

CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2021



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President's Message Meghan Ellis

Hello Members & Friends,

Fall is officially here! I am ready for some pumpkin patches and spooky hayrides!

First off, I want to thank everyone who attended our first webinar, "Connectedness: Changing Communications Expectations in a World of Hybrid Work," of this program year that was hosted on September 8th. Our next webinar will be held on October 6th and the topic will be on Internal Controls and Improper Payments. Registration is currently open and on our website under "Training & Events." Make sure to register now because the spots may fill up quickly. In the event that you register, but are unable to attend, please send an email to agatrentoninfo@agatrenton.com.

I am so excited to announce that on Sunday, October 17th, we will be participating in the Ryan's Quest 5K/Family Walk at Mercer County Park East Picnic Area. Get your running or walking sneakers on! Visit our website to see the details on this event under "Community". If you cannot attend and would like to donate or even run a virtual 5K, you can! We have created a team called "AGA Trenton Chapter!" So please help us to raise some money for this great cause. We thank you in advance.

...continued on page 2



President's Message (continued)

Speaking of community service, we, as a board, have decided to select HomeFront as our Paul Vidunas charity again for this program year due to limited opportunities to collect donations last program year. HomeFront's mission is to end homelessness in Central New Jersey by harnessing the caring, resources, and expertise of the community. If you wish to make a cash donation directly to Paul Vidunas or wish to donate an Amazon gift card to be raffled off at our fall event, please email us at the above email address.

Our 2021 Fall Professional Development Training (PDT) planning is underway and we have some great speakers lined up! Our Fall PDT will be tentatively taking place on Wednesday, October 27th via the GoToWebinar Platform. This will give you the chance to earn 7 CPEs! Some tentative topics that have been discussed include, but not limited to, Forensic Accounting, Fiscal Survey of States, and Environmental, Social and Governance in Government. Please note, these topics are subject to change based on speaker availability. Hope you are able to attend!

Comments, questions, and concerns are always welcomed. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me or anyone on our board. We are eager to help out our members. Make sure to frequently check out our website for updated events and information. If you are not receiving our email blasts, make sure to email us to let us know. Additionally add our email to your mailing list so they are not sent to your junk/spam folder.

Hope to see you at our upcoming events!

Meghan Ellis

Trenton Chapter President

CHAPTER LEADERSHIP 2021-2022 PROGRAM YEAR

Chapter President

Meghan K. Ellis

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NJ Department of
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Nikki Farrell,
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Webmaster

Jennifer Dougherty

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CGFM/Professional Certification Margarita Stanislavskaya, CGFM, CPA Mercer County Improvement Authority

mstanislavskaya@mercercounty.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

Webinar - Mentorship Program (No CPEs)

Date: October 4, 2021 Location: Online Time: 1:00 PM

Register via www.agacgfm.org

Webinar- I nternal Control and Improper

Payments (2 CPEs) Date: October 6, 2021 Location: Online Time: 2:00-3:50 PM

Register via www.agacgfm.org

Webinar - Cybersecurity - Protecting Payments for Everyone, Everywhere

(No CPEs)

Date: October 7, 2021 Location: Online Time: 8:30 - 9:00 AM

Register via www.agacgfm.org

Webinar - Making the Right Decisions the

First Time, Transforming Your Financial

Business Systems

(No CPEs)

Date: October 14, 2021

Location: Online

Time: 8:30 - 9:00 AM

Register via www.agacgfm.org

2021 AGA Trenton's Virtual Fall Seminar

Date: October 27, 2021

Location: Online

Register via www.agacgfm.org/trenton

Webinar - CGFM Live Course:

Governmental Environment (8 CPEs) Date:

November 1, 2021 Location: Online

Time: 10:30 AM - 2:30 PM Register via www.agacgfm.org

Virtual CGFM Training

for groups or individuals

Convenient learning. AGA quality.



AGA is pleased to offer another CGFM preparation option: live, virtual CGFM courses for individual participants. Get the benefits of live training with a knowledgeable instructor and the convenience of staying at your home or office. Click above to sign up!



The program is open to AGA members only.

We all have a responsibility to leave this world better than we found it and to have a positive impact on the next generation of government leaders.

Mentoring is important, not only because of the knowledge and skills young professionals can learn from mentors, but also because mentoring provides professional socialization and personal support.

For more information, visit the AGA website.

AGA Trenton Chapter 2021 Virtual Fall Professional Development Training

Wednesday, October 27, 2021

Opening Remarks 8:00	am to 8:10am	Meghan Ellis, AGA	Trenton Chapter President
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Session 1 8:10am to 9:00am TBD

Session 2 9:10am to 10:00am TBD

Session 3 10:10am to 11:00am Kathryn Vesey White

National Association of State Budget Officers

"Overview of the Spring 2021 Fiscal Survey of States"

Session 4 11:10am to 12:00pm Melissa Dardani, CPA, CFE

MD Advisory Services "Forensic Accounting"

Lunch 12:00pm to 1:00pm

Session 5 1:00pm to 1:50pm TBD

Session 6 2:00pm to 2:50pm Chris Mangano, Ocellus Tech

Topic - TBD

Session 7 3:00pm to 3:50pm Josh Hesterman

KPMG – Infrastructure Practice

"Understanding Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) in

Government"

Closing Remarks 3:50pm to 4:00pm

Please note the schedule and speakers are subject to change.

Credits for Continuing Education: 7 credits in the subject area of "Auditing/Auditing Governmental/ Information Technology/Economics/Personal Development"

CPE's are only available to participants from NJ and PA

CPE certificates will be available via email. In the event of your early departure, the certificate will be adjusted accordingly.

AGA Trenton Chapter NJ Sponsor #20CE00023700, PA Sponsor #PX177258

2021 AGA VIRTUAL Fall Professional Development Training Registration Information

Group Registration:

- Complete a registration form for each member of the group and submit it with a list of all registrants. Include a contact name and phone number for the group.
- Each registrant's individual form should indicate the method of payment being used.
- Each registrant must sign the form.

All Other Registrants:

- Complete and fax, mail, or email the registration form; or register and pay online via PayPal at www.agacgfm.org/trenton.
- Please be sure to sign the form in the space provided.
- Pre-registration is encouraged; registration at the door costs more!

Cancellation Policy:

- If a registrant cannot attend, substitutions will be accepted.
- Cancellations will be accepted through 4:00pm on Monday October 25, 2021.
- Cancellations received after this date and no-shows will be liable for payment in full.

I agree with the above terms of the cancellation policy.

Fees:

Registration Type	Fee
Pre-Registered AGA or ASPA Members	\$55.00
Non-Members	\$110.00
Day of Event (at the door, no credit cards)	N/A
Full-Time Students	FREE

CPE Sponsor Numbers NJ: 20CE00023700 PA: PX177258

Make checks and vouchers (do not mail cash) payable to:

AGA Trenton Chapter Vendor ID #V530217158-03 DUNS# 966734985 CAGE code# 6YQD4

- Registrations must be received by **Friday October 22, 2021**
- No phone registrations will be accepted.
- Send correspondence, faxes, payment, and questions to:

AGA Fall Seminar C/O Robyn Boyer Office of the State Auditor PO Box 067 Trenton NJ, 08625-0067

Fax: (609) 633-0834 Email: rboyer@njleg.org

2021 AGA Virtual Fall PDT Registration Form

	Individual Infor	mation	Seminar Date:	
Name:			October 27, 2021 Seminar Location:	
Title:			Virtual Webinar	
Organization:			TREI	NTON CHAPTER
Mailing Address:				
			Credit for Continuing I	Education
City:	State:	Zip:	Level of Knowledge	Basic
•	J. S. W.C.		Prerequisite	None
Email:		Phone:	Advanced Preparation	None
Total Enclosed: \$			Recommended Credit	7 CPE Hours

Registration Type	Fee	Select	
AGA or ASPA Members	\$55.00		
Chapter:	\$55.00	J	
Non-Members	\$110.00		
Day of Event (at the door, no credit cards)	N/A		
Full-Time Students	FREE		

Payment Method	
NJ Check or Payment Voucher	
Personal or Company Check	

Please Join Us for our Fall Community Service Event

The AGA Trenton Chapter has decided to participate in the Ryan's Quest 5K/Family Walk on Sunday, October 17th, 2021 @ Mercer County Park East Picnic Area!

The website says that race day registration starts at 8 AM and the event starts at 9:30 AM. Times will be confirmed as the day gets closer!

Our team name is "AGA Trenton Chapter." Below is the link if you want to sign up to join our team or donate!

https://raceroster.com/events/2021/37066/ryans-quest-powers-promise-rq5/teams

Please follow the steps below if you wish to participate in the event:

- 1. Click on the link above and find our team name "AGA Trenton Chapter".
- 2. Once you find our team name, click "Join team". If you don't want to participate but want to donate, click "Donate".
- 3. It should ask you to create an account first before you are able to join our team and register.
- 4. Once you create an account, you will have to enter a code that I created to join our team. The code is Government Accountants.
- 5. After you enter the code, just follow the registration instructions that follow. You should be given the option whether you want to do the family walk, 5K, etc.

Please email agatrentoninfo@agatrenton.com if you have any questions! Thank you

E-mail Scam Alert

Messages like this have been reported by many AGA chapters in the past few days:

Hi [Board member name],

I need you to handle this as soon as possible: I need you to purchase a gift card as we have some charity donations to make today. Please let me know when you are ready for the details.

P.S: I'm busy at the moment and can't talk but will lookout for your reply.

Regards,

[Chapter President Name]

So what can we do to keep our chapters safe? The answers are simple —internal controls and website security!

Internal Controls

If you receive a suspicious email, pause and rely on your instincts and internal controls. Here are a few tips we've found, especially in this article from the Federal Trade Commission (FTC):

- Double-check the email address.
 Hover over the email address to make sure the address in the tool-tip matches the email address in the "from" field.
- 3. Forward the message to the known email address of the officer requesting payment (i.e., if they use their work email, but the message is from a personal email address, use the one you're familiar with).
- 4. Pick up the phone! Directly contact the person (e.g., an AGA chapter member) who "appears" to be requesting funding, information, etc., before quickly responding to an email — or, worse yet, opening an attachment.
- 5. Do not reply to the email address. This will confirm for the scammer that the email address is live and can result in follow-up contact.
- 6. Does the sender seem pressed for tme? Don't feel rushed simply because of an "urgent" email. A minute of caution can save thousands of dollars.
- 7. Do your own typing. If someone sends you a link or phone number, don't click. Use your favorite search engine to look up the website or phone number yourself.
- 8. Report phishing emails and texts. The aforementioned FTC article tells you how.

Website Security

Many AGA chapters have been hit by phishing scams like the one described at the beginning of this article. Sophisticated scammers use "bots" to scan public websites for email addresses, then use the addresses to contact their targets. So, leverage the web tools at your disposal to implement these safeguards:

- 1. Use links! Ensure that you link to email addresses on your website rather than writing them out, as we've done in this sentence. If you have an AGA-hosted website, refer to the "Working with Documents and Links — Link to an Email Address" section of the user guide.
- 2. Update your leadership roster settings. You can change the leadership rosters so you have options for the way you want to display them:
 - 3. Internal controls. Establish, and use, your internal controls.

In an uncertain world, be certain of what you know.

Know More.
Become More

*CGFM®

Get Your CGFM Certification!



Interested in getting your employer to recognize the AGA Certified Government Financial Manager certification? Reach out to Margarita Stanislavskaya, Trenton Chapter CGFM Chairperson, for more information.



AGA Training Scholarships, Member Recruitment and CGFM Certification

Training Scholarships

This year, AGA will award:

National Collegiate Leadership Program: AGA annually selects up to 10 full-time college students for the opportunity to attend the National Leadership Training (NLT). Deadline to apply for 2022 is TBA. Visit www.agacgfm.org for more information.

Member Recruitment

As treasured members, we can influence the future of AGA by sharing our experiences with peers, colleagues, and others in our organizations with any interest in government financial management. Membership in AGA has many benefits, including education and networking opportunities, awards and scholarship programs, discounts for training, exclusive CPE opportunities and access to our resources, such as free utilization of the CGFM Online Library. Members join a local chapter through which they gain additional networking, leadership and education experience. Start recruiting today. Provide the following information to our prospective members:

Online application via website: https://www.agacgfm.org/Membership.aspx
 E-mail - agamembers@agacgfm.org
 Telephone - (800)-AGA-7211 or (703)-684-6931

AGA Trenton Chapter's August 2021 Balance Sheet

AGA TRENTON CHAPTER AUGUST 2021

ASSETS		LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		
Cash - Savings	\$24,189.52	Accounts Payable	\$ 669.57	
Cash - Checking	\$10,401.77	Deferred Income		
Accounts Receivable				
PrePaid Expenses	\$ 18.74	Fund Balance	\$33,940.46	
TOTAL ASSETS	\$34,610.03	TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$34,610.03	

CHAPTER DIRECTORS 2021-2022 PROGRAM YEAR

President - Meghan Ellis

President Elect/VP of Education - Robert Rizzo

Immediate Past President/Nominating Committee Chair - Jessica Donoher

VP of Membership - Kiersten Kokotajlo

VP of Finance/ Administration/Programs - Stephanie Rybak

Treasurer - Michael Salberta

Secretary - Michelle Blatt

National Council of Chapters Representative - Nikki Farrell

Fall PDT/Technical Coordinator - Co-chairs: Nikki Farrell & Meghan Ellis + Fall PDT Committee

Spring PDT/Technical Coordinator - Co-chairs: Nikki Farrell & Meghan Ellis + Spring PDT

Committee

Audio Conferences - Rene Gervasoni - Backup: Michelle Blatt

Sponsorship - Guy Tassi

Chapter Recognition - Robert Rizzo and Meghan Ellis

CGFM Chairperson - Margarita Stanislavskaya

Community Service - Chris Fuccello

Awards - Stephanie Rybak

Young Professionals/Early Career - Taylor Leavy

Budget/Finance - Amanda Ireland

Newsletter - Marie Samson

Meeting Chair - Rene Gervasoni - Backup: Joseph Pica

Paul Vidunas Coordinator - Nat Jackson

Historian - Rose Todaro

By-Laws - David Kaschak

Accountability Outreach Chair - Kiersten Kokotajlo

Webmaster/Communications - Jennifer Dougherty - Backup: Nikki Farrell

AGA® TRENTON CHAPTER

Contact Us

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Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/AGATrentonNJ

LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/company/trenton-aga

Website: https://www.agacafm.org/trenton