystems in various ways, especially through embedded banking. We will explore the opportunities in the public sector and discuss how trusted and established financial institutions can help identify the best ways to create seamless and frictionless payment experiences within these ecosystems

2:45pm – 3:05pm

Coffee / Networking Break – *Lobby*

3:05pm – 3:55pm

### T107 Treasury Bank Mentor Protégé Program (TBMPP)

- **Yvette Downs**, Director, Banking Policy and Oversight, US Department of the Treasury Bureau of the Fiscal Service
- **Shurlon Thompson**, President, Vitalizing Business Solutions
- **Tom Gihl**, Executive Vice President & Chief Revenue Officer, Illinois National Bank
- **Brian Feehely**, Senior Vice President, Manager – PNC Federal Services

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) have been a hallmark of the Biden Administration, starting with E.O. 13985 Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government and executed on President Biden's very first day in office. The U.S. Department of Treasury has always provided programs and offices to reinforce equity within the workforce as well as services and activities and the Bureau of Fiscal Service (Fiscal Service) has provided programs designed to further the goal of engaging with diverse communities and mitigating barriers to access opportunities with the Fiscal Service. In addition to utilizing existing small business vehicles available under the procurement regulations, Fiscal Service manages two programs to recognize and promote the important role played by minority-owned and women-owned banks, and small banks and financial institutions (FIs) in the nation's economy and financial system: the Minority Bank Deposit Program (MBDP) established in 1969 and the Treasury Bank Mentor-Protégé Program (TBMPP), established in 2018.

4:00pm – 4:50pm

### T108: How to shape finance and accounting roles of the future

- **Carol Cribbs**, Acting Deputy CFO, US Citizenship and Immigration Services
- **Jay Hurt**, Partner, Guidehouse Federal, former CFO of Federal Student Aid, Department of Education
- **Mike Wetklow**, Deputy CFO and Division Director for Financial Management, NSF
- **John Hooley**, Vice President, Federal Financial Services, MIL Corporation (Moderator)

In this session, we will discuss the current and future labor environment for accounting, auditing, and other federal financial management skill sets. Given the ever-changing landscape of federal finance with the advent of new technology and increasing challenges in finding trained and experienced skill sets in accounting, auditing, and finance, leaders in the federal CFO community will discuss what they are seeing from their executive perspective and how agencies are addressing workforce challenges from a leadership, strategy, and tactical viewpoint.

4:50pm – 4:55pm

### Closing Remarks

- **Caitlin Holmes**, AGA DC Chapter President

# Biographies

## **Taka Ariga**

Taka Ariga is GAO's first Chief Data Scientist and Director of the Innovation Lab. As an integral part of the Science, Technology Assessment, and Analytics team, he will help GAO develop and implement advanced analytical capabilities for its auditing practices. Prior to joining GAO, he held executive positions at Deloitte, Ernst & Young, and Booz Allen Hamilton, where he worked with audit, compliance, legal, and regulated entities.

Taka earned a bachelor's degree in computer engineering from Johns Hopkins University. He is natively fluent in both Japanese and Mandarin Chinese. In his spare time, Taka is a serious amateur classical chamber musician (performing on cello throughout the Washington DC region), as well as a competitive tennis player.

## **Dorothy Aronson**

Ms. Aronson serves as the Chief Information Officer and Chief Data Officer for the National Science Foundation. As an innovative and gifted creative thinker, strategist, and artist, Ms. Aronson is highly skilled at linking mission and strategy to IT and Data tools, which enables the Foundation to manage the full lifecycle of proposals and awards. She acts as the executive thought leader defining NSF's data strategy and roadmap. Ms. Aronson also serves as NSF's Senior Agency Official for Privacy, the senior executive with agency-wide responsibility and accountability for the Foundation's privacy program. Ms. Aronson has a strong interest in innovating for the workforce of the future through technology and serves as a Chair of the CIO Council's Workforce Committee. Ms. Aronson is currently focused on improving data literacy throughout the government and serves as the Federal Sponsor for the Federal-wide data science and analytics training pilot.

Ms. Aronson was recognized as one of FedScoop's Best Bosses in Federal IT 2019-2022, Top Women in Technology for 2018, and, was recognized in 2013 as one of the FCW Fed 100 for her mastery of innovation and for her ability to effectively engage her staff around a common vision for cutting-edge IT in support of NSF-funded cutting-edge research. Prior to her time at NSF, Ms. Aronson served as the Director for the Office of Management Operations for the Defense Advanced Research Project Agency. She holds a Business degree from Duke University and is committed to lifelong learning.

## **Cory Baumhardt**

Cory Baumhardt is the Improper Payments Manager for the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT). He is responsible for coordinating DOT's Improper Payments, Enterprise Risk Management, and Fraud Risk Management initiatives. Prior to joining DOT, Mr. Baumhardt served as an auditor at the National Institutes of Health investigating allegations of fraud, waste, and abuse and the Defense Finance and Accounting Service performing payment recapture audits. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Accounting and Master of Business Administration in Assurance Risk Management from Indiana University.

## **Caroline Berk**

Caroline Berk is a Principal at Kearney & Company and serves as the Project Manager for the HHS's Assistant Secretary for Financial Resource's Response Coordination and Data Integration Team, an organization established in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. A graduate of Louisiana State University (LSU), Caroline is a Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) and has supported defense and civilian agencies with environmental liabilities, audit readiness, and payment integrity efforts. Caroline specializes in integrating and implementing technology solutions that provide strategic value to Government stakeholders.

## **Rich Brady**

Rich Brady, CDFM, CGFM, CMA, is CEO of the American Society of Military Comptrollers (ASMC). ASMC is a global organization representing more than 14,000 finance and accounting professionals in the public and private sectors of the defense/aerospace industry.

Rich joined ASMC after serving 32 years in the U.S. Marine Corps, retiring as a Colonel in 2021. In his time in the Marine Corps, he served in a variety of command and staff positions throughout the United States and overseas, including a combat tour in Iraq, multiple tours in the Pentagon, and as an accredited diplomat in the country of Georgia. As a financial management officer, he served as the Commander/Director of the Marine Corps Financial Management School and as the G8/CFO of Marine Corps Installations Command. His last assignment was as the Commander of the United States Military Entrance Processing Command (USMEPCOM) where he was responsible for the accessions of over 250,000 men and women into all branches of the Armed Forces annually.

Rich serves on a variety of external boards, including as Chair-Elect of the Global Board of Directors of the Institute of Management Accountants, a founding member of the DC Metro Chapter of the Private Directors Association, and the Board of Advisors of GEOCASE, a Georgian think-tank.

Rich holds a Bachelor of Science in International Business from Saint Louis University, a Master of Science in Finance from the Naval Postgraduate School, and a Master of Science in Resource Strategy from the National Defense University. His military awards and decorations include two Defense Superior Service Medals, the Legion of Merit, three Defense Meritorious Service Medals, three Meritorious Service Medals, two Joint Service Commendation Medals, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, and various unit and service medals and ribbons.

## **Jesse Carpenter**

Jesse Carpenter, CPA, is a partner located in the Washington D.C. metropolitan area. He has 15 years' experience providing audit and advisory services. He currently oversees and directs audits in both the public and private sectors, including global clients with billions of dollars in annual activity operating in complex regulatory environments. He provides executive-level leadership to support his engagement teams in maintaining an unwavering commitment to quality, with a focus on adding value to client organizations. His experience includes:

Leading external audits and attestations for federal agencies, local governments, corporations and not-for-profit organizations in accordance with standards from the AICPA and Government Accountability Office (GAO).

Overseeing and directing private sector Internal Audit activities in accordance with the Institute of Internal Auditor's (IIA) International Professional Practices Framework (IPPF).

Providing advisory services related to risk management, accounting standards implementation and investments.

Jesse joined Sikich through the 2022 acquisition of Cotton & Company, a sophisticated leading organization in the local, state and federal government space.

## **Kathleen Cooper**

Kathleen Cooper is the Director of Communications for the Office of the Washington State Auditor. She leads a team of six creative, conscientious communicators who share a goal of making SAO's work easily accessible and understood by the public. Before joining SAO, Kathleen spent 18 years as an editor and reporter at newspapers across the country, including The Miami Herald and The (Tacoma) News Tribune. She is a member of the Public Relations Society of America, a human resources elder at University Place Presbyterian Church, and on-call listener for her college-age daughters and 14-year-old son. Kathleen's passion is learning about something important and complicated, then telling a compelling story.

## **Carol Cribbs**

With over 30 years' Federal Service providing executive, managerial, and subject matter expertise in Congressional committees, program/project management, funding, budgeting, and operations, Ms. Cribbs joined the Department in 2014 in the Science and Technology Directorate serving a number of positions overseeing finance, information technology, privacy, compliance assurance, human resources, facilities, and security before joining U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services in 2020. Prior to joining DHS she served for 10 years with the Senate Appropriations Committee overseeing funding and operations of various components of DHS including: the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), United States Customs and Border Protection (CBP), United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Chief Information Officer (CIO), United States Visitor and Immigrant Status Indicator Technology (US VISIT), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC), Domestic Nuclear Detection Office (DNDO), and S&T. Prior to the Appropriations Committee, she worked for the United States Department of Justice (DOJ) overseeing budget execution and formulation of various components including the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS). Additionally, she was a member of the interagency team to stand up and administer the Health Care Fraud Abuse and Control program created by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, coordinated with multiple components to implement tracking of fines, civil penalties and other collections related to health care fraud cases, and organized 5 conferences across the United States focused on Elder Care issues and health care fraud.

# Biographies

## **Karin Dasuki**

Karin is the Director of the Office of Finance and Accounting and the DFO for Headquarters at the Department of Energy. Her organization is responsible for the Department's accounting and financial operations that include financial statements, investments, loans accounting, ERM/internal controls, fraud risk management and audits with staff located in multiple physical locations. Karin attended the Federal Executive Institute's Leadership for a Democratic Society and is a member of the Senior Executive Service. She holds a graduate degree from Johns Hopkins University, is a licensed CPA in Maryland and a CGFM.

## **Christi Dewhirst**

Christi Dewhirst has worked in government finance and accounting for twenty years with the General Services Administration. She is a senior financial management analyst within the PBS Financial Operations Division of the OCFO at GSA and is widely respected as a subject matter expert in leasing. Ms. Dewhirst joined the FASAB research staff in January 2020 as a fellow, on loan to FASAB from GSA. She completed her fellowship in April 2021 and returned to her position at GSA. Ms. Dewhirst is a CGFM, member of AGA, and holds a master's degree in finance from the University of Texas at Arlington.

## **Honorable Gene L. Dodaro**

Mr. Dodaro became the eighth Comptroller General of the United States and head of the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) on December 22, 2010, when he was confirmed by the United States Senate. He was nominated by President Obama in September of 2010 from a list of candidates selected by a bipartisan, bicameral congressional commission. He had been serving as Acting Comptroller General since March of 2008. Mr. Dodaro has testified before Congress dozens of times on important national issues, including the nation's long term fiscal outlook, efforts to reduce and eliminate overlap and duplication across the federal government and GAO's "High Risk List" that focuses on specific challenges—from reducing improper payments under Medicare and Medicaid to improving the Pentagon's business practices. In addition, Mr. Dodaro continues to develop GAO's efforts to meet the needs of Congress in such areas as science, technology and cybersecurity. As Comptroller General, Mr. Dodaro helps oversee the development and issuance of hundreds of reports and testimonies each year to various committees and individual Members of Congress. These and other GAO products have led to hearings and legislation, billions of dollars in taxpayer savings, and improvements to a wide range of government programs and services.

## **Yvette Downs**

Yvette Downs joined Fiscal Service in 2020 with over 20 years of experience as a senior strategic leader, with a proven track record of sound financial guidance and excellence in planning, policy development and change management. Having served with a number of municipal government agencies around the country as CFO and Director of Finance, her experience includes leading small/diverse procurement programs and initiatives focused on low- and moderate-income customers. Ms. Downs will discuss 2 Fiscal Service DEIA related programs (MBDP and TBMP) and Treasury's commitment to their success.

## **Brian Feehely**

Mr. Feehely joined PNC Bank in November, 2010 after 28 years with JPMorgan Chase and its legacy banks; Manufacturers Hanover Trust, The First National Bank of Chicago and Bank One. Prior to joining PNC Brian was based in Manhattan and managed the Eastern Region for JPMorgan Chase comprised of 30 professionals with offices in Boston, New York, Washington DC, Atlanta and London. Clients included U.S. Federal Agencies and Fortune 500 corporations in the US and Europe.

## **Erika Gaddy**

Erika Gaddy serves as the U.S. Small Business Administration's Deputy Chief Financial Officer. She oversees and directs agency-wide accounting and financial reporting, financial statement audit, budget formulation and execution, financial analysis, and modeling and internal control activities relating to the programs and operation of the Agency. She received her appointment to the Senior Executive Service in 2021.

Before joining the SBA, Ms. Gaddy held several progressively responsible positions with the Department of the Navy. She focused on leading and guiding the execution of financial statement audit readiness and remediation activities and the OMB Circular A-123 program while serving as an advisor to Senior Leadership on financial management issues.

Ms. Gaddy also worked for Grant Thornton as a Director in the Business Consulting & Technology Advisory practice and delivered project management and technical expertise and thought leadership to federal clients in internal controls, enterprise risk management and financial statement audit remediation. She holds a Master of Business Administration degree in Finance and a Bachelor of Business Administration in Law & Business. She is a graduate of the Federal Executive Institute – Leadership for a Democratic Society program and a Certified Defense Financial Manager (CDFM).

## **Scott Gaines**

Scott is the Payment Integrity Managing Director at AmeriCorps and is responsible for improper payment reporting, Fraud policy development, and Do Not Pay coordination. Prior to joining AmeriCorps Scott was a Senior Policy Analyst in the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) where he worked on writing the Federal Investments and State by State Spending chapters of the President's budget, as well as the Treasury Monthly Statement and the Annual Joint Year End Statement on Budget Results in the Budget Review Division. Scott joined BRD after three and half years working on payment integrity issues in OMB's Office of Federal Financial Management (OFFM), where he the Lead for government-wide antifraud policies and the Department of Treasury's Do Not Pay (DNP) Business Center policy. Scott also served as the United States representative to the International Public Sector Fraud Forum (IPSFF) and led the United States Cross-Government Antifraud Working Group (FWG). Scott coordinated with GAO, CIGIE and agencies on Congressionally mandated fraud requirements and reporting.

Scott began his career by serving ten years in the United States Navy as an Intelligence Specialist. After separating from the Navy, Scott worked for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS-I&A) as a Senior Intelligence Analyst and Senior Advisor to the Deputy Undersecretary for Analysis; OMB, Office of Federal Financial Management, and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Office of Finance. Scott earned a Master's of National Security and Resource Strategy and a Certificate in Financial Management from National Defense University's Eisenhower School, a Master's in Homeland Security Policy from American Military University, and a Bachelor in Intelligence Studies. Scott has additionally studied Business Administration at George Washington University and completed a Key Executive Leadership Certificate from American University's School of Public Affairs.

## **Tom Gihl**

Employed by the Bank since June 1999, Mr. Gihl progressed from Senior Vice President to the position he now holds. Prior to joining the Bank Mr. Gihl held senior level positions at First of America Bank and National City Bank. He is a graduate of Southern Illinois University and the Stonier Graduate School of Banking. Mr. Gihl has over 40 years' experience in the banking industry.

## **Robin Gilliam**

Ms. Gilliam began her federal career in 1997 at the Census Bureau working on the audited Financial Statements. She then gained extensive knowledge in developing core financial systems at Commerce, Labor, and the Treasury Departments. While at Treasury, Ms. Gilliam was the liaison to the Joint Financial Management Improvement Program (JFMIP) and the Financial Systems Integration Office (FSIO), joining a team of agency experts to develop the federal core financial system requirements and the standard reimbursable business processes. She also led a diverse group of agencies in developing the Interagency Agreement—IAA—form to standardize reimbursable agreements across the Government. Ms. Gilliam worked closely with OMB and agencies to develop financial data standards and policies, for which she wrote and contributed to the Treasury Financial Manual. Ms. Gilliam joined FASAB in September 2013 and is the project manager on management's discussion and analysis and risk reporting, with a focus on climate impact to federal property, plant and equipment. Ms. Gilliam has a Bachelor's degree in art and psychology from Goucher College and a Certificate in Accounting from UMBC. She is a Certified Public Accountant, Project Management Professional, and is a member of the Association of Government Accountants and the Association for Federal Enterprise Risk Management.

# Biographies

## John Goodwin

As a Principal at Kearney & Company, P.C. (Kearney), John Goodwin serves as a Project Manager in support of the Department of Energy, performing internal controls, payment services, and operations support (ICPSOS) services. He is also the Deputy Program Manager in support of the Social Security Administration (SSA) Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act of 1982 (FMFIA) Internal Control Program. A graduate of Frostburg State University, John has a Master of Business Administration (MBA) and is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA), Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA), and Project Management Professional (PMP). He specializes in providing internal control, enterprise risk management (ERM), payment integrity, financial management system (FMS), and various compliance review support services to Government stakeholders.

## Cara Greene

Cara Greene was named vice president, Controller, in March 2019. She reports to the chief financial officer and executive vice president.

Greene is responsible for certifying financial filings as chief accounting officer. She is also responsible for External Reporting, Corporate Accounting, Revenue and Field Accounting, Accounting Services, International Accounting, Sarbanes Oxley (SOX) Compliance, Finance Business Solutions, Revenue Assurance and Corporate Audit and Response Management.

She began her postal career in 2016 as program manager and was responsible for external reporting. Since joining the Postal Service, Greene has been recognized numerous times for outstanding contributions, including receiving three PCES Superior Achievement Awards and two Executive Detail Awards.

Before joining the Postal Service, Greene served as senior manager at FTI Consulting in Annapolis, Maryland, where she was responsible for oversight of SOX and revenue recognition compliance. Before that, she worked with Arthur Andersen and Ernst and Young, where she managed audits, multiple audit teams and client relations. At Ernst and Young, Greene was also responsible for employee development and was an instructor of the firm's national courses.

Greene earned a bachelor's degree in accounting at York College of Pennsylvania. She is certified as a public accountant, project management professional, internal auditor and fraud examiner.

## Tom Harker

Tom Harker has 30 years of public and private sector experience in Defense and Homeland Security, most recently serving as the acting Secretary of the Navy in 2021, acting DOD CFO in 2020 and Department of the Navy CFO from 2018-2021. In these roles, he was responsible for the day-to-day business operations of the Department of the Navy (Navy and Marine Corps), managing the Pentagon's budget, and overseeing efforts to reform the military's financial processes and business systems.

Tom Harker graduated from the University of California Berkeley in 1990 and received an MBA from the University of Miami in 2000. A 20-year veteran of the U.S. Coast Guard, his career was marked by operational success including multi-ton drug seizures on the high seas. Ashore, he was assigned positions of increasing responsibility in budget, acquisition, internal controls, audit readiness and financial reporting. His leadership of the Coast Guard audit readiness and internal control program contributed to the Department of Homeland Security moving from 10 successive disclaimers to a clean audit opinion. Prior to leaving active duty, Harker served at Office of Management and Budget (OMB) where he led the Campaign to Cut Waste, updated OMB Circular A-136 and drafted government-wide financial policy.

Subsequently, Harker served as an auditor and consultant at a large public accounting firm, auditing CFO Act agencies, assisting the Joint Staff with developing and implementing an audit readiness plan, and improving the Coast Guard's accountability for property as a consultant.

Upon his return to government, Harker led the Coast Guard financial reporting, policy, property management and audit readiness efforts. His efforts enabled the Department of Homeland Security to obtain consecutive clean audit opinions. Harker was appointed to the Senior Executive Service at the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) as the Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary for Financial Policy. While in this position, he served as the Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Management at the VA, and as the Acting Deputy CFO for Accounting and Financial Management at the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

## John Hooley

John Hooley is Vice President of Federal Financial Services at MIL Corporation. He is a CPA, CGFM and PMP with 25 years of professional experience, 20 of which has been spent delivering financial management and mission-focused improvements using advances in technology such as AI for National Security clients including DHS, DOJ, and State Department. In his spare time he volunteers for the American Cancer Society, follows his son around to travel baseball tournaments, and supports the DC AGA Chapter.

## Caitlin Holmes

Ms. Holmes is a Partner in Guidehouse's Public Sector Financial Services Practice (PSFS). Guidehouse was previously PwC Public Sector and Caitlin spent 15 years at PwC working across a variety of industries and areas. In total she has over 18 years of experience providing internal controls and financial effectiveness support to both commercial and public entities. At Guidehouse Caitlin is the co-lead of the firm's Finance Optimization Competency which brings together financial management practitioners across all industries.

Ms. Holmes has served on the AGA, Washington DC Chapter Board of Directors since 2006 in multiple roles and is currently the Chapter President. In addition to her involvement with AGA, she also sits on the Board of Directors for Washington Latin Charter School in DC.

## Joseph Hungate

Joseph Hungate, CGFM, a director at RMA Associates, leads financial management and A-123 engagements, including enterprise risk management, to help government agencies improve processes and procedures. He recently retired from the Centers for Disease Control after 28 years of federal service, including positions at the departments of Housing & Urban Development, Treasury, and Commerce.

## Jay Hurt

Mr. Hurt has 31 years of financial and program management experience, from both public and private sector perspectives. Currently, as a Guidehouse Partner, Mr. Hurt serves the U.S. Department of Education and the broader Federal financial management community. For over 15 years (2003-2018), Mr. Hurt served the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Federal Student Aid (FSA) in multiple roles, including the Chief Financial Officer (CFO), Acting Chief Customer Experience Officer (CCEO), and Director of the FSA Financial Management System (FMS). For 10 of those years, he was responsible for overseeing the formulation and execution of Federal Student Aid's \$1.5 to \$2 billion Student Aid Administration budget.

## Teresa R Hunter

Teresa R. Hunter serves as the Chief Financial Officer providing executive leadership for an organization of 500+ employees. The CFO organization is the principal advisor to the IRS Commissioner and Deputy Commissioners on all financial management programs and reporting. She leads the IRS's financial management programs and oversees financial policies and programs, budget formulation, and execution of a multi-billion-dollar budget. She provides executive direction for maintenance of the IRS financial management system, preparation of audited financial statements in conformance with the CFO Act, and management of the multi-trillion-dollar revenue collected each year.

Prior to this role, Teresa served as the IRS Deputy Chief Financial Officer and principal advisor and Assistant to the Chief Financial Officer on budget, financial management, internal controls and strategic planning. Prior to joining the IRS, Teresa served as the Deputy Director, Office of Financial Management at the U.S. Department of the Interior. She previously served as the Assistant Director in the Risk Management and Assurance Division at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. She also served as Internal Control Manager in the Office of Financial Policy and Operations at the General Services Administration.

Teresa graduated summa cum laude from James Madison University and holds a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in accounting. She is a Certified Public Accountant and has six years of public sector financial management experience at KPMG LLP. With her husband John, Teresa is the proud mother of a blended family of four; twins Wesley and Paige, Aubrey, and Kendall.

# Biographies

## **Tammie Johnson**

Tammie Johnson is a Program and Management Analyst for the Treasury, Bureau of the Fiscal Service's Office of Financial Innovation and Transformation (FIT). She worked on a pilot project to seek to prevent fraud, waste & abuse at the VA. Tammie led efforts to develop the Program Integrity: The Antifraud Playbook to help agencies build or enhance their antifraud program.

## **Hyesi Jun**

Hyesi is a senior treasury advisor based in New York, focusing on comprehensive advisory & solutioning across key treasury management and transformation topics such as cash & liquidity management, working capital optimization, treasury integration – for corporates around the globe. She joined J.P. Morgan in 2013 to manage commercialization of Treasury Services solutions in Asia, based in Hong Kong. From 2014 -2016, Hyesi was based in

Bangkok providing treasury advisory coverage to ASEAN clients, and returned back to Hong Kong to expand her coverage for APAC HQ clients. In 2021, Hyesi relocated to New York as an advisor for US HQ clients and multinational corporates across various industries.

Prior to joining J.P. Morgan, Hyesi oversaw strategic initiatives within Citi's Transaction Banking business in Asia, having moved to business from Corporate Strategy.

Hyesi started her career as a strategy consultant at Deloitte Consulting, New York. Hyesi holds an MBA from Columbia University and a BSc from Stern School of Business, NYU.

Hyesi currently resides in Brooklyn, NY with her family.

## **George Kovatch**

George has over 30 years of Government service focused primarily on the Departments of Defense and Homeland Security Budget, Appropriations, Strategy, and Risk. His last Government Assignment was Deputy Comptroller for the Department of Defense where he was responsible for delivering and securing congressional support for DoD's \$700+ (now \$800+) billion annual budget.

Other Government Senior Executive positions include: Deputy Chief Management Officer/Deputy Under Secretary of the Navy; Assistant Director, Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers (FLETC) in DHS.

George served on the Senate Appropriations Committee, Subcommittee on Homeland Security.

He is a 20-year veteran of the U.S. Coast Guard. George served in several ships in positions up through Commanding Officer and was a Coast Guard Financial manager.

Originally from Massachusetts, he is a graduate of Boston College's Carroll School of Management and Columbia Business School's Executive MBA program.

## **Evangeline Labador**

Ms. Eve Labador serves as the Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary (ADAS) for Financial Reporting within VA's Office of Finance, Office of Management. In this role, Ms. Labador leads VA's financial reporting activities and manages the preparation and consolidation of the Agency Financial Report comprising the Department's financial statements with total assets and liabilities of \$134 billion and \$6.2 trillion, respectively as of FY 2022. Ms. Labador also oversees the maintenance and modification of VA's legacy core accounting system, Financial Management System, and provides standard general ledger and posting logic guidance in support of the Integrated Financial and Acquisition Management System implementation.

Before assuming the role of ADAS, Ms. Labador served as the Director for Financial Reports Service within VA's Office of Finance. Prior to joining the VA, she was the Director for Financial Control at the Department of Energy (DOE) where she managed accounting operations, most notably DOE's environmental liabilities, and produced DOE's financial statements. Ms. Labador also previously worked at the Department of Transportation and Social Security Administration.

## **Taylor Larimore**

Taylor is a senior manager with Ernst & Young LLP. He currently supports the Forensic & Integrity Services US practice and is responsible for bringing the full depth of forensic and integrity services to our US government clients.

Taylor has more than 12 years of experience focusing on program integrity and fraud prevention and detection. He specializes in helping government agencies enhance their anti-fraud programs to align with leading practices, including conducting fraud risk assessments, applying data analytics, conducting investigations, and developing and implementing enterprise-level anti-fraud strategies in complex environments.

Prior to joining EY US, Taylor spent 11 years with another global accounting and consulting firm where he led a practice focused on proactive fraud risk mitigation for government agencies.

Taylor holds a BA in Economics from Wabash College and Master of Public Affairs from Indiana University. He is an active member of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE) and Association of Government Accountants (AGA). He currently serves on the board of directors for the ACFE Washington DC Chapter as an Associate Director at Large and Membership Committee Co-Chair.

## **Victoria Leone**

Victoria is a managing director in KPMG's Federal audit practice. She has more than 16 years of experience providing financial statement and attestation services to Federal bureaus and departments.

## **Clare Levison**

Clare Levison, CPA, CGMA, is the owner of Inspired Responsibility, a consulting company dedicated to delivering continuing education via positive messages and meaningful content that inspires change. She strives to help bridge gaps in continuing professional development with inspiring programs and meaningful experiences that deliver the message – as well as the WHY behind the message – to propel professionals from good to best.

In addition to founding Inspired Responsibility, Clare spent more than 20 years in the aerospace and defense industry involved in all aspects of management, project and financial accounting, as well as government compliance. Within her extensive breadth of finance experience, she particularly enjoyed creating competitive proposal volumes, with a focus on producing compelling, compliant content and providing cost analysis and risk mitigation.

Clare is a member of the American Institute of CPAs (AICPA) and the Virginia Society of CPAs (VSCPA) and is licensed in the state of Virginia. She has served on the Board of Directors of the VSCPA and the Board of Directors of the VSCPA Educational Foundation and currently serves as a member of the AICPA Consumer Financial Education Advocates group.

For over a decade, Clare has designed and delivered learning content for CPAs, including Virginia Board of Accountancy-approved ethics courses required to be taken annually by all licensed Virginia CPAs. In addition to her passion for professional ethics, Clare is a fervent financial literacy advocate. She is the author of "Frugal Isn't Cheap: Spend Less, Save More and Live Better," and has appeared on major radio and television networks across the country discussing personal finance. She has been a contributor to numerous publications including Family Circle, Fox Business, Glamour, Kiplinger's, Redbook, The Wall Street Journal, USA Today and U.S. News & World Report.

# Biographies

## **Paul Marshall**

Paul Marshall, CPA, CGFM, CIA, CICA, PMP is a Vice President at the MIL Corporation and avid AGA member. He has worked in the government accountability world for over 20 years supporting audits, audit readiness, financial reporting, accounting operations, process improvement, software implementation, enterprise risk management and pretty much anything else you can think of. Paul has also served on AGA boards at the DC Chapter, Northern Virginia Chapter and National level and is passionate about sharing best practices in government accounting.

## **Erika Mesen**

In January of 2023, Ms. Erika Mesen Director of the Secretary of the Air Force, Financial Management and Budget, Systems Directorate, providing oversight of President's Budget and Execution System (PBES), Budget systems Information Technology Portfolio, Cyber Security needs, and providing Program Management system/enterprise development along with modifications and enhancements to existing system needs as well as functional Training, Development, Data Analytics, and Cloud Hosting.

Prior to this assignment, Ms. Mesen served as Division Chief for SAF/FMB's System Operations. She was responsible for advancing the SAF/FM Data Strategy by leading and championing the evolution SAF/FMB's data needs through collaboration with SAF/FM and DoD leaders in the use data to streamline digital transformation, and improved performance across SAF/FM enterprise.

Ms. Mesen served as Integration and Funds Control for SAF/AAR. In this capacity, she was responsible budget formulation, distribution, monitoring and of annual funding needs across the HAF and SAF 2-Ltrs at the Pentagon, \$5B Portfolio.

Ms. Mesen also served as Project Manager for Air Force District of Washington HQ (AFDW) Defense Enterprise Management System (DEAMS) Deployment across the MAJCOM and its geographically separated tenants. In that position, Ms. Mesen coordinated training and support of new system to 550+ financial management personnel, and a combined \$10B portfolio (O&M, RDT&E and Reimbursement activities).

Before joining the SAF in 2014, Ms. Mesen served many years as a contractor with DEAMS SME and Budget SME. In these positions, she was responsible for implementing DEAMS and assisting Bases with transition from Legacy Financial system GAFS-BL. Ms. Mesen also provided budget execution, cost estimating, and Acquisition expertise for Air Force Space Command (AFSPC) at Kirtland AFB, NM, in support of the funding of launch vehicles and small satellites. Ms. Mesen also supported Space and Missile Center at Los Angeles Air Force Base as a Comprehensive Cost and Requirements System Administrator, where she taught Resource Advisor and Budget Analyst the importance of understanding and capturing requirements.

Ms. Mesen joined the Air Force and the Financial Management career field in 2003. Spending most of her time in customer support, civilian pay, special actions, and retirement and separations at Dyess AFB, Dover AFB, and March ARB.

## **Ricky Alan Perry, Jr.**

Ricky Alan Perry, Jr. is a senior analyst on the technical staff of the Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board. Alan manages Board projects on lease accounting and implementation. He also serves as the staff liaison to the Accounting and Auditing Policy Committee—a permanent committee of the Board that develops and recommends implementation guidance solutions for the federal financial management community under the supervision of the Board.

Prior to joining the Board's research staff in 2019, Alan worked at the Government Accountability Office, where he managed federal financial audits, audited certain federal disaster relief and tax credit programs, and assessed government-wide payment integrity processes and strategies. While with GAO, Alan detailed with FASAB, managing the Board's tax expenditures project and supporting its education and outreach efforts.

Alan is a Certified Public Accountant licensed in the State of North Carolina and a Certified Government Financial Manager. He is an active member of the Association of Government Accountants (AGA), serving as a Board member for its Certificate of Excellence in Accountability Reporting (CEAR) program. He holds a master's degree in accounting from North Carolina State University.

In his free time, Alan plays squash, follows jam bands around the southeast and mid-Atlantic, and is an active member of his church. Alan and his wife, Erica, reside in Washington, D.C.

## **Joseph Pika**

Joseph Pika is the Director of the Division of Payment Integrity Improvement within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Office of the Assistant Secretary for Financial Resources (ASFR). Joe coordinates HHS' implementation of the Payment Integrity Information Act, the Do Not Pay initiative, and other efforts to prevent, reduce, and recapture improper payments. Joe also coordinates ASFR's GAO and OIG audits and related activities.

Prior to joining HHS, Joe worked in the Office of Management and Budget's Office of Federal Financial Management, where he was responsible for the government-wide implementation of improper payment efforts. Earlier in his career, he also worked as a management and program analyst at the U.S. Department of Education and as a congressional staffer in the U.S. Senate.

Joe holds a Master's Degree in Public Policy and a Bachelor's Degree in Government.

## **Andrea Sampanis**

Andrea Sampanis is the Solutions and Services Lead for the Grants Quality Service Management Office (QSMO). Andrea leverages her public and private sector experience in shared services and Federal financial management to work across government improving the way agencies buy services and share systems. Prior to joining HHS, she supported the Navy as the Operations and Change Management lead for implementing Navy ERP (an SAP solution) across the Naval enterprise. Prior to Navy, Andrea served as a Program Manager at GSA's Office of Shared Solutions and Performance Improvement (OSSPI) where she supported the President's Management Agenda goal for Sharing Quality Services. While at GSA, Andrea led government-wide Grants standards working groups and advised agencies on adopting shared services. Before joining public service, Andrea was a Senior Manager at Deloitte Consulting where she was the Chief of Staff for their Shared Service offering and served clients at DOD, DHS, and IRS. Andrea earned her Masters of Public Administration from George Washington University and her bachelor's from Providence College. She is a Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM), is SAP ERP certified, and has her COR Level II certification. Originally from Missouri, Andrea now lives in Northern Virginia with her husband, Peter and is a proud mother of Tristan and Isabel.

# Biographies

## **Domenic Savini**

Mr. Savini is an assistant director at the Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board (FASAB) and FASAB Chair at the National Defense University where he specializes in the area of infrastructure. He began his career with the Defense Contract Audit Agency and as a result of his accomplishments, was selected for the prestigious Director's Fellowship Program. Mr. Savini also worked for the Department of the Navy (MSC) responsible for financial management of a multibillion dollar program. He also served in several prominent positions with the Department of Housing and Urban Development (REAC) where he directed financial assessments and GAAP conversion of HUD's 3200 Public Housing Agencies. Prior to joining FASAB, Mr. Savini held the prestigious CFO position with the Smithsonian Institution's Sackler/Freer Galleries of Art. Mr. Savini is founder and chief executive of EthicQuest llc, and former Chairman of the Institute of Internal Auditor's Public Sector Advisory Council. He is a former Board member of the Association of Government Accountants (AGA) CEAR program; former member of the Government Finance Officer's Association's Special Review Committee; a Fellow with the Institute for Responsible Infrastructure Stewardship; and a long-standing member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Virginia Society of Certified Public Accountants. Mr. Savini is an adjunct professor at Rutgers University where he teaches Ethics in Government Financial Management. He has a bachelor's degree in accounting from Kean University, master's degree in general administration from Central Michigan University, and is a Certified Management Accountant (CMA) as well as a licensed Certified Public Accountant (CPA) in New Jersey and Virginia.

## **Melissa Sizemore**

Melissa Sizemore, CPA, CGFM, is a partner who specializes in providing federal financial management and financial consulting services. Melissa's expertise includes the preparation and review of financial statements in accordance with principles, standards and guidance from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), the Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board (FASAB), the Department of Treasury, and the Government Accountability Office (GAO). These standards include the Statements of Federal Financial Accounting Standards (SFFAS), the U.S. Standard General Ledger (USSGL), Treasury Closing Package, Intragovernmental reporting, and the Governmentwide Treasury Account Symbol Adjusted Trial Balance System (GTAS).

Melissa joined Sikich through the 2022 acquisition of Cotton & Company, a sophisticated leading organization in the local, state and federal government space.

Her extensive experience includes providing a wide range of financial consulting and accounting support services, such as advising and assisting clients with complex accounting and financial reporting issues, audit remediation efforts, financial management processes, accounting standard implementation, and audit concerns.

Melissa has also been recognized by George Mason University's School of Business as a Prominent Patriot and the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce as a '40 Under 40' Honoree for her professional accomplishments, scholastic achievements and community impact

## **Serena Sowers**

Serena Sowers is an Executive Director within J.P. Morgan's Corporate and Investment Bank, focused on providing treasury and innovative payments solutions to government entities. Serena has over 15 years of experience working with governments at the federal, state, and local levels to help them plan and implement strategies that enable financial stability of the public sector. Serena is passionate about building strong and resilient communities by enabling individuals, governments, and businesses to plan for and recover quickly from shocks and stressors.

## **Debbi Thomas**

Ms. Thomas is a Partner at RMA, leading the Federal audit and assurance practice. She is a CPA and CGFM with over 30 years of experience working at a variety of global audit and consulting firms. She has a broad range of financial management experience working at all Cabinet-Level Departments and smaller agencies, focusing on federal audits, audit readiness, consulting, and training services. She has exceptional knowledge of the Federal government's fiscal policies, accounting, and financial reporting requirements, internal controls, reported performance measures, and budget structure. Her role in the Federal government financial management community includes support on working group committees for FASAB, OMB, Treasury, Association of Government Accountants, American Society of Military Comptrollers, and Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency, which have directly impacted many of the auditing, accounting, and reporting requirements.

Ms. Thomas is an AICPA peer reviewer and leads RMA's AICPA peer review program. She develops and leads the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy compliant training and is the head of RMA's Department of Professional Practice, where she leads RMA methodology and technical audit and accounting interpretation, development, and implementation.

## **Joe Thompson**

Joe Thompson is an Assistant Director in GAO's Natural Resources and Environment team. He coordinates GAO's climate change work and has been at GAO for 19 years. Joe has a BS in environmental policy from the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor and a Master of Public Affairs from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Most of Joe's free time is spent playing with his 3 ½ year old daughter Audra.

## **Ms. Shurlon Thompson**

In 2016 Ms. Thompson created Vitalizing Business Solutions (VBS) to satisfy the need for women-owned Management Consulting firms. Inspired by core values of collaboration, respect, and professionalism VBS has established itself as a trusted and valued adviser to clients and strategic business partners alike.

## **S. Benita Turner**

Benita has worked with the Department of Health and Human Services for over 20 years, with the last 16 of those years spent solely with the Administration for Children and Families (ACF). Benita operates primarily in the program and payment integrity arenas for which she is responsible for coordinating ACF's compliance with the Payment Integrity Information Act of 2019 and the implementing guidance in Appendix C of OMB Circular A-123, Management's Responsibility for Enterprise Risk Management and Internal Control Requirements for Payment Integrity Improvement. Prior to taking on the responsibility for the Payment Integrity efforts, Benita conducted ACF's internal control reviews under Appendix A of OMB Circular A-123. Benita also serves as the ACF Office of Inspector General Liaison (OIG) for which she is responsible for coordinating OIG audits of funding recipients and all fraud related OIG engagements.

# Biographies

## **Candace Vahlsing**

Candace Vahlsing is Associate Director for Climate, Energy, Environment and Science (CEES) in the Office of Budget and Management. She most recently led climate, energy, environment, and natural resources policy for the Domestic and Economic Policy team on the Biden-Harris Transition. In the Obama-Biden administration, she served as a Senior Policy Advisor for Energy and Climate Change at the Domestic Policy Council, supported the National Security Council on climate matters, and earlier worked at the Council on Environmental Quality. In the 115th and 116th Congress, Candace was a Senior Advisor to U.S. Senator Michael F. Bennet and the Minority Staff Director for the U.S. Senate Finance Subcommittee for Energy, Natural Resources, and Infrastructure. Most recently, Candace was a Senior Advisor for Science and Technology Policy to the Chair of the California Air Resources Board, the agency charged with leading California's climate policy.

## **Mike Wetklow**

Mike Wetklow currently serves as NSF's Deputy CFO and Division Director for Financial Management and is focused on transforming financial management functions and workforces to include RPA, artificial intelligence, blockchain, cybersecurity, data science, and enterprise risk management. Prior to this work, he was the principal author of OMB Circular No. A-123, Management's Responsibility for Enterprise Risk Management and Internal Control. While at the Department of Homeland Security, Mike eliminated pervasive material weaknesses and obtained the agency's first financial statement opinion in FY 2011. He has led teams that have received top honors including AGA's 2020 and 2021 Innovation Challenge wins for an Improper Payments Logistic Model and the Financial Obligation Root Cause Explorer (the FORCE); and the Advanced Technology Academic Research Center's (ATARC) 2022 Emerging Technology Team Award for Workforce Innovation. He is currently upskilling in pursuit of a master's degree in data science at the University of Virginia. He holds an MPA in public sector finance and a B.S. in accounting from the University of Maryland at College Park. Mike recently started an adjunct professor position at George Mason University and serves on an accounting curriculum advisory board at Northern Virginia Community College.

## Navigation and Other Information You Need to Know

### How to Attend:

Our 21<sup>st</sup> Annual AGA DC Chapter Training will be hosted in a hybrid format:

- In person at Marymount University's Ballston Campus: 1000 N Glebe Rd, Arlington, VA 22201
- Virtually via Zoom.

### Stay Engaged and Earn CPEs:

Training participants are eligible to receive up to 16 CPE credits across a range of fields of study.

### Note the following:

- Your attendance in each session is being tracked and failure to participate will result in denial of CPE credits.
- You must attend for the entirety of each session. For in-person attendees, your badge must be scanned to track your attendance. For virtual attendees, you must participate in polling exercises throughout the session to be eligible for CPEs.

### Questions during the session:

- Registration questions: Please direct questions related to Zoom registration to [tbaker@guidehouse.com](mailto:tbaker@guidehouse.com) and [thampton@guidehouse.com](mailto:thampton@guidehouse.com)
- Technical questions: If you are experiencing technical issues joining the Zoom Event on the day of training, refer to the attendee support at this link <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us>. If you are experiencing issue after gaining access to the Zoom Event submit your questions in the chat function in Zoom.
- Content Questions for the Speaker:
  - If attending in-person: You may ask questions directly to the speaker(s) during Q&A time.
  - If attending virtually: If you have questions for the speakers during the session, please submit your question via the Questions screen in Zoom.

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