



LEDGER

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**FGFOA President 2021-2022
Shannon Ramsey-Chessman**

Chief Deputy Clerk
Clerk of the Circuit Court &
Comptroller
Palm Beach County

A Note from Our President

Happy November FGFOA members! With the holiday season right around the corner, I want to take a moment to wish you early Happy Holidays. It is my sincere hope that each of you has the opportunity to celebrate with friends and family in person this year. I think we all have a new appreciation for being together after the challenges COVID-19 has presented over the past 18 months.

In what we hope will be a return to in-person events, the FGFOA was finally able to meet in person for the first time since 2019 at the School of Governmental Finance in Daytona Beach. Over the course of the 5-day school, the FGFOA welcomed:

- 231 attendees
- 75 new attendees
- 44 exhibit hall vendors

- 30 Bootcamp attendees
- 54 CGFO exam candidates

On behalf of the Board, I want to thank all of the attendees and vendors for making the SOGF a huge success! It was great seeing everyone.

Looking ahead, the Board of Directors and I are hopeful that additional in- person events will be possible in 2022 including:

- Leadership FGFOA
- CGFO review sessions and testing
- Boot Camp
- Annual Conference

While face-to-face events are important for member networking, we also understand the value of virtual options for continuing education. In addition to monthly webinars, the presentations from SOGF are available on the FGFOA website for those who couldn't attend or want to revisit the information and the Board is continuing to explore expanded options for CGFO review courses and testing.

As your professional resource, I encourage you to "lean in" and make the most of every opportunity the FGFOA has to offer.

Thank you again for the opportunity to serve as your president. It is truly an honor to represent you!

Shannon

Member Spotlight



NICOLE GASPARRI

Director of Strategic Management and Professional Development

Clerk of the Circuit Court & Comptroller, Palm Beach County

This Member Spotlight is on Nicole Gasparri for her 27 years' service to the City of Boca. Nicole Gasparri has also served FGFOA in various roles including Director, Committee Chair, and member for 15 years.

Nicole is an active participant on many levels in the organization and we have been fortunate to have her as a frequent speaker at the School of

Governmental Finance and Annual Conferences each year. Nicole's most recent accomplishments include graduating from John Maxwell Leadership, Coaching,

Speaking, & Training Development Program. We appreciate Nicole and thank her for her valuable contributions to FGFOA

Don't Miss FGFOA Webinars - Renew Now!



Don't Miss FGFOA Webinars - Renew Now!

A benefit of being a member of FGFOA is that all educational webinars we provide are free!! If you have not renewed, then you will miss out on these upcoming webinars. [CLICK HERE](#) to renew now!

Our Fiscal year runs July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022.

Upcoming Webinar Schedule

- 11/18/2021 American Rescue Plans Act (ARPA) - TB
- 12/16/2021 Human Resources Recruitment Tips And Tricks - TB
- 01/20/2022 Capital Assets - TB
- 02/17/2022 ACFR 101 - AA
- 03/17/2022 GASB 87 And 96 - AA
- 04/21/2022 Legislative Update - TB
- 05/19/2022 Debt 101 - AA
- 07/21/2022 Cybersecurity - TB
- 08/18/2022 Internal Controls And Fraud Prevention - TB
- 09/22/2022 Grant Administration - TB

Committee Chair Report



Certification Committee

Jeremy Baker
CGFO Certification Committee Chair
Grant & Capital Analyst
Palm Beach County Palm Tran

The Committee reviewed 18 applications with 17 approvals and 1 denial (lack of experience in government).

There are 54 candidates registered for a total of 151 exams on October 22nd.

All 5 exams are being given at the School of Governmental Finance and there are currently 13 proctors for the exams on Friday.

[Click here](#) for the full committee report.



Conference Host Committee

Sharon Almeida, CGFO
Conference Host Committee Chair
Assistant Controller
Village of Wellington

The committee's strategic goal was to review the roles of the FGFOA staff and the committee to determine if the Conference Host committee should be a subcommittee of the Conference Program committee.

After my discussion with the FGFOA staff, committee members and board liaison, it was determined that the committee has the following constant roles each year:

- Providing suggestions for a welcome gift
- Organizing volunteers for the Tuesday Night event

[Click here](#) for the full committee report.



Conference Program Committee

Nicole Jovanovski, CPA
Conference Program Committee Chair
Director of Finance
Sarasota County

Since the last meeting, the Conference Program Committee has been hard at work developing the proposed 2022 program session topics. The sub-committees brainstormed session topics and ranked them. For each track, the top session topics are attached in the attached matrix, with optional session topics, as well. The Committee will continue to develop session descriptions and identify speakers once direction is provided by the Board.

[Click here](#) for the full committee report.



Legislative Committee

Stephen Timberlake
Legislative Committee Chair
Special Projects Manager
Boca Raton

The Legislative Committee's activity is on pause until we draw closer to the Legislative Session in January. The Committee's first meeting is scheduled to occur in November.

Key Session Dates for 2022:

- October 11-22, 2020 – Tentative Committee Meetings

- January 11, 2022 – Regular Session convenes - 12:00 noon, deadline for filing bills for introduction
- February 26, 2022 – Motion to reconsider made and considered the same day. All bills are immediately certified.
- March 1, 2022 50th day – last day for regularly scheduled committee meetings
- March 11, 2022 60th day – last day of Regular Session

[Click here](#) for the full committee report.



Member and Leadership Development Committee

Lorrie A. Arevalo, MBA/PA, MSA, CGFO
Member and Leadership Development Committee Chair
Fiscal Analyst
Hillsborough County

During last year the Committee revamped the Mentor program to provide more structure to the program, while also facilitating a place for the mentor and mentee to meet and share information. This agenda item is to provide the schedule and topics for the upcoming program year.

[Click here](#) for the full committee report.



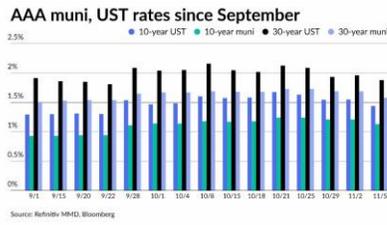
Technical Resources Committee

Ryan Bernal, CPA, CIA, CGFO
Technical Resources Committee
Division Manager/Controller
Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office

- Finished updating the *Basic Government Resource Manual*. Submitted for approval at the October Board meeting.
- Continued to monitor the landscape of government finance for changes to bring to the members' attention:
 - i. Have worked with Jill Walker and the League to disseminate e-bulletins regarding notices of authoritative updates and participation invitations:
 - a. "New GASB Fact Sheet on Note Disclosures"

[Click here](#) for the full committee report.

Industry News & Updates



Munis rally following strong jobs data

Municipals were part of a wider fixed income market rally on Friday as high-grade yields were lower by as much as six basis points on the long end, buoyed by the stronger-than-expected October jobs data and upward revisions to nonfarm payrolls numbers for September and August.

[Click here](#) to read the full article.



House Passes 'Long Overdue' Infrastructure Package

President Biden and local government leaders hailed Congress' approval of the \$1.2 trillion infrastructure bill, which will provide funding for roads, bridges, transit, broadband and water projects across the country.

[Click here](#) to read the full article.



Public pension Bitcoin investment spurs questions about risk

In the wake of the recent announcement that a public pension plan invested \$25 million in digital assets, some industry analysts believe that high levels of exposure to volatile cryptocurrency could be cause for concern.

[Click here](#) to read the full article.



Is Bitcoin a Viable Option for Paying Government Salaries?

Miami Mayor Francis Suarez and New York Mayor-elect Eric Adams claim that both cities are set to become cryptocurrency innovation hubs. To prove it, they plan to accept their next paychecks in Bitcoin.

[Click here](#) to read the full article.



House passes \$1 trillion bipartisan infrastructure bill that includes transport, broadband and utility funding, sends it to Biden

The House passed a more than \$1 trillion bipartisan infrastructure bill late Friday, sending it to President Joe Biden's desk in a critical step toward enacting sprawling Democratic economic plans.

[Click here](#) to read the full article.

Upcoming Events: Save the Dates!



Training and Events

Upcoming Webinars

[Click here](#) for a full listing of webinar dates and titles.

CGFO Review and Testing Dates

[Click here](#) for more information on the CGFO program.

Government Finance Professionals Week

March 14-18, 2022

[Click here](#) for more information.

