



Monthly Newsletter



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President’s Message



Hello Dallas Chapter!

Our Fall Professional Development Training (PDT) event is scheduled for October 29 ([sign up here](#))! This PDT is just one of several exciting collaborations we’re planning with other Chapters this year. I believe our expanded connection to other Chapters is going to greatly improve the value you receive as a member.

We recently published our [Citizen Centric Report](#) providing transparency into the Chapter’s membership, past financial results, accomplishments and plans for the future. This Chapter has served the Government Financial Management community in North Texas for over 60 years. We serve the entire Dallas / Fort Worth metroplex, so please don’t feel you can’t be 100% involved just because you don’t live or work in Dallas. And guess what? We’re not just accounting! This Chapter has active members in a variety of government finance fields in Federal, state, city and local government; academia; non-profit, and private industry. The broad reach of our Chapter is one of our biggest strengths and provides a unique value to our members.

Thanks,

John D. Rich, CGFM
AGA Dallas Chapter President

Connect with Us!



Upcoming Events

Virtual 2020 Fall PDT

Join us for our Virtual 2020 Fall PDT hosted by the Dallas, Oklahoma City, and Ozarks AGA Chapters.

Date: Thursday, October 29, 2020

Time: 8:00am-12:00n CT

Location: Virtual via GoToWebinar

CPEs: 4 CPEs

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

Prerequisite: None

Registration: [Register online via EventBrite](#)

Topics and Speakers:

- AGA 71st National President Platform: Legacy, Leadership & Transformation – Wendy Morton-Huddleston, CGFM, PMP, AGA National President and Principal, Grant Thornton LLP
- Managing in the COVID-19 Environment – Chelley Hilmes, CPA, CGGM, Director of Finance and Administration, Oklahoma Department of Transportation; John Rich, CPA, CGFM, Director of Financial Management, General Services Administration; and Riley Shaul, CPA, CGFM, Accounting Instructor, University of Central Oklahoma
- Resolving Ethical Dilemmas – Dave Cotton, CPA, CFE, CGFM, Chairman, Cotton & Company LLP; and Melinda DeCorte, CPA, CGFM, Partner, Cotton & Company

Check out our [Virtual 2020 Fall PDT](#) page for more event details and session descriptions. We look forward to "seeing" you there!

2020 Technology & Transformation Summit (TTS)



Date: November 18, 2020

Time: 9:00am-6:00pm ET

Location: Virtual

CPEs: 8 CPEs

****Free to AGA members****

AGA National Webinars

[Register Online](#)

Advancing Program Integrity: Best Practices and Use Cases (2 CPEs)

Date: October 7, 2020

Time: 2:00-3:50pm ET

Opportunities to Improve Response and Recovery Efforts (1.5 CPE)

Date: October 13, 2020

Time: 2:00-3:15pm ET

****Free to AGA members****

Becoming a Person of Influence (2 CPEs)

Date: November 4, 2020

Time: 2:00-3:50pm ET

Internal Control (2 CPEs)

Date: December 9, 2020

Time: 2:00-3:50pm ET

Increase Your Confidence, Enhance Your Career (1.5 CPEs)

Date: December 16, 2020

Time: 1:00-2:15 ET

****Free to AGA members****

Membership Spotlight

Welcome New Members!

- Ms. Elisabeth M. Pabst
- Ms. Penny N. Popps

Membership Anniversaries

- Mrs. Michelle Lea Richards, CPA – 17 years
- Ms. Leticia Pena - 11 years
- Mrs. Jasmin Campas - 1 year

The 2020-2021 program year is already underway. [Join or renew today!](#)

Meet Regina Stevenson



My name is Regina Stevenson and I am the AGA Dallas Chapter Secretary for the 2020-2021 Program Year. I'm currently a Business Consultant working in the Financial Services industry. I've worked

for Fortune 500 banks like Citigroup, USAA, Ocwen and Capital One Financial for the last 20 years. I market my skills by saying I love to “help companies mitigate regulatory scrutiny while increasing their business goals and internal controls.” My areas of specialty include risk management and audit (regulation compliance, fraud, anti-money laundering/know your customer, cybersecurity, information technology and data governance).

I have been a member of the AGA since 1995 when I started with the Central Ohio Chapter. I transferred to the Dallas Chapter around 2000. Being the Chapter Secretary is my first leadership role in the Dallas Chapter. I enjoy the collaboration, taking meeting minutes, helping others, and ensuring the Texas State Board of Public Accountancy documents are complete so that we can continue to provide continuing professional education to our members.

I joined the AGA because I wanted to obtain the CGFM certification. It was important for my professional growth and for advancement within the Ohio Department of Mental Health.

A few things people do not know about me:

- I am a member of Who's Who in Music (instrumental & vocal).
- I teach first grade Sunday school.
- I co-lead an all-women's bible study.
- I have military roots (husband and family members back to the American Revolution).
- I hold 10 active certifications:
 - Certified Government Financial Manager
 - Certified Risk Professional
 - Certified Internal Auditor
 - Certified Anti Money Laundering Specialist
 - Certified Fraud Examiner
 - Certification in Risk Management Assurance
 - Certified Internal Control Auditor
 - Certified Identity Management Professional
 - Certified Identity Governance Expert
 - Certified Identity and Security Technologist

What's next? I am looking forward to me time with my husband, Robert, at our home in Gilmer (East Texas)!

Regina Stevenson
AGA Dallas Chapter Secretary

Free Student and Professor Memberships



Do you know any students pursuing a career in government financial management? Or any accounting or finance professors?

AGA offers a FREE electronic membership to students enrolled full-time at an accredited higher education institution and not gainfully employed. [Learn more](#) about AGA Student Membership.

AGA also offers FREE electronic membership to academicians who are not current AGA members. [Contact us](#) if you would like to get enrolled.

Chapter News

AGA Dallas Adopts Updated Chapter Bylaws

The AGA Dallas Chapter members recently approved amendments to the Chapter Bylaws to conform with the AGA National Bylaws. The amended Chapter Bylaws, and related Chapter Policies and Procedures are now available on our website.

Job Opportunity: Director of Finance/Chief Financial Officer

The Kansas Turnpike Authority (KTA) is seeking a Director of Finance/CFO to provide fiscal leadership for the. [Click here](#) to learn more about this opportunity or apply for this position.

AGA Dallas Chapter Member Participates in AGA’s 2020 Internal Controls & Fraud Prevention Training Panel



Carla B. Flores, AGA Dallas Chapter Communications Director, participated in the panel titled Leverage Technology for Better Risk Management. Attendees heard how agencies can

leverage emerging technologies, including data analytics and visualization in their internal controls program.

Did you attend the Internal Controls & Fraud Prevention Training, but missed this session? Be on the lookout for the session recordings from AGA!

We are Social!

You can now connect with us in your preferred social media platform! Follow us on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#), or connect with us on [LinkedIn](#) to keep up-to-date on Chapter and AGA National news and events.



2019-2020 Citizen-Centric Report: A Report to Our Members

We are so excited to present our Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Citizen-Centric Report (CCR)! AGA's CCR initiative is intended to simplify communication between governments (or in our case, our Chapter) and their citizens (our Chapter members). AGA believes that accurate government financial information should be provided to citizens—in a simple and understandable format, updated regularly, and available to all—to help citizens better understand the services provided by their government.

Our interactive CCR summarizes our Chapter's accomplishments, membership demographics, financial information and forward look in an easy-to-read, visual format. [Access our interactive CCR.](#)

AT-A-GLANCE
ACCOMPLISHMENTS
FINANCIALS
FORWARD LOOK



A Report to Our Members

2019-2020 Fiscal Year

The AGA Dallas Chapter has served the government financial management community in North Texas for over 60 years, and continues to do so through our biannual professional development training, community service events, networking opportunities, our monthly newsletter, and more. Our members are from diverse professional and educational backgrounds, and support various organizations, including the Federal government; state, city and local government; academia; non-profit organizations; and private industry. We are also very proud to have retired and lifetime members that are still active in our Chapter.

86

active
members

29

active
CGFMs

6

new
members

As of May 31, 2020, we had 86 active members—29 of which are CGFMs—with an average membership length of 15 years. We retained 100% of our members through May 31, 2020, primarily due to AGA extending membership renewals through June 30, 2020.

Where do our members work?

37%	20%	16%	13%	3%	3%	2%	2%	2%
Federal	City	Retired	Private	Academia	State	County	Non-Profit	STU

Where are they located?



© Mapbox © OSM
** There are 16 members outside of a 50 miles radius.

What is their responsibility area?

Auditing	35%
Other	20%
Accounting	19%
Financial Mgmt.	19%
Mgmt. & Admin.	5%
Grants Mgmt.	2%
Data Analytics	1%

What is their education level?

Masters	47%
Bachelors	43%
Unknown	5%
Associates	3%
Law	1%
Doctorate	1%

** 41 of our members hold a professional certification.



We would like to hear from you on whether this report was useful to you, as well as ways we can improve our report in the future. Please make sure to complete our brief, anonymous [survey](#).



AGA National Updates

National Collegiate Leadership Program

AGA offers undergraduate students opportunities to engage with senior government leaders and learn more about careers in government financial management and supporting fields through the National Collegiate Leadership Program. Applications are due on **November 13**. [Learn more](#) about the program.

NCC Representative Corner



Dallas Chapter Members,

The National Council of Chapters (NCC) is well into our second year, having held our first meeting in late August and preparing for our second meeting in October. As the

NCC representative for the Dallas Chapter, my role is to support the Chapter in pursuit of our strategic goals. The NCC provides me the opportunity to connect with other NCC representatives across geographic boundaries, learn from and support one another, and leverage best practices employed by other Chapters to accomplish initiatives in support of our Chapter's strategic goals.

As I described in the September newsletter, a key initiative during this program year is to implement the Achievements in Chapter Excellence (ACE) program. In implementing the ACE program, the Dallas Chapter Executive Committee (CEC) prepared our strategic plan and identified our goals across categories including Membership, Education, the CGFM certification, Communications, Community Service and Strategic Vision. We submitted our plan to AGA National Office in late August and encourage our members to take a few moments to review the plan [here](#).

I am proud to announce a key accomplishment in pursuing our goals related to several categories, but specifically Education. We have partnered with the Oklahoma City and Ozarks Chapters to purchase a subscription to GoToWebinar.

Pay It Forward: Become a CGFM Mentor!

Preparing for and passing the three CGFM examinations takes effort and organization. If you recently obtained your CGFM designation, consider sharing your study tips, helpful habits, and strategies for success with a CGFM candidate. [Sign up](#) to become a mentor.

Through this subscription, we will have access to provide virtual events to our collective membership. This expands our opportunity to provide high quality CPE to our members and nonmember event attendees, while leveraging resources and speakers across all Chapters.

We also scheduled our first joint virtual event, to be held Thursday, October 29. The Dallas, Oklahoma City and Ozarks Chapters have collaborated in planning this event, to include a special panel presentation on managing in the COVID-19 environment. We are pleased to have speakers from each Chapter and across the country join us for this event, including AGA's National President, Wendy Morton-Huddleston.

Another key initiative that we are implementing, specifically related to our goals in the Strategic Vision category, is to expand our outreach to students. CEC members, in coordination with our various roles on National AGA Boards and Committees, will offer to speak to university courses on the merits of AGA and careers in government accountability. As accountability professionals, we are honored to provide our insight and share our experiences in the hopes that we can encourage students to pursue careers in government accountability.

I look forward to providing you with additional updates, including progress in achieving our strategic goals, in the November newsletter.

Melinda J. DeCorte, CGFM, CPA
AGA Dallas Chapter NCC Representative and
NGB Area 3 Chapter Director

2020-2021 Chapter Executive Committee

[John D. Rich, CGFM](#)

President

Vacant

President-Elect

[Shino Knowles](#)

Treasurer

[Regina M. Stevenson, CGFM](#)

Secretary

[Tonyan L. Geans](#)

Membership Director

[Carla B. Flores, CGFM](#)

Communications Director

Vacant

Programs Director

Vacant

Certification Director

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

Dallas NCC Representative and
NGB Area 3 Chapter Director

Volunteering with AGA is a great way to give back to the profession, and further your own career. If you would like to hear more about our volunteer opportunities for this program year, please contact [John Rich](#), AGA Dallas Chapter President.

Connect with Us!

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

 agadallasChapter@gmail.com

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

 <https://twitter.com/AGADallas>

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

Corporate Partners

Our Chapter would like to thank our corporate partners. We have partnered with these organizations to further the educational and networking opportunities we provide to our members. Click on the logos below to learn more about our Corporate Partners.

Gold Partner

BKD
CPAs & Advisors

Bronze Partner

Becker+

For information about becoming a corporate partner, please contact [Carla B. Flores](#), Communications Director.