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---FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE---

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### **AGA Announces the Election of New Board of Director Officers**

(Alexandria, Va.) AGA is pleased to announce the election of new officers to its National Governing Board (NGB). AGA's NGB confirmed Gwendolyn (Gwen) Sykes, CGFM, as national president-elect; Michael Pearson, CGFM, CPA, as national treasurer-elect; and Tony Scardino, CGFM, as director (at-large). The three leaders will serve two-year terms beginning July 1, 2022.

Sykes is the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of the U.S. Secret Service, where she began working in May 2012. A proven financial manager with expertise in organizational transformation and enhancement, she was the first African-American woman CFO at both NASA and Yale University and also served as CFO of Morehouse College. Sykes is a founding co-chair of AGA's Council for the Advancement of Women, which encourages gender diversity in AGA strategy and programming, and frequently serves as a speaker at national and local AGA events.

Pearson is chief of the Bureau of Administration at Idaho Department of Fish & Game, in charge of oversight for all administrative functions of the \$125M dedicated fund agency. Over the past three years, he played a key role in securing \$8M in municipal bonds to construct a new regional office for the department and a \$20M municipal bond to demolish and construct new departmental headquarters. Under his leadership, his team procured a new statewide licensing system that successfully went live on November 1, 2020, and negotiated savings of over \$1M for the department's budget. Pearson was a member of AGA's first NGB and past chapter president of the AGA Idaho Centennial Chapter.

Scardino is a managing principal of Grant Thornton's public sector advisory practice and leads the financial management service line to help dozens of government agencies improve financial operations. He also leads the firm's former government executives, whose experience and expertise help agencies improve mission outcomes, customer service and stewardship of taxpayer dollars. Previously, Scardino served as CFO of several entities,



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including the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the Federal Election Commission, and worked as a consultant for public sector finance operations. In AGA, Scardino serves on the Corporate Partner Advisory Group and numerous technical committees, and often speaks at AGA events. He credits his AGA experience as a major contributor to his knowledge and understanding of current financial management issues, trends and solutions.

AGA's Leadership Development Committee (LDC) matches skilled leaders to AGA needs in strategic guidance, mentoring and advice. The LDC nominated the trio after it recruited, vetted and evaluated them. For questions about AGA's nomination process, please contact Sia Sankoh at [ssankoh@agacgfm.org](mailto:ssankoh@agacgfm.org).