



AGA National Web Site
www.agacgfm.org

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT MEETING

January 20, 2010
Wednesday

Topic: Service Efforts and
Accomplishments and
Citizen Centric Reporting

Speaker:

Lynda Flores Brouchoud
City Auditor, Palo Alto

Time: 10:30 AM - 1:00 PM

2-hour CPE credit

Meeting Place:

Pedro's Restaurant
3935 Freedom Circle
Santa Clara, CA 95054
(408) 496-6777
(off Freeway 101 & Great
America)

See page 13 to register

www.agasiliconvalley.org

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Chapter Newsletter

Advancing Government Accountability

VOLUME XXXVII, ISSUE 3

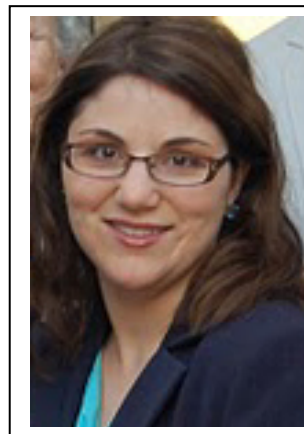
January 2010

The Value of Service Efforts and Accomplishments and Citizen Centric Reporting

At this month's professional development meeting, our invited speaker, **Lynda Flores Brouchoud**, will present a topic on Service Efforts and Accomplishments (SEA) and Citizen Centric Reporting.

About the speaker

Lynda Flores Brouchoud is the City Auditor for the City of Palo Alto. She joined Palo Alto in 2008, after ten years with the City of San Jose. As Palo Alto's City Auditor, Lynda is responsible for independ-



ently assessing and evaluating City programs for performance, efficiency and effectiveness. For eight years, Palo Alto City Auditor's Office has also published the citywide annual Service Efforts and Accomplishments Report, providing detailed information on the cost, performance, and resident satisfaction across a broad array of city services.

In 2009, AGA named Palo Alto the first city to receive the *Circle of Excellence Award for its SEA Reporting*. In 2009, AGA also awarded Palo Alto the *Gold Award for SEA Reporting*.

Lynda holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from UC Berkeley's Haas School of Business and a Master in Public Policy degree from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government.

Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB)

GASB has provided state and local governments with voluntary guidance and a set of criteria that will assist them in effectively communicating SEA performance information to users. Such guidance will assist governments in their duty to be publicly accountable and in providing users with information to make informed economic, social and political decisions.

On July 31, 2008, GASB issued a Request for Response on Suggested Guidelines for Voluntary Reporting of SEA Performance Information. GASB will review preballot draft of final document in the month of February 2010 and in March 2010, GASB will issue final document.

(Continue to page 2)

The Value of Service Efforts and Accomplishments and Citizen

(Continued from page 2)

In today's local government climate, government programs are under increased scrutiny to demonstrate their value. Come and learn how conducting a Service Efforts and Accomplishments Report can provide useful information for your local government such as, "How much does this program cost?", "How are we doing compared to other jurisdictions" and "What do our residents think of our services?"

Lynda will cover the following:

- Why do a Service Efforts and Accomplishments (SEA) report? What is it?
- GASB suggested guidelines and background
- Value of integrating cost, performance, and customer data
- Conducting a National Citizen Survey in your local jurisdiction
- Example of Palo Alto 's report format, structure, and information
- How can information in the SEA report be used to help inform decisions?
- How can it communicate strengths and weaknesses?
- Ideas for utilizing AGA's guidelines to design a short Citizen-Centric Report to communicate your government's financial condition and performance.

In today's local government climate, government programs are under increased scrutiny to demonstrate their value. Come and learn how conducting a Service Efforts and Accomplishments Report can provide useful information for your local government such as, "How much does this program cost?", "How are we doing compared to other jurisdictions" and "What do our residents think of our services?"

Renew Your Membership Online Today

As we approach the 2010-2011 AGA membership year, the Association asks you to take part in our effort to go "green" by renewing your membership online. Why not renew now? Your membership dues must be received by March 31, 2010. Paying now eliminates the need for us to send you reminder notices—saving paper and trees. Renewing online is as easy as logging on to the Members Only section of the website at www.agacgfm.org. Your AGA ID number is the same as your membership ID and your password is your first initial immediately followed by your last name (no spaces), unless you have changed it.

Renew now to take advantage of all the great benefits that come with your AGA membership:

- Access to information on Members Only pages at www.agacgfm.org
- Discounts and savings on conferences
- Low-cost Continuing Professional Education in formats convenient to you
- AGA's quarterly *Journal of Government Financial Management*
- E-newsletters *TOPICS* and *AGA Today*
- Networking and leadership opportunities

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Grace S. Ragni, CGFM, CPA, CISA, CIA



The holidays have always been fun and invigorating. I am pleased to have celebrated the holidays with the AGA family in a dinner attended by the board members and their spouses. While there was merry making, the gathering was also productive as strategies were discussed to improve membership, and professional development meeting attendance. The ingenious ideas shared during the occasion not only came from the board members, but from the spouses as well. We truly appreciate their support.

This year, we plan on improving awareness, membership, and organizational involvement. Few logistics changes are under discussion such as the venue of the monthly meetings. The officers have also opted to hold the "social hour" in May. This event will honor existing members whom we believe are vital in reaching out to potential members. Partnership with other professional organizations and various alternatives for community service are also being considered.

As I look around our neighborhood, I am a bit saddened as the holiday decorations are put down. Most of the hanging ornamental lights are off and the snowmen remain deflated on the ground. Although these insinuate the official end of the holiday festivities, we continuously look forward to and are hopeful for the coming year filled with much prosperity and joy. On behalf of the AGA family, I wish everyone a happy and peaceful new year.

At last month's audio conference, we heard from **William (Billy) Morehead**, AGA National President, and gained a better understanding of the challenges facing our workplace regarding the impact of fraud and corruption.

For this year, we have lined up topics and speakers, which may interest you to attend. For this month, we have invited **Lynda Flores Brouchoud**, Palo Alto's City Auditor, who will speak on GASB's Service Efforts and Accomplishments and Citizen Centric Reporting. **Byron McGinley**, a Resident Agent in Charge for US Defense Criminal Investigative Service will talk on Recovery (Stimulus) Act – Fraud and Investigation, while **Arn Andrews**, a Treasury Division Manager for the City of San Jose, will talk on Cash Management & Investing Public Funds.

Thank you for your sponsorship



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Governmental Environment	May 5, 2010	August 18, 2010
Governmental Financial Management and Control	May 6-7, 2010	August 19- 20, 2010
Governmental Accounting, Financial Reporting and Budgeting	May 10-12, 2010	August 23-25, 2010

Register Today!

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From the Editor

Members are encouraged to send news articles for our Newsletter - *The Working Papers*. We also want to know what you are doing (i.e. promotion, new job, community service, etc.). Email your article(s) by the first day of the month to the Editor, Alex Guiang, at AGASiliconVal@sbcglobal.net.

Call for 2010 National Academic Scholarships

Are you or a family member pursuing undergraduate or graduate studies in disciplines such as accounting, auditing, budgeting, economics, finance, information technology, public administration, etc.? If so, consider applying for an AGA National Academic Scholarship today! Each year, AGA National awards up to four \$3,000 full-time merit scholarships to AGA members and their family members; up to one \$1,000 part-time merit scholarships to AGA members and their family members; and up to one \$3,000 community service scholarship. The **deadline for receipt of applications is Wednesday, March 31, 2010**. [Download a copy of the application](#) or contact [Louise Kapelewski](#)



November 20, 2009

Now That The Audit Is Over, The Hard Work Begins!

By: Andrew Lewis, CGFM, CPA

Andrew Lewis is a senior manager with KPMG LLP's government audit practice and a Fellow of the KPMG Government Institute. In addition, Andrew is president-elect of the Montgomery/Prince George's Counties professor in the Masters of Accountancy program at The George Washington

University.

For those involved in federal financial reporting, you've just recently or will soon complete your agency's FY 2009 financial statement audit. And for those who perform state and local government financial reporting, your agency's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) audit and Single Audit are already in full swing or nearing completion. While many might think that the hard part is getting through the audit, they may find that the hardest part is after it is completed, when corrective actions need to be adopted.

Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular No. A-50, *Audit Follow-up*, provides guidance to federal employees as they're resolving findings and implementing corrective action for most audits. Key steps for implementing corrective action required by this Circular include:

Establishing a System for Audit Follow-up: Agencies "shall establish systems to assure the prompt and proper resolution and implementation of audit recommendations. These systems shall provide for a complete record of action taken on both monetary and non-monetary findings and recommendations." (Section 5)

Involving Senior Leadership of the Agency: Agencies should designate "a top management official to oversee audit follow-up, including resolution and corrective action" and assure "that management officials throughout the agency understand the value of the audit process and are responsive to audit recommendations." (Section 7.a)

Implementing Prompt Resolution: Agencies shall "require prompt resolution and corrective actions on audit recommendations. Resolution shall be made within a maximum of six months . . ." (Section 8.a.2)

Looking for Trends in Audit Findings: Agencies shall "provide for periodic analysis of audit recommendations, resolution and corrective action, to determine trends and system-wide problems, and to recommend solutions." (Section 8.a.9)

Holding People Accountable: Agencies shall "assure that performance appraisals of appropriate officials reflect effectiveness in resolving and implementing audit recommendations." (Section 8.a.10)

Beyond the guidance in OMB Circular No. A-50, I would make several other recommendations:

Hold the Process Owners Accountable: Agencies should evaluate whether they're holding the process owners responsible for implementing the corrective action. For example, I've seen several instances in which the accountants designate themselves as the officials responsible for resolving the audit findings even though they don't have the knowledge, authority or experience to resolve the issue. They are really serving as the liaison with the process owners, who are the only ones

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The AGA Weblog

(Continued from page 7)

that can resolve the problem. Agencies should be sure to hold the process owners directly accountable for implementing corrective action.

Meet Frequently: Frequent meetings with all of the people involved in implementing corrective actions keeps momentum going and helps ensure the right resources are focused on meeting deadlines in the agency's corrective action plan.

Factor In Time For Training: Sometimes agencies adopt a policy change to address a corrective action without factoring in the time it takes to train all the personnel involved in carrying out the new policy. Unfortunately, this can mean that the actual implementation of a corrective action occurs long after the policy change has been adopted. It's better to factor in training time at the start.

Brief the Auditors Periodically: Agencies should consider holding a forum with the auditors to explain how the agency is implementing changes to respond to the auditor's recommendations. This would give the auditors an opportunity to explain their recommendations more fully—especially if the agency has interpreted a recommendation that differs from the auditors' intent.

Monitor the Effectiveness of Corrective Action Through the Agency's OMB Circular No. A-123 Process: OMB Circular No. A-123, *Management's Responsibility for Internal Controls*, requires testing and monitoring of the operating effectiveness of the agency's key controls. This testing and monitoring effort provides an excellent opportunity for the agency to determine whether the corrective action has been properly implemented and has effectively addressed the weakness.

Questions for Discussion: What other techniques do you use in your agency or have you witnessed that are effective in resolving audit findings? What are additional elements of a corrective action plan that you find effective?

KPMG LLP, the audit, tax and advisory firm (www.us.kpmg.com), is the U.S. member firm of KPMG International. KPMG International's member firms have 137,000 professionals, including more than 7,600 partners, in 144 countries.

This views in this essay are those of the author only, and do not necessarily represent the views or professional advice of KPMG LLP.

Active AGA Member Warren Walch Passes Away

AGA Orange County Chapter member **Warren Walch, CGFM**, 54, died on September 3, 2009 from injuries sustained in an automobile accident. An active AGA member since 1990, he was an Orange County Chapter officer, a Regional Vice President where he covered AGA Silicon Valley Chapter and served on AGA's National Executive Committee as a Senior Vice President from Section 3. He received AGA National President's Awards in 1998, 1999 and 2003. A resident of Rosamond, CA, he was employed by the Defense Contract Audit Agency. He leaves his wife, Dr. Veronica Walsh, of Rosamond, and his parents, Oscar and Bernice Walch of Provo, UT.

AGA Silicon Valley Chapter extends heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family.



December 14, 2009

From “Good to Great” and from “Great to Demise”—The Blog That Is!

By: William A. Morehead, Ph.D., CGFM, CPA

William A. Morehead, Ph.D., CGFM, CPA, is Chair of Accountancy, CIS & Finance, Delta State University; AGA National President, AGA Past National Treasurer and Member, AGA National Executive Committee

AGA began a formal weblog, commonly called a “blog,” almost two years ago as part of our service to our members. The blog has been a wonderful forum and communication tool. It has provided a great opportunity for many of our members to discuss the latest information in our profession and “express themselves” regarding numerous issues in government financial management.

The creation of the blog took “good” communication strategies of AGA to “great.” Along the way over the past two years, we have witnessed the evolution and explosion of social media including LinkedIn, MySpace, Facebook, and Twitter—each of which has changed the way we communicate with each other. Each of these social networks have also begun to consume some folks as many consistently check their personal e-mail and Facebook accounts during the day on office computers.

I have seen studies where some organizations have encouraged their employees to become involved in and use these media to enhance relationships with customers, suppliers, employees and others interested in conducting business with the entity. However, many businesses believe such communication tools actually steal time away from the work employees are supposed to be conducting.

Because of this, a number of organizations, including the federal government and many state and local governments, have blocked access to blogs, personal e-mail accounts and social media websites. Add to this factor that many of us who work in the government do not wish to exposit online for fear our comments will be considered or construed as an “official” opinion of our governmental entity.

As a result, the traffic on and interest in the AGA blog has dwindled over the past few months. Recently, the National Executive Committee (NEC) decided to suspend the blog. What went from “good” to “great” has now met its “demise.” On limited occasions such as the Professional Development Conference, National Leadership Conference and Internal Control & Fraud Conference, AGA will bring the blog back to keep interested parties informed of the latest events and speakers at the conferences.

We will end the blog this Friday, Dec. 18, the same way we began with an essay from AGA Past National President Jeffrey Steinhoff, CGFM, CPA, CFE. Thank you to all the bloggers who shared their thoughts with AGA readers over the last two years and to those who made reading the AGA blog part of their daily routine. Communications is ever evolving! The “demise” of one communication tool will see the “rise” of another. Stay tuned to see what’s next!

“Think Big! Act Courageously! Make a Difference!”

To read the past AGAWeblog articles, visit - <http://aga.typepad.com/>



AGA NLC Early Registration Deadline is Quickly Approaching. If you've already registered for AGA's National Leadership Conference (NLC), we look forward to seeing you. You've made a smart investment in yourself and your organization. But if you have not yet registered don't worry... there's still time. Discounts apply to all registration forms received on or before **January 22, 2010**. Register online - <https://members.agacgfm.org/source/security/member-logon.cfm?origin=meetings> - and save even more!

In today's challenging economic times, now more than ever, government financial managers and accountability professionals must stay abreast of the latest developments, policies and issues affecting our citizens, and continually enhance their skills. Staying up to date on new regulations, while maintaining a clear vision of government transformation, can be accomplished through the best training.

Join us to hear from high-level government officials and industry experts, and get the latest information on issues that impact you. The NLC features an impressive lineup of speakers including:

- Martin J. Benison, CGFM, Comptroller, Commonwealth of Massachusetts
- Chris Bertram, Chief Financial Officer, U.S. Department of Transportation
- Kenneth M. Donohue, Inspector General, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
- Peter Franchot, Comptroller, State of Maryland
- Adam Goldberg, Chief, Financial Analysis and Systems, U.S. Office of Management and Budget (Invited)
- Robert Hale, MBA, CDFM, Undersecretary of Defense (Comptroller) and Chief Financial Officer, U.S. Department of Defense
- Dennis J. Hoffman, Director, Office of Program Analysis and Evaluation, U.S. Department of Energy
- Yvonne Jones, CPA, Director, Strategic Issues, U.S. Government Accountability Office
- Shelley H. Metzenbaum, Ph.D., Associate Director of Performance and Personnel Management, U.S. Office of Management and Budget
- J. Christopher Mihm, Associate Director, Federal Management and Workforce Issues, U.S. Government Accountability Office
- Clark Partridge, CGFM, State Comptroller, Administration Department, State of Arizona
- Scott D. Pattison, Executive Director, National Association of State Budget Officers
- Elizabeth M. Robinson, Ph.D., Chief Financial Officer, National Aeronautical and Space Administration
- Daniel Tangherlini, Assistant Secretary for Management, Chief Financial Officer and Chief Performance Officer, U.S. Department of the Treasury
- Robert J. Tuccillo, Associate Administrator of Budget and Policy, Chief Financial Officer, Federal Highway Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation
- Doug W. Webster, DBA, CGFM, Deputy Director, Business Transformation Agency, U.S. Department of Defense
- Daniel I. Werfel, Controller, Office of Federal Financial Management, U.S. Office of Management and Budget
- Tony West, Assistant Attorney General, Civil Division, U.S. Department of Justice
-

In addition to an outstanding technical program, AGA's NLC is packed with opportunities to network, make professional connections, exchange ideas and learn from your colleagues.

GASB NEWS RELEASE

GASB ISSUES FINAL STATEMENTS ON OPEB MEASUREMENTS AND CHAPTER 9 BANKRUPTCIES

Norwalk, CT, December 31, 2009—The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) today issued Statement No. 57, *OPEB Measurements by Agent Employers and Agent Multiple-Employer Plans* and Statement No. 58, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Chapter 9 Bankruptcies*. The Statements are intended to improve consistency in the measurement and financial reporting of other postemployment benefits (OPEB) such as retiree health insurance, and of the effects of municipal bankruptcy.

Statement 57 addresses issues related to measurement of OPEB obligations by certain employers participating in agent multiple-employer OPEB plans. (In agent multiple-employer plans, separate liabilities are calculated and separate asset accounts are kept for each participating government, rather than being administered and accounted for as a single plan as is done in a cost-sharing plan.) Statement 57 amends Statement No. 43, *Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans*, and Statement No. 45, *Accounting and Financial Reporting by Employers for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions*. Specifically, Statement 57:

- Enables certain agent employers to use the alternative measurement method, a less complex and potentially less expensive alternative to a full actuarial valuation
- Adjusts the requirement that a defined benefit OPEB plan obtain an actuarial valuation, in light of the change allowing more qualifying employers to use the alternative measurement method
- Clarifies that the same frequency and timing of determining OPEB measures are required for both agent multiple-employer plans and their participating employers.

Statement 58 provides guidance for governments that have petitioned for protection from creditors by filing for bankruptcy under Chapter 9 of the United States Bankruptcy Code. It establishes requirements for recognizing and measuring the effects of the bankruptcy process on assets and liabilities, and for classifying changes in those items and related costs.

“The stress that the current economic environment is putting on state and local government resources and the lack of existing financial reporting guidance made it necessary for the GASB to address the financial reporting issues associated with qualified local governments that file for bankruptcy protection under Chapter 9,” said Robert Attmore, chairman of the GASB.

The provisions of Statement 57 related to the use and reporting of the alternative measurement method are effective immediately. The provisions related to the frequency and timing of measurements are effective for actuarial valuations first used to report funded status information in OPEB plan financial statements for periods beginning after June 15, 2011. Statement 58 is effective for periods beginning after June 15, 2009. Retroactive application is required for all prior periods presented during which a government was in bankruptcy. Earlier application of both Statements is encouraged.

For information on obtaining Statements 57 and 58, log on to <http://gasbpubs.stores.yahoo.net/publications-statements-of-standards.html>.

Minutes of Chapter Executive Board Meeting

Place: President's Residence
December 19, 2009
7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Board presents: Grace S. Ragni, Gary Epstein, Linda Hildebrant, Kris DeLisle and Alex Guiang

Chapter President Grace Ragni and husband Victor Ragni hosted a Board Holiday Dinner Meeting at their residence. While everyone was having a dinner, Grace opened an informal board meeting.



The discussions included the following Agenda:

1. Meeting Place – Due to minimum 15 attendees and the associated costs that Biltmore Hotel requires our chapter to pay, the Board agreed to explore other venues to hold the monthly professional development meeting. Another option is to go back to Pedro's Restaurant where the chapter in the past years held the meetings, as there is no minimum required attendees, plus the cost is lower.
2. Chapter Leadership Succession - Although it's only on the 2nd half of AGA Program Year, this topic was brought up to plan for next year. The Board agreed to encourage chapter members to consider being nominated to fill the leadership positions specially the president and president-elect. Nomination to fill next year's chapter executive board will be published in our chapter newsletter beginning April 2010.
3. Topics and Speakers – the Board agreed to continually find speakers and good topics for the monthly professional development meetings. It was agreed that every board member will help in this endeavor.
4. AGA Sectional Leadership Meeting (SLM) – Grace mentioned that she sent invitation to four board officers to attend the SLM in Kansas City, Missouri on May 14 & 15, 2010. AGA will cover all reasonable expenses associated with the travel to Kansas City, including hotel accommodations, parking, mileage reimbursement and taxi fare.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM with everyone thanking Victor and Grace for hosting the Chapter Board Holiday Dinner Meeting. The Board also appreciated the ideas shared by the spouses who were present during the agenda discussion. The Board truly appreciates their support to the chapter.

JOBS

Controller - City of Alameda, Application Deadline: 2/04/2010, \$120,016 - \$145,860 Annually

Finance Manager - Livermore Area Recreation and Park District, Application Deadline: 2/05/2010, \$74,460-\$90,804 Annually

Federal Jobs, visit <http://www.usajobs.gov/>



Dream. Learn. Achieve... And Get Ready for AGA PDC 2010

Mark your calendar and make plans now to join us in sunny Orlando, Florida for AGA's 59th Annual Professional Development Conference & Exposition--*the* premier education and networking event for government financial managers and accountability professionals.

Worth 24 CPE hours, the conference covers the latest research and information about the American Recovery Act, the constantly changing rules and standards, new management techniques, technological advances and practical tips for bringing greater efficiency to government operations. The PDC offers a comprehensive program, captivating speakers, lively discussions, top-quality education sessions, and equips you with knowledge and skills you need to be more effective leader.

While the PDC has long been respected for offering the best training in the profession, it also offers a number of networking events to help you make new contacts, exchange ideas and collaboratively work on solutions to common problems. Exhibitors are also available to demonstrate the newest products, tools and cutting-edge technology available to help your agency achieve its mission.

Registration fees are \$800 for AGA members and \$1,000 for nonmembers until June 11, 2010. Early registration saves you money and increases your chances of obtaining accommodations at the conference hotel.

- [Register Online Now](http://www.agacgfm.org) – www.agacgfm.org
- [Print Registration Form](#)

Hotel Accommodations: We reserved a block of rooms at the Orlando World Center Marriott to accommodate PDC attendees. The rate is \$108 per night (plus tax) until **June 18, 2010**, or until the room block is sold out. Reservations *received after June 18, or after the room block has been filled, will only be made on a space-available basis, and may be subject to significantly higher rates.*

- To make a reservation, please call the Marriott at 800.621.0638 and mention the "AGA PDC" to receive the discounted rate. You can also [reserve a room online](#).

Information about the agenda, speakers, travel discounts and tours is coming soon. [Stay tuned to the website](#) for more information...See you in Orlando!

Chapter Membership Drive

If you are not a member of AGA yet, you can sign-in as new member at the April 2009 Professional Development Meeting or when you register to attend the meeting. You will then receive a \$20 or 21% discount on your membership dues. Once you sign-in as new member, you are entitled to pay the member's meeting registration rate, which is additional \$15 saving. Overall, you will save \$35.

In five meetings you will recoup your membership dues by paying only the member's registration fee. Take advantage of this March Membership Drive. This is a good deal! See application form and member's benefits list, which are included in this Newsletter, and send an email to AGASiliconVal@sbcglobal.net.

CGFM EXAMINATIONS SAMPLE QUESTIONS



Subject: Governmental Environment Examination

1. According to the AGA Code of Ethics, a government agency contract manager using a vendor as a personal reference would constitute
 - (A) fraud.
 - (B) professional incompetence.
 - (C) a conflict of interest.
 - (D) nepotism.
2. A government agency's mission statement should include
 - (A) services and accomplishments.
 - (B) organizational structure and hierarchy.
 - (C) major functions and goals.
 - (D) performance measures and reports.
3. One way in which federal and state governments influence local governments is by
 - (A) providing block grants.
 - (B) issuing ordinances.
 - (C) authorizing debt.
 - (D) setting budget authority.
4. A method used to assess accountability of state agencies includes
 - (A) a bond rating review.
 - (B) program evaluation.
 - (C) judicial review.
 - (D) an ordinance compliance audit.
5. A discretionary grant is characterized by a
 - (A) transfer of funds based upon a formula.
 - (B) transfer of funds for broadly-defined purposes.
 - (C) transfer of funds for specific purposes.
 - (D) voluntary contribution that confers no rights nor benefits to the giver.
6. A formal estimate of the resources a government or government unit plans to expend in a given period is a
 - (A) PAR.
 - (B) CAFR.
 - (C) budget.
 - (D) cost benefit analysis.
7. Under the AGA Code of Ethics, which of the following activities require employer approval?
 - (A) completing tax returns for remuneration
 - (B) making deposits for a church
 - (C) serving as treasurer for a professional organization
 - (D) quoting tax regulations as advice for a friend
8. Debt refunding proceeds would be reported as
 - (A) a revenue.
 - (B) a liability.
 - (C) an other financial use on the operating statement.
 - (D) an other financing source on the operating statement.
9. A program accountability study can be used to determine all of the following EXCEPT
 - (A) the extent to which a program has been correctly implemented.
 - (B) whether program funds are being expended properly.
 - (C) whether the program is reaching its intended goal.
 - (D) if budgets were allocated equitably.

See page 13 for answers

**Upcoming Chapter Professional Development Meetings
Mark your Calendar!**

February 17, 2009 - American Recovery and Reinvestment Act - Fraud and Investigation, Byron McGinley Resident Agent in Charge, US Defense Criminal Investigative Service

March 17, 2009 - Cash and investing Public Funds, Arn Andrews, Treasury Division Manager, City of San Jose

April 20, 2009 (tentative date) - AGA Northern California One Day Conference on Yellow Book, GAAS/GAS Updates & ARRA

May 5, 2010 - AGA Social Event

**Planning to attend the
January 20, 2010
Professional Development Meeting**

Topic: The Value of Service Efforts & Accomplishments and Citizen Centric Reporting

Make reservation by contacting:

Bill Brown, <mailto:william.brown@vta.org>
(408) 321-5648

Gary Epstein, <mailto:gary.epstein@vta.org>
(408) 321-5683

Remi Thomas, <mailto:remegia.thomas@vta.org>
(408) 952-4125

Cost:

AGA Member/Student/Retiree, \$25
Non AGA member, \$40

To cancel registration, please provide 24-hour notice to any of the contact persons above or you will be billed for a "no show".

**AGA Silicon Valley Chapter
Treasurer's Report
December 31, 2009**

Cash In Bank – November 30, 2009 \$ 3,072

Sources:
Professional Development Meeting 155

Uses:
Meeting expenditures (301)

Cash In Bank – December 31, 2009 \$ 2,926

**CGFM Sample Questionnaire
Answers**

1: C, 2: C, 3: A, 4: B, 5: C, 6: C, 7: A, 8: D, 9: D

Community Service

We invite you to join the Chapter Board in rendering community service at St Joseph Church by feeding the homeless.

If interested, send email to Chapter President Grace S. Ragni at grace.salandanan@vta.org



10 Great Reasons to Join AGA

10. Keep up with the Latest Issues

In today's busy society, everyone knows it is harder than ever to keep up with the latest issues—to know who's doing what, and how. One way you can have regular access to the latest information—and build your professional network at the same time—is by attending AGA's NASBA-certified seminars, conferences and local chapter events. It is the best opportunity you have to keep on keeping up...and as a member, you're assured of hearing about all of the conferences and meetings well in advance. Another way is by receiving AGA publications, which are all easily accessible to members on the AGA website and are also e-mailed right to your desktop.

9. Stop Reinventing the Wheel

AGA is the *ONLY* professional association that boasts a membership across *ALL* levels of government—local, state and federal. Plus, AGA also has members who work for tribal governments, academic institutions and private sector organizations. The greatest benefit AGA makes available to you is access to this powerful network of professionals. With a membership at 15,000, you can talk with peers, find solutions to current issues and seek advice, all within minutes!

8. Stay Abreast of the Latest Technologies and Financial Systems

Everywhere we turn, technology is affecting our lives. Whether we're online buying a gift, making vacation plans or keeping in contact with friends and relatives, technology and the Internet are key to how we get things done in today's fast-paced environment. Turn to AGA Corporate Partner organizations to keep up with the latest and greatest in technology and software applications. Private-sector organizations bring a wealth of intellectual knowledge and industry viewpoints to AGA members. White Papers and survey data give members a better understanding of how technology can be applied toward solving everyday business problems and issues.

7. Save Money For You and Your Employer

It's true—your AGA membership can help you and your employer save money. Your membership in AGA entitles you to significant savings on registration fees for conferences, workshops and courses, as well as AGA periodicals and training materials. So you can keep current—without breaking the bank.

6. Make New Friends and Important Professional Contacts

A true professional knows the value of good contacts. Your local AGA Chapter puts you in contact with other accountability professionals in your area. You'll get the chance to participate in social events, business meetings and educational seminars with other professionals who understand your concerns. Your AGA membership means you're part of a tremendous nationwide network.

"As a small business owner providing services to the government, AGA membership provides me excellent continuing education and networking opportunities."

Flora Milans,
CGFM, CPA
President, RoundUp
Accounting
AGA Member Since 1995

"Membership has its advantages. More than you may realize like leadership, travel, meeting great people, and helping to make a difference in our accountability profession. It is more than CPE. Many professional associations offer CPE, but AGA gives you that plus insight and networking opportunities that are unparalleled."

Nauri D. Ahmed, CGFM, CPA
Commonwealth of Virginia, AGA Member Since 1996



*Advancing
Government
Accountability*

Association
of Government
Accountants

2208 Mount Vernon Avenue
Alexandria, VA 22301

PH 703.684.6931
TF 800.AGA.7211
FX 703.548.9367

www.agacgfm.org
agamembers@agacgfm.org



5. Be Represented by an Industry Leader

AGA has been serving accountability professionals since 1950. Just as you through your career and outside interests have contributed to improving our governments, AGA remains committed to advancing government accountability at all levels of government. AGA monitors congressional and regulatory activities and keeps you informed of new developments. Together AGA members represent a strong, unified voice in support of the advancement of accountability in government financial management.

4. Increase Your Skills and Value to Your Employer

Access thousands of hours of inexpensive continuing professional education via NASBA-certified conferences, classroom courses, training events, and online self-study. Learn new techniques to help improve workplace efficiencies and effectiveness.

3. Earn Professional Recognition

You've put a lot of hard work into getting where you are today. Enhance your credentials as a government financial manager by choosing to have your unique skills and knowledge recognized through professional certification in AGA's Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) designation. The CGFM designation is proof of a broad range of government financial management expertise—an attribute most sought after by government employers. The CGFM demonstrates your ability to keep abreast of change and enhances your credibility to the government accountability community you serve.

"Being part of AGA for the past two decades has been one of the highlights of my career! I've learned many skills from AGA—from how to work on teams to leading large organizations. I've kept current on industry knowledge by taking advantage of the many educational events offered to me."

*Cindy Cox, CGFM
AGA's North Central
Regional Vice President
DFAS Leaders in Motion
Program Manager
AGA Member Since 1996*



2. Build Your Leadership Skills

And your professional reputation. How? Active participation in your local AGA chapter and AGA national committees! In addition to leadership skills, you'll develop effective teamwork and communications skills as well as networking skills. Traits ALL employers are looking for! NOW is the time to get your career on the fast track!

1. Get a Head Start on Your Career

Make valuable contacts. Meet your peers. Keep up your education. Build a professional network. Learn new skills. Learn from the leaders. Don't waste another valuable minute. Now is the time to join AGA!

Check out AGA on the Internet at www.agacgfm.org or call the Customer Satisfaction Center at 800.AGA.7211.



Membership Application

New Member Check here if renewing

I. Name & Mailing Address

Mr. Mrs. Ms. Dr. Prof.

male / female

Preferred Address

Name **FIRST** **LAST** **MIDDLE**

Address Apt/Suite#

City State/Province

Zip/Mail Code Country

Home Office Address

Business Phone Business Fax

Home Phone

E-mail

Second Address

Address Apt/Suite#

City State/Province

Zip/Mail Code Country

II. Business Information

Job Title Dept.

Organization

Employer: (Government):

- Federal State County City International
 Private Academia Student Retired Private International

Responsibility Area:

- Accounting Budgeting Financial Management Management Academia
 Contract Management Grants Management Program Management Administration Consulting
 Information Systems Retired Auditing Finance Legal
 Student Other _____

How did you hear about AGA?

- Friend/Co-Worker AGA/Chapter AGA Conference Employer AGA Website
 CGFM Program Internet Search Chapter Meeting AGA Publication Direct Mail

Age:

- Below 20 21 – 25 26 – 30 31 – 35 36 – 40 41 – 45 46 – 50 51 – 55 56 – 60 61 – 65 66+

Please list any other financial management or accounting associations you are a member of:

Education: Highest degree attained: Accreditation and Certificates :

III. Sponsor's Name

(if applicable) Member ID #

IV. Membership Data/Dues

Please choose a membership category and fill in the appropriate dues from the list on the back of this application. Retired? Call the AGA Customer Satisfaction Center at 800.AGA.7211 to find out about our retired membership category.

o Full Government—\$90/year—Full Government - This class of membership is available to individuals with three or more years of government experience. This class is also available to individuals with similar experience who work for colleges/universities and not for profit organizations.

o Private Sector—\$150/year—This class of membership is available to individuals working for private companies, corporations, partnerships and sole proprietors.

o Early Career—\$45/year—This class of membership is available to individuals with less than three years of experience.

o Student—\$30/year—This class of membership is available to full-time college/university students that are not gainfully employed.

Primary Chapter Dues

Additional Chapter Membership(s) *Optional* Dues

Dues

(please refer to list on the reverse side)

V. Method of Payment

Check enclosed (make checks payable to AGA)

Charge to my: VISA MasterCard AMEX Discover

Total Amount Enclosed

Card Number Expiration Date

Signature

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Annual Chapter Dues Table

F = Full Government Member
 P = Private Sector Member
 E = Early Career Member
 S = Student Member

CHAPTER	F/P	E	S
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ALABAMA

Montgomery	10.00	10.00	5.00
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ALASKA

Alaska Capital	10.00	10.00	-0-
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ARIZONA

Phoenix	5.00	5.00	3.00
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ARKANSAS

Central Arkansas	5.00	5.00	5.00
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CALIFORNIA

Central Coast	5.00	5.00	5.00
Inland Empire of CA	10.00	10.00	10.00
Los Angeles	5.00	5.00	5.00
Los Angeles Civic Center	5.00	5.00	5.00
Orange County	5.00	5.00	1.00
Silicon Valley	5.00	5.00	5.00
Sacramento	3.50	3.50	3.50
San Diego	7.50	5.00	2.50
San Francisco	6.00	6.00	6.00

COLORADO

Denver	5.00	5.00	5.00
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CONNECTICUT

Hartford	5.00	5.00	5.00
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DELAWARE

Dover Capital	10.00	10.00	5.00
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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Washington, D.C.	10.00	5.00	5.00
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FLORIDA

Tallahassee	5.00	5.00	5.00
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GEORGIA

Atlanta	5.00	5.00	5.00
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GUAM

Guam	5.00	5.00	5.00
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HAWAII

Hawaii	5.00	5.00	-0-
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IDAHO

Idaho Centennial	-0-	-0-	-0-
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ILLINOIS

Chicago	7.00	7.00	7.00
Springfield	7.50	7.50	7.50
Quad Cities	-0-	-0-	-0-

INDIANA

Central Indiana ¹	5.00	5.00	5.00
Indianapolis ²	5.00	5.00	5.00

IOWA

Des Moines	5.00	5.00	5.00
Quad Cities	-0-	-0-	-0-

KANSAS

Topeka	-0-	-0-	-0-
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KENTUCKY

Central Kentucky	5.00	5.00	5.00
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JAPAN

Japan	5.00	5.00	5.00
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LOUISIANA

Baton Rouge	5.00	5.00	5.00
New Orleans	5.00	5.00	5.00

MAINE

Maine	10.00	5.00	5.00
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MARYLAND

Baltimore	5.00	5.00	5.00
Montgomery/Prince Georges	10.00	6.00	-0-

MASSACHUSETTS

Boston	7.50	7.50	7.50
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MICHIGAN

Detroit	5.00	5.00	5.00
Greater Lansing	7.50	5.00	5.00

MINNESOTA

Minneapolis/St. Paul	5.00	5.00	5.00
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MISSISSIPPI

Jackson	5.00	5.00	5.00
West Central Mississippi	-0-	-0-	-0-

MISSOURI

Kansas City	-0-	-0-	-0-
Mid-Missouri	-0-	-0-	-0-
St. Louis	-0-	-0-	-0-
The Ozarks	5.00	5.00	5.00

MONTANA

Lake Missoula	10.00	10.00	10.00
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NEBRASKA

Lincoln	7.50	7.50	7.50
Omaha Metro Area	10.00	10.00	10.00

NEW JERSEY

Northern New Jersey	7.50	7.50	7.50
Trenton	5.00	5.00	2.00

NEW MEXICO

Albuquerque	10.00	10.00	10.00
New Mexico	10.00	10.00	10.00

NEW YORK

New York City	5.00	5.00	5.00
New York Capital	-0-	-0-	-0-

NORTH CAROLINA

North Carolina Triangle	7.50	7.50	7.50
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NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Northern Mariana Islands	-0-	-0-	-0-
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OHIO

Cincinnati	5.00	5.00	5.00
Cleveland	5.00	5.00	5.00
Central Ohio ¹	5.00	5.00	5.00
Greater Columbus ²	-0-	-0-	-0-
Dayton	5.00	5.00	5.00

OKLAHOMA

Oklahoma City	7.50	7.50	5.00
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OREGON

Portland	5.00	5.00	5.00
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PENNSYLVANIA

Central Pennsylvania	5.00	5.00	5.00
Philadelphia	5.00	5.00	-0-

PUERTO RICO

Puerto Rico	-0-	-0-	-0-
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SOUTH CAROLINA

Columbia	10.00	10.00	10.00
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TENNESSEE

Chattanooga	10.00	10.00	-0-
East Tennessee	7.50	7.50	7.50
Nashville	5.00	5.00	5.00

TEXAS

Austin	5.00	5.00	5.00
Dallas	5.00	5.00	2.50
Fort Worth	5.00	2.50	2.50
Houston	5.00	5.00	5.00
San Antonio	5.00	5.00	5.00

UTAH

Northern Utah	5.00	5.00	5.00
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VIRGINIA

Northern Virginia	10.00	10.00	10.00
Richmond	5.00	5.00	5.00
Roanoke	5.00	5.00	5.00
Virginia Peninsula	-0-	-0-	-0-

WASHINGTON

Central Washington	5.00	5.00	5.00
Mid-Columbia Basin	7.50	7.50	7.50
Northwest Inland Empire	5.00	5.00	5.00
Olympia	10.00	10.00	10.00
Seattle	5.00	5.00	1.25

WISCONSIN

Southern Wisconsin	-0-	-0-	-0-
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STUDENT AFFILIATE CHAPTER

Old Dominion University	N/A	N/A	-0-
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Please call AGA's Customer Satisfaction Center at 800.AGA.7211 if you do not see a chapter listed in your area.

*Dues subject to change without notice.

Updated February 2006.

¹State and Local Focus

²Federal Focus