

## IGFOA 2017 Annual Conference Speaker Information

**Nadine Alletto** is the Director of Finance at the Village of Woodridge. She has been in local government for over 18 years serving in various positions before she came to Woodridge in 2012. She received her Bachelors in Accounting from Roosevelt University in 2003 and her Masters in Public Administration from DeVry University in 2005. She's a past member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society having graduated with high honors from both universities. Nadine is a member of GFOA and IGFOA. She is a Certified Public Finance Officer and currently serves as a Budget Reviewer for the Government Finance Officers Association.

**Susannah M. Baney, CPA**, is an audit manager with Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP in their Oak Brook, IL office. She has worked primarily with government clients since beginning her career in 2010. During 2015 and 2016, she worked as an Associate Fellow with the Governmental Accounting Standards Board on several projects including Leases, Certain Debt Extinguishments and GAAP Hierarchy. She also worked on the GASB research teams for Going Concern and Equity Interest Ownership Issues. Susannah returned to Baker Tilly in January 2017 and participates in the firm's public sector technical issues committee. She is a graduate of Bradley University.

**David R. Bean** is the Director of Research and Technical Activities for the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. He assigns and provides oversight to the GASB's research, technical, and administrative activities. Prior to joining the GASB in 1990, David worked in public accounting and government. He also has served as Deputy Chairman of the International Public-Sector Accounting Standards Board (IPSASB). He was the lead author on the 1988 *Governmental Accounting, Auditing and Financial Reporting* and was the founder of the *GAAFR Review*. He was the last director of the National Council on Governmental Accounting before the formation of the GASB in 1984. David is a member of the Government Finance Officers Association, the Connecticut and Illinois Government Finance Officers Associations, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the Illinois CPA Society, the Association of Government Accountants, the National Federation of Municipal Analysts, and the Municipal Analysts Group of New York.

**Michelle Binns** joined PFM Asset Management (PFMAM) 11 years ago and is currently a Senior Managing Consultant staffed in the Chicago office. In her current capacity, Michelle works closely with public sector clients to develop and implement prudent investment strategies for short, intermediate, and long-term funds, including fixed income and multi-asset class portfolios, for a variety of government clients in Illinois. Michelle's responsibilities include investment performance analysis, cash flow modeling, portfolio structuring and restructuring, providing economic summaries and research, and evaluating investment policies and practices for compliance with state and local investment statutes. Prior to joining PFMAM, Michelle earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Finance from The Pennsylvania State University. She is also a Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) registered representative and holds Series 6 and 63 licenses.

**Daniel J. Bolin** is an attorney with Ancel Glink representing public entities and property owners in wide-ranging local government, land use, and election matters across Illinois. Dan regularly speaks at state and national conferences regarding emerging municipal law topics and controversial land uses. He recently authored chapters on "Second Amendment and Zoning" and "Urban Agriculture" in "Land Use Law: Zoning in the 21st Century" for Law Journal Press, and co-authored a Chicago case study in the American Bar Association's book, "Urban Agriculture." Dan contributes to the local government blog, Municipal Minute, and shares land use news on Twitter @AncelGlinkLand.

**F. Alex Brown**, Senior Manager Information Technology Consulting, Plante has over 18 years of information technology audit, technology regulatory control compliance, and system integration project experience. Alex has in depth experience in the assessment of technology risk and evaluation of IT controls associated with regulatory compliance requirements (e.g. HIPAA/HITECH and Sarbanes-Oxley), IT application security assessments, and security within technology driven business processes. In addition, Alex has extensive experience in working with various IT security control frameworks (e.g. NIST 800, ISO 27001/27002, COBIT, HIPAA, FERPA). Alex's industry experience includes: Healthcare, Government, Higher Education and Manufacturing. Alex has assisted numerous clients with planning and performing engagements to evaluate and assess IT risk, evaluate the effectiveness of control measures implemented, identify IT control deficiencies, and develop remediation recommendations. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Accounting from North Carolina A&T State University. His professional training and affiliations Certified Public Accountant (CPA), Certified HIPAA Security Professional, and Certified HITRUST Professional.

**Brian W. Caputo** became the Vice President for Administration and Treasurer (Chief Financial Officer) at the College of DuPage in March 2017. Previously, he served for nearly 19 years as the Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer of the City of Aurora, Illinois. Dr. Caputo's earlier experience in public finance included positions with the Villages of Mount Prospect, Hoffman Estates, and LaGrange, Illinois. In addition, he also worked as an auditor with Price Waterhouse in Chicago. In 2015, Dr. Caputo became a member of the Governmental

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Accounting Standards Board. He is a past president of the Illinois Government Finance Officers Association (IGFOA) and a past chair of the IGFOA Technical Accounting Review Committee. He has also served as an adjunct professor of public finance at Northern Illinois University (NIU). Dr. Caputo holds a B.S. from the United States Military Academy, an M.S. in Accountancy from DePaul University, and an M.P.A. from NIU. He earned a Ph.D. degree from NIU with fields of study in public administration, public policy, and government finance. He is a Certified Public Accountant and a Certified Public Finance Officer. In 2004, Dr. Caputo retired from the United States Army Reserve as a lieutenant colonel. During his more than 22 years of active and reserve military service, he specialized in financial and human resources management.

**Julie Ciesla** has served as the first ever Finance Director for the Village of Itasca for the past 1.5 years. Julie began her career in government finance nearly 13 years ago, when she started as an intern with the City of Yorkville. Within 2 years of entering government finance, she went from being an intern to taking a position as Assistant Finance Director for the Village of Hinsdale and served in that capacity for 6 years. After Hinsdale, Julie served as the Assistant Finance Director for the Village of Glendale Heights for 3 years prior to taking the Finance Director position at Itasca. Julie earned her Bachelor's Degree in Finance from Northern Illinois University and has also earned a Master's Degree with a concentration in Accounting from Aurora University. Within 10 months of taking the first exam, Julie received her Certified Public Finance Officer designation in February of 2016. Julie has been a member of IGFOA for over 10 years.

**Daren Clary** is the Accountant at the Village of Woodridge. He has been in state and local government for over eight years, the last four of which has been at Woodridge where he began in 2013. He received his Bachelors and Masters in Business Administration from Eastern Illinois University in 2007 where he also earned a Graduate Assistantship. Daren is a member of IGFOA and currently on the IGFOA Membership Committee.

**Christina Coyle** is the Finance Director at the Village of Glen Ellyn. She oversees the Village's \$68 million annual budget, accounting, financial reporting, and financial planning. Christina was the Village of Glen Ellyn's Assistant Finance Director before serving as Finance Director. Prior to joining the Village, Christina was an Audit Manager at Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP. Christina is also the Chair of the Technical Accounting Review Committee (TARC) of the Illinois Government Finance Officers Association (IGFOA). Christina is a Certified Public Accountant and a graduate of University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where she double-majored in Finance and French.

**Linda Dalton** is the Accounting Manager at the Village of Woodridge. She came from the private sector with over 10 years of fund accounting experience and has served the Village of Woodridge for 18 years. She received her Associate Degree in Criminal Justice and her Bachelor's Degree from Lewis University in Finance. Linda is a member of GFOA and IGFOA. She also served 4 years on the IGFOA Executive Board of Directors (chairing the Assistants' Network Program) and is currently on the IGFOA Membership Committee.

**Mary Dankowski** is Past President of the Illinois Government Finance Officers Association. She is a Certified Public Accountant with a Masters Degree in Finance from DePaul University and an undergraduate degree in Accounting from Loyola University. Mary was Deputy Village Manager, Treasurer and Finance Director for the Village of Park Forest, Illinois for twenty-two years. Prior to this time, she was Deputy City Manager and Finance Director for Country Club Hills, Illinois. Before entering municipal finance, Mary worked ten years in industry as a financial analyst. She was also Executive Director of the Small Business Development Center at Moraine Valley Community College. The Village of Park Forest was proud to have received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award and the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting during Mary's tenure. She is also past president of the Chicago South Chapter of the Illinois CPA Society and of the South Metro Chapter of the IGFOA. Mary was named CFO of the year by the Daily Herald Business Ledger in 2014. Mary is married to husband, Brad, and has three daughters. She served as Treasurer for the University of Nebraska Parents Association. Go Huskers! For fun she serves as President Elect of the Park Forest Rotary, Treasurer of the Tall Grass Arts Association, Fundraising Chair of the Park Forest Area League of Women Voters and Trustee for the Park Forest Firefighters Pension Fund.

**Krisztina M. Dommer, CPA**, is a manager at Sikich LLP. Prior to joining Sikich, she worked for the national Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) as a senior program manager. At GFOA, Krisztina managed the administration of the Certificate of Achievement Program for Excellence in Financial Reporting and the Award Program for Small Government Cash Basis Reports. She performed reviews and generated suggestions for improvement on the Small Government Annual Financial Reports, Comprehensive Annual Financial Reports and Popular Annual Financial Reports of state and local governments in the United States. Krisztina is currently a member of the GFOA's Special Review Committee continuing to perform reviews of Comprehensive Annual Financial Reports. Krisztina has made considerable contributions to the appendices in the 2012 version of the Governmental Accounting, Auditing, and Financial Reporting (GAAFR) publication. She provided technical

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support to GFOA's thousands of members and has spoken at national training seminars and conferences on governmental accounting and financial reporting. Krisztina received a Bachelor of Commerce Degree in Accounting from DePaul University and a Graduate of Advanced Government Finance Institute, University of Wisconsin at Madison.

**Kimberly Feeney**, Senior Vice President is the Treasury Management Advisor Sales Manager at MB Financial Bank. In her role Kim oversees a team that delivers a suite of various treasury management products and services to all MB bank clients in addition to partnering with our ancillary Treasury Management partners (Purchasing Card, Merchant Processing and International Banking). Prior to joining MB Financial, Kim worked at Bank of America for 13 years in various roles – the last being the Government Treasury Management Sales Manager for the Central Region of the US.

**Daniel D. Forbes**, President, is one of the Directors and Owners of Speer Financial, Inc. Mr. Forbes is a Certified Independent Public Municipal Advisor (CIPMA) from the National Association of Municipal Advisors (NAMA). He has earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Economics from Beloit College, and a Juris Doctors and Masters of Business Administration (Finance) from Washington University. Prior to joining Speer in 1994, Mr. Forbes had served as a financial analyst with a Chicago investment banking firm (1990-1994) which specialized in municipal economic development, and as an attorney with Chapman and Cutler (1984-1990) where he served as bond, underwriter's and corporation counsel for health care, cultural and educational organizations financings. He is a member of the Illinois Government Finance Officers Association.

**Jill Hagan**, Senior Vice President, Government Banking Division Manager is MB Financial Bank's government banking expert and a well-known and respected member of the government banking community. Jill has acquired more than 20 years of industry knowledge and has established strong relationships with local government entities. She excels in developing treasury management solutions and providing exceptional client service. Jill has been a member of the IGFOA for 16 years, a current South Metro board member and a member of the Partners Forum Committee.

**Brian D. Hextell** is an Institutional Portfolio Manager and is a registered Investment Advisor Representative with Prudent Man Advisors. As a Senior Vice President, he is responsible for leading the credit research effort for financial institutions and contributes to portfolio management and trading. Mr. Hextell first joined PMA Financial Network, Inc. in 1999 after graduating from Northern Illinois University with a degree in Finance. He later earned an MBA from DePaul University. His FINRA licenses are the Series 7, 50 and 66. Since 2004, Mr. Hextell has led PMA Financial Network's Credit Risk Management Department, which is responsible for determining the creditworthiness of all investments made by PMA's public entity clients and employing various strategies for securing client deposits. His other responsibilities include reviewing client investment policies to determine appropriate client investments and collateral requirements. As an Institutional Portfolio Manager, he is responsible for client service and developing and implementing investment strategies for many of Prudent Man Advisors' clients. Mr. Hextell frequently speaks at city, school and county conferences and seminars on the topics of state statutes, investment policies, credit analysis, economic & market updates and investment strategy.

**Gregory W. Jones** is an associate with Ancel, Glink, Diamond, Bush, DiCianni & Krafthefer, P.C., in Chicago. Greg counsels municipalities, other public entities and real estate professionals on a host of land use, zoning, construction and development matters. Before entering the legal field, Greg spent nearly a decade serving as a city planner and zoning administrator for several municipalities in the greater Chicago area. Greg is an active member of the American Planning Association and serves on the legislative committee for the Illinois Chapter. Greg frequently speaks to industry groups on a variety of zoning topics, and has authored numerous articles on issues facing zoning practitioners.

**Kelly Kost**, who joined the Illinois Public Finance Group of Chapman and Cutler LLP in 1986, has served as bond, disclosure and underwriter's counsel for countless numbers of municipal transactions throughout the State of Illinois. Chapman and Cutler, which was founded in 1913, is widely recognized as one of the premier law firms in the nation for public finance. Because of his unique municipal law, securities law and legislative expertise, Mr. Kost has been a panelist and speaker at numerous seminars and conferences conducted by Illinois municipal corporations, associations and bond market participants. Mr. Kost received his J.D. from Vanderbilt University in 1986, after graduating from Monmouth College in 1983.

**Gregory T. Kuhn, PhD**, is Assistant Director for Public Management and Training at the Center for Governmental Studies at NIU. He has over 35 years of combined experience in government administration, consulting, and academics. In addition to serving at CGS for good portions of his career, Greg has also served in city management assignments as Village Manager in Clarendon Hills and Assistant to the Manager in Skokie,

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both Illinois communities in the Chicago area. Greg has also provided services to governments on a consulting basis as Director of Local Government Management Services at Sikich, LLP., Managing Vice-President of the PAR Group, and Sr. Associate in Governmental Services at Korn-Ferry International. Dr. Kuhn specializes in organizational development, design and training, strategic planning, leadership, urban management and public policy formulation. He serves as a lecturer/adjunct faculty member in NIU's Division of Public Administration and Northwestern University's Graduate Program in Public Policy and Public Administration and has earned teaching awards at both schools. He earned a Bachelor's degree from Marquette University and a Master's degree in Public Administration and Ph.D. in Public Administration, Public Policy and Political Science from NIU.

**David M. Limardi** received a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Marquette University and a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the University of Kansas. He began his career in professional local government management as a management intern at the Village of Wilmette, Illinois, rising to the position of Assistant Village Manager. At the age of 29, he became the Village Manager for the Village of Lincolnshire, Illinois. Ten years later, he was appointed to the position of City Manager for the City of Highland Park, Illinois and served in that position until December 2011. He is currently the Midwest Regional Director for the International City/County Management Association and the Managing Director of Limardi Consulting, LLC. David was elected President of the International City/County Management Association and served in that position in 2008-2009. In November 2009, David was inducted as a Fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration. David teaches Public Finance and Budgeting for the Harris School of Public Policy at the University of Chicago and the Northwestern University Masters of Public Policy and Administration Program. He has also taught at the Northern Illinois University Division of Public Administration. David was instrumental in the development of the Midwest Leadership Institute and serves as a principal presenter. David is a successful keynote speaker and writer about leadership, ethics and public-sector finance and budgeting.

**Brian LePenske**, Vice President, is a member of Piper Jaffray's public finance team and is part of both the General Government and National Transportation Groups. Brian has 16 years of experience in public finance providing investment banking (including placement agent) and financial advisory services on over \$20 billion in par amount of transactions spanning local governments, states, transportation agencies and other government agencies. During his career, Brian has served in key roles in financings for the States of Illinois, Wisconsin and Ohio, City of Chicago, Cook County, Illinois Tollway, O'Hare Airport and the Pennsylvania Turnpike as well as local government issuers in Illinois such as DuPage Water Commission, Evanston, Oak Lawn, South Elgin, and Waukegan. He has broad and diverse expertise related to debt structuring and project finance through the use of general obligation bonds (including alternate revenue), revenue bonds, lease revenue bonds and interim financing. Prior to joining Piper Jaffray, Brian worked in the public finance group at BMO Capital Markets and as a financial advisor at PFM and Scott Balice Strategies. Brian earned a bachelor's degree in both finance and risk management from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He holds the Series 52 and Series 63 licenses.

**Joe McCoy** joined the IML as a Legislative Associate in 1999. In 2008, he was promoted to the position of Senior Legislative Advocate. He was appointed as Legislative Director in 2011. As Legislative Director, Joe manages the day-to-day operation of the legislative department and works to foster a team approach to advance the legislative goals of the IML membership. His principle policy areas include personnel, pension, labor, and insurance issues. In addition to his primary legislative duties, he serves on numerous internal/organizational teams. He also serves as the staff liaison to the IML Managers Committee. Joe was selected as a James H. Dunn Fellow in 1996 and served in the Office of Governor Jim Edgar where he reported to the Deputy Chief of Staff. During his Fellowship, Joe accepted a position in the legislative department of the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs (DCCA). Joe received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science from Western Illinois University in 1993, and a Master of Arts Degree in Public Policy from Regent University in 1995.

**Jim Murphy** has spent the last 22 years of his career in public service. He is currently serving as the Director of Information Technology for the City of Quincy, Quincy, Illinois. Jim also oversees the city's Self-Funded Health Insurance plan and previously his duties included serving as Director of Purchasing. Jim has taught business at Quincy University. Jim was instrumental in establishing the Information Technology Department at the City of Quincy over 20 years ago. He has been responsible for many technology-driven initiatives including implementing a city-wide network infrastructure, public safety in-car video systems, virtualized technology, TV video content systems, community inspection and permitting systems, information security compliance, online bill pay system, developing IT strategic plans, and assisting city departments with innovation and business process improvement to name a few. Over the past couple of years, Jim has tackled the City's out-of-control health care costs saving the city over \$2 million in two years. Jim is a Certified Information Security Manager. He holds a B.S. from Illinois State University and an M.B.A. from William Woods University. Jim also holds the Government Chief Information Officer certification from the University of North Carolina. He holds various other certifications including Self Insurance Certified Specialist.

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**Jason S. Myers** has worked for park districts since 2000. He currently holds the position of the Director of Finance and Personnel for the Lombard Park District. Currently, he is responsible for all business functions including Accounting, Payroll, Human Resources, Marketing, Compliance and Technology. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from Millikin University. During his time with Lombard, he has been an integral role in the District receiving the GFOA Award of Financial Reporting Achievement for 17 consecutive years, the GFOA Certificate of Recognition for Budget Presentation for four consecutive years, and the successful completion of the CAPRA and Distinguished Accreditation Programs. He has also served on the IPRA Finance Committee and is the current chair-person of the Illinois Trust.

**Jason Palmer**, Senior Managing Consultant for PFM Asset Management LLC is the Multi-Asset Class strategist for the Midwest region and is based in PFM's Chicago office. He has extensive experience managing outsourced investment strategies, investment consulting and portfolio management. Jason worked at the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association (BCBSA) in Chicago, where he helped manage outsourced investment strategies for many of the BCBSA health care plans across the United States. The program held close to \$10 billion in defined benefit and defined contribution assets and impacted over 60,000 employees nationwide. Prior to joining BCBSA, Jason was an investment consultant and serviced institutional clients including public, corporate and healthcare funds in the Midwest region. He also previously held the position of portfolio manager, where he managed nearly \$400 million in client assets.

**Mark Peterson** has served as the City Manager for the Town of Normal (population 55,500) for over 19 years having been appointed in 1998. Before being appointed City Manager, he served as Normal's Assistant City Manager for 10 years. Prior to coming to Normal, IL, Mr. Peterson held various other municipal administrative positions in both Missouri and Iowa. He attended the University of Iowa where he received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science (1981) and a Master of Arts Degree in Public Administration (1983). Mr. Peterson is a member and past president (2001-02) of the Illinois City/County Management Association and he is also an active member of the International City/County Management Association. He currently serves as a member of the Illinois Municipal League Managers Committee and he also serves on numerous Bloomington-Normal Area Boards and Commissions for various public and quasi-public agencies. Mr. Peterson is married and has two adult sons and one grandchild.

**Mike Riffel** is Senior Manager with Plante Moran's Information Technology Consulting group in downtown Chicago. Mike has thirteen years of experience in assisting the public sector through the information technology assessment, selection and implementation process. Mike has facilitated the RFP development, proposal analysis and system selection process for dozens of public sector organizations throughout the United States and has extensive knowledge of the functionality provided by public sector focused enterprise solutions. Mike is well versed in conducting information technology assessments as well as working in technology implementation advisory roles, reviewing integrator deliverables, assisting in the design of a post implementation support structure and implementing change management techniques to ensure user acceptance of new business processes and/or technology. Mike has a Masters Degree in Public Policy Analysis and Administration (MPA) from Michigan State University and is a member of the Pi Alpha Alpha National Honor Society for Public Affairs and Administration.

**Natalie Schwarz**, Consulting Manager, with Plante Moran's Management Consulting Group has over seven years of professional service experience consulting and implementing systems for a wide range of clients and industries. Natalie has a rare combination of experience including large scale project management, service line process development, and ERP/tax systems software selections and implementations. She has extensive experience in developing business requirements, business process reviews, and gap analysis along with detailed system analysis, design, development and implementation. In addition, Natalie has successfully guided clients through the vendor selection process, including facilitating workshops and vendor demos, development of requests for proposals (RFP's), evaluating vendor responses, analyzing costs, identifying best fit solutions, drafting contracts, and conducting post-implementation evaluations.

**Courtney E. Soesbe**, Vice President, Senior Relationship Officer with PMA Financial Network, Inc. joined PMA in January 1996 as a portfolio advisor and was responsible for cash flow management, investment planning and execution, bond proceeds management and arbitrage rebate services. Currently, Ms. Soesbe leads a team of Portfolio Advisors, for the firms' municipal clientele in IL, and is responsible for relationship management and product marketing. Courtney received her Bachelor of Science degree in Finance from Northern Illinois University as well as her Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree from Northern Illinois University. She is a member of the Illinois Government Finance Officers Association (IGFOA), Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA), Illinois Association of Park Districts (IAPD), and Illinois Library Association (ILA). She holds her Series 7, General Securities Representative, license and her Series 63, Uniform Securities Agent State Law, license. She is currently studying for the Series 50, Municipal Advisor Representative, license.

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**Scott A Sorrel** is the County Administrator for the County of Peoria. To deliver services to its 186,000+ residents, the County of Peoria employs approximately 835 public servants across 10 administrative departments, 9 elected offices, 5 boards, agencies, and commissions, and 6 offices under the supervision of the Chief Circuit Judge with an annual budget of \$131.6 million. Scott Sorrel serves as the Peoria County Administrator and is responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations of the County. With much of the county government having some type of autonomy, he uses communication, collaboration, and compromise to lead in the efficient delivery of public services. Scott has spent his entire 23-year career with the County, starting as an Associate Planner in 1993. He is a graduate of Iowa State University and holds a Masters in Public Administration from the University of Nebraska at Omaha. Scott is actively engaged in a number of community organizations and professional associations in Illinois and nationally.

**Kurt M. Thurmaier, Ph.D.**, is the Presidential Engagement Professor & Chair, Department of Public Administration, School of Public & Global Affairs, Public Budgeting and Finance, Intergovernmental Relations, Comparative Public Administration, Research Methods for Northern Illinois University. Mr. Thurmaier received his B.A. and M.P.P.A. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and his Ph.D. from the Maxwell School, Syracuse University. He held assistant and associate professor positions at the University of Kansas before becoming MPA director at Iowa State University, 2002-2005. His research and teaching interests include budgetary decision making at the local and state levels in the U.S. and other countries, comparative public administration (especially fiscal decentralization), and intergovernmental relations (especially interlocal collaboration). His most recent work has focused on city-county consolidations and interlocal agreements among cities and counties, especially fiscal accountability in public management networks. He leads a month-long study abroad course for graduate and undergraduate students to Musoma, Tanzania every other year to study the role of NGOs in developing countries. He and has served as a consultant and researcher with ICMA, HIID, and several local governments. He is a lifetime member of the American Society for Public Administration (ASPA), and has served as chair of the Association for Budgeting and Financial Management (ABFM). He is a member of the Government Finance Officers Association (including the Illinois Government Finance Officers Association), the International City/County Management Association (including the Illinois and Wisconsin associations), and has served as chapter president at KU, Iowa State, and NIU in their chapters of *Phi Beta Delta*, The National Honor Society for International Studies.

**Josh Tickell** is an award-winning film director, energy pioneer and global expert on the "Millennial" or "Y" Generation (those born between 1980 and 2000). His directorial debut movie *FUEL* went viral, capturing the Sundance Film Festival's prestigious Best Documentary Award and millions of viewers worldwide. After it was shortlisted for an Oscar, the movie was screened in the White House and influenced the Obama Administration in the roll out of its \$28 Billion-dollar new energy program that transformed the global markets for algae, fuel and solar power. Tickell's motto is: "The History of the Future is Being Written Today." He educates companies on the broad megatrends that are shaping society – especially those trends that are being driven by the 80-million-person Millennial generation (the largest generation in history). In addition to his work at over 150 colleges in the US and overseas, Tickell has spoken to global audiences at companies such as Morgan Stanley Smith Barney at conventions such as the Young Presidents Organization and at institutions such as MIT. Tickell has been a featured guest on Jay Leno's *The Tonight Show* and *Good Morning America*. He is a regularly featured opinion leader in news stories on CNN, Discovery, Reuters, NBC, Fox and NPR. Articles on Tickell, his films, and his work have appeared in the *Los Angeles Times*, *New York Times*, *USA Today*, *The Huffington Post*, *Maxim Magazine*, *Popular Mechanics* and thousands of international newspapers and magazines.

**David Torres**, Senior Product Manager, joined Forecast5 Analytics, Inc. in 2014 and is responsible for the product management, development, outreach of Forecast5's quantitative analysis and financial projection engine – 5Cast. He is also assisting with the management of 5Cast client relationships and collaboration with other Forecast 5 platforms. Prior to joining Forecast5 Analytics, he worked as a Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer for over 30 years at Township High School District 211, in Palatine, Illinois. During his extensive experience as a CFO, he successfully engaged in the development of several strategic planning projects and long-term capital improvement programs. David received his BA in Business Economics, and has a MA and certification in school business management.

**Patrick Ulrich**, Peoria City Manager, is responsible for overseeing the day-to-day activities of the City of Peoria, including the \$199 million budget, 14 departments, and approximately 766 full-time and part-time employees. His primary mission is to instill the value of excellence in public service within the organization. After spending 17 years in county government, the last 10 as Peoria County Administrator, Patrick became Peoria City Manager in 2011. Patrick is a graduate of Illinois Wesleyan University and the University of Illinois at Chicago. He has served in leadership capacities in both state and national professional associations.

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**Don Welch** was general manager of the Peoria Civic Center, responsible for operations, sales and marketing, human resources and hospitality functions from 1988 to 2000. After a four-year stint as president of Vonachen Services Inc., he served as vice president of the Hotel Pere Marquette for three years, and for six years, he co-owned and operated Prima Pasta Shop. In June of 2012, he took over as president and CEO of the Peoria Area Convention and Visitors Bureau. This is Welch's fifth year in charge of the PACVB.

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**Sofia Anastopoulos** is the Executive Director of the Illinois Metropolitan Investment Fund. She spent the past twelve plus years working with public sector entities in best practices in treasury and investment management. She started her public finance career with the GFOA, where she was responsible for that association's treasury and investment management initiatives. Sofia has written numerous publications in these areas as well as taught classes throughout the state and county. Sofia is a graduate of Northwestern University and received an MBA from DePaul University in Chicago. She holds the designation of Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA), the standard in portfolio management, and is a member of the CFA Institute, the Chicago CFA Society, and Women in Public Finance.

**Scott Anderson** was appointed the Director of Finance and Treasurer for the Village of Buffalo Grove in 2006. Prior to that position he was the Assistant Finance Director for the Village. He is a Past President of the Illinois Government Finance Officers Association (IGFOA), on the Executive Board of the Intergovernmental Personnel Benefits Cooperative, a Trustee of the Illinois Metropolitan Investment Fund (IMET), and a member of the national Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). Scott received his Bachelor's degree from Arizona State University and Master's Degree in Public Administration from Northern Illinois University.

**Jason Ashmore** is the Mayor of the City of Sesser in rural Southern Illinois. Jason has been Mayor since 2013. He also is full-time Business Representative with the Teamsters Union. He has a passion for life-long learning and continues to take education, training programs and seminars to increase his knowledge so he can become a better leader and mentor for the youth of his community. He recently completed the Delta Regional Authority's Executive Leadership Program, Harvard University, John F. Kennedy School of Government Executive Leadership Program, and University of Southern California-Sol Price School of Public Policy Executive Education Forum for Policy. He earned an Associate's Degree in Political Science and a Bachelors in Science in Business Management. He has taken on the role of economic developer, marketing manager among other unofficial titles for the City of Sesser. He has also taken on official roles as Vice-President of the Southern Illinois Mayors' Association, Treasurer of CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates), member of the Board of Directors for the Southern Illinois Community Foundation, Commissioner with the Greater Egypt Planning Commission, National League of Cities' (NLC) Community and Economic Development Federal Committee and NLC Leadership Fellows Federal Committee and Delta Regional Authority Delta Leadership Network Co-Chairman for Illinois and have become a member of various organizations including City Club of Chicago, National League of Cities, Illinois Government of Finance Officers, Illinois Association of Municipal Management Assistants and Illinois City/County Management Association.

**Eric Burk** is the Director of Finance/Treasurer at the Village of Deerfield. Prior to working in Deerfield, Eric worked at the Village of Palatine and as an auditor at Miller, Cooper & Co. Eric has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting from Illinois State University and a Master of Business Administration degree from Northern Illinois University. In addition to being a CPA, Eric has received the Certified Public Finance Officer designation offered by the Government Finance Officers Association. Eric is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, Illinois CPA Society, Government Finance Officers Association and the Illinois Government Finance Officers Association. He is also a Trustee on the Lake Zurich Police Pension Board and the Treasurer of the Deerfield Police Pension Fund.

**Gary Dube** is a Senior Account Executive with Tyler Technologies, Inc. Gary focuses on marketing the Tyler Technologies' Munis ERP software solution to municipal and county governments primarily in the Midwest. Prior to this position Gary worked with Tyler's Microsoft Dynamics AX practice and was the National Director of Sales for Tyler's School Division. Prior to working in the School Division, Gary represented Tyler's Munis ERP system managing sales territories in New England and the Midwest for 15 years. He began his career with Wang Laboratories and later worked as an IBM Sales Agent.

**Eric Dubrowski** is the Chief Financial Officer of Peoria County, Illinois. As CFO, Eric is responsible for managing the financial affairs of the County and providing leadership, direction, and supervision to the County's Finance team. Prior to joining Peoria County, Eric served as the Director of Finance / Treasurer for the Village of Villa Park, Illinois and the Finance Director of the City of Galena, Illinois. Eric holds a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Northern Illinois University and a Bachelor's Degree in Economics from the University of Illinois at Chicago. Eric has obtained additional accounting coursework through Louisiana State University and is a Certified Management Accountant. He is currently the President of the Downstate Chapter of the Illinois Government Finance Officers Association, President of the Central Illinois Chapter of the Institute of Management Accountants, and has served as an adjunct faculty member at Elmhurst College teaching courses in governmental accounting.



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**Sandy Evans** joined City of O'Fallon in 2007 and has been the Director of Finance since 2013. She is responsible for the City's Finance and Utility Billing Departments. She is a member of the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA), Illinois Government and Finance Officers Association (IGFOA) and Illinois Municipal Treasurers Association (IMTA). She currently serves as Treasurer of the IGFOA Downstate Regional Chapter as well as the Southwestern Regional Coordinator. Sandy received her B.S. in Finance from Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, IL and completed her Masters of Public Administration from Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville, IL.

**Melissa Gallagher, MAFM** is the Finance Director for the City of Rolling Meadows and has been with the City for ten years. Melissa has more than 24 years of professional experience in the fields of finance, accounting, grants and management. For the past 18 years, she has worked in accounting and finance for the state, municipal and non-profit sectors. She graduated from Michigan State University with a degree in Social Science and Keller Graduate School of Management with a Master of Accounting and Financial Management (MAFM). Melissa serves as a Board Member with the Illinois Government Finance Officers Association and has served as Chairperson of the Technical Accounting Review Committee (TARC) for IGFOA.

**Tim Gavin, CPA, MBA** is a Partner with Klein Hall CPAs LLC. He specializes in financial audits of local governmental entities, including cities, villages, park districts, school districts, and special districts. Tim has experience in performing over 400 audits, accounting services, agreed-upon procedures, and other consulting engagements for over 75 units of local government in Illinois. Tim has served as a presenter for various educational sessions on topics related to accounting and financial reporting and has been featured in industry publications such as *Accounting Today* and *CPA Practice Advisor*. He is a reviewer for the GFOA's Financial Reporting Certificate Program, and has helped a large number of clients obtain both GFOA and ASBO financial reporting certificates. Because of his specialized skills in technology applied to accounting and auditing, he's leading the IGFOA's Social Media Task Force to evaluate the Association's presence on social media.

**Elizabeth Hannan** has served as Finance Director for the City of Urbana since October 2014. She began her career in public service as an intern at the City of Cincinnati when she was in graduate school. She worked for the City of Champaign for nearly 26 years, first in the Finance Department, ending her 15 years there as financial services manager / budget officer. In that position, she prepared the City's first long-term financial forecast. She then worked as a division manager in the Public Works Department for more than ten years and was responsible for parking, recycling, fleet management, purchasing, and all administrative functions of the department. Elizabeth earned her bachelor's degree in Economics from the University of Cincinnati, and completed her coursework for a master's degree in Economics there.

**John Harrington** joined the Village of Minooka as the Finance Director in January 2007 and brings over twenty-five years of accounting experience. Prior to joining the Village, he was the Controller of the Housing Authority of the County of Cook and an audit manager for the accounting firm BDO Seidman, LLP in Chicago. He received a B.S. degree in Accounting from North Central College in Naperville and is a CPA. John currently serves as a trustee on the Illinois Metropolitan Investment Fund, a board member on the Grundy County Chamber of Commerce and an executive board member for Rainbow Council – Boy Scouts of America. John is the Past President for the South Metro Chapter of the IGFOA and serves on the IGFOA Membership Committee.

**Susan Jones** is the leader of Miller Cooper's Institutional Services Group and has overall responsibility for coordinating all of Miller Cooper's services to her clients. In addition to handling the accounting and audit needs of her clients, she consults with clients regarding planning and various organizational matters, and shares best practices from working with a variety of organizations. Ms. Jones joined Miller Cooper from a national accounting firm in which she had more than 20 years-experience serving a broad range of governmental, nonprofit and public audit clients. Ms. Jones has managed numerous tax-exempt bond offerings and advised clients on the Uniform Guidance, state and local reporting requirements. Ms. Jones received a Bachelor of Science in Accounting from the University of Illinois-Champaign/Urbana. She also received a Master of Business Administration from DePaul University: Kellstadt Graduate School of Business. Ms. Jones is a member of the Illinois CPA Society and it's Not For Profit Committee, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the Illinois Association of School Business Officials and Illinois Government Finance Officers Association. She is also Treasurer of the Illinois Biotech Organization and on the Board of Goldie's Place.

**Frederick G. Lantz**, a Certified Public Accountant, is partner and the Director of Government Services at Sikich, LLP. He is responsible for providing technical services to Sikich's clients in all areas of governmental accounting, auditing, financial reporting, budget development, revenue and expenditure forecasting, and cash and debt management. Prior to joining Sikich, Mr. Lantz was the assistant director for the Technical Services Center of the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA), where he was a nationally recognized expert in the state and local government industry. At GFOA, Mr. Lantz was responsible for managing

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the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Program, providing accounting, auditing and financial reporting assistance to state and local government officials and their auditors, and serving as a liaison to the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. He also developed courses and served as lead instructor for governmental accounting, auditing and financial reporting training courses. Mr. Lantz is a nationally recognized speaker, having spoken at state GFOA and CPA Society meetings and conferences. Mr. Lantz has an undergraduate degree in accounting from Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, Illinois. In addition, he is a graduate of the Advanced Government Finance Institute at the University of Wisconsin Madison and has completed graduate course work in public management and management information systems at DePaul University in Chicago, Illinois. Mr. Lantz is a member of the Illinois CPA Society, serving on the Governmental Report Review; the Illinois Government Finance Officers Association, serving on the Technical Accounting Review Committee; the Association of School Business Officers, serving as a panel review chair for the Certificate of Excellence Program; the Government Finance Officers Association serving on the Special Review Committee for the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Program; the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the Illinois Municipal Treasurers Association and the Illinois Municipal League.

**Martin Lyons** is the Assistant City Manager and Chief Financial Officer for the City of Evanston. In his current capacity, he is responsible for supervision of Finance, Economic Development, and Community Outreach functions of the City and all statutory duties of the Treasurer, including investment management monthly and annual financial reporting and serves as the Treasurer to both the Police and Firefighters' Pension funds. Mr. Lyons has also acted in the capacity of Interim Economic Development Director and Interim Public Works/Utilities Director and supervised the City's Human Resources and Information Technology Divisions. From 2002 to 2008, Mr. Lyons was an Area Vice President in the Scholastic and Public Entity division of Gallagher Benefit Services. In this capacity, he provided consulting services to municipalities, junior colleges, school districts and specialty districts within the state. From 1993 to 2002, Mr. Lyons was the Senior Director of Finance and Information Services for the Village of Downers Grove performing many of the same functions as presently assigned for the City of Evanston. From 1988 to 1993, Mr. Lyons was the Assistant and then Director of Finance for the Village of LaGrange. Mr. Lyons was the Pension Treasurer in both Downers Grove and LaGrange. Mr. Lyons has a bachelor's degree from the University of Illinois in Political Science and an MBA in Finance from the Keller School of Management.

**Chris Minick** currently serves as the Finance Director for the City of St. Charles Illinois. He has served in this position since April of 2008 and he has over 27 years of experience in municipal management, governmental auditing, accounting and finance. Chris is currently the Vice President on the Executive Board of the Illinois Government Finance Officers Association and a member of the Board of Directors of the Illinois Metropolitan Investment Fund. He is also a Trustee on the City of St Charles' Police Pension Fund and Firefighters Pension Fund. Previously Chris served as the Village Administrator for the Village of Plainfield, Illinois for approximately 3 years. Prior to his appointment as Village Administrator, Chris served as the Village of Plainfield's first Finance Director/Director of Management Services for approximately 7 years. Chris also served as the Senior Accountant for the Wheeling Park District for approximately two years, and began his career performing financial statement audits of local governmental units for CPA firms in the Chicago region. Chris spent approximately six years performing audits and has audited cities and municipalities, townships, library districts, park districts, counties, and state agencies. He has also participated in revenue compliance audits of cable television franchises on behalf of municipalities. Chris has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting and Finance from St. Joseph's College in Rensselaer, IN.

**Michael Mondschain** graduated from Northern Illinois University with an M.P.A. in Public Administration (with an emphasis in Fiscal Administration). While attending N.I.U., Michael served as the Administrative Intern for the City of Elmhurst. He was then hired by the Village of Lombard where he worked for eight years in three increasingly responsible positions culminating as the Assistant Finance Director. Michael currently works for the Village of Wheeling where he has served as Finance Director since 2001. He is also co-chair of the Illinois Government Finance Officers Association's Legislative Committee and serves on the Northwest Municipal Conference's Finance Committee.

**Todd Sholeen** is part of the Huntington Bank, Government Banking team in Illinois, with over 25 years of banking experience in the government sector. Todd joined the bank in 2012 and is currently a member of the IGFOA where he has serves on the Partners' Forum and is a member of IASBO where he serves on the Cash Management Debt Service Committee. Todd also serves locally as a trustee for the Village of Barrington and volunteers for various nonprofit organizations. Todd graduated from Principia College with a bachelor's degree in English and he received his Masters in Accounting at DePaul University.

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**Rita A. Trainor**, finance director for the Wheaton Park District, began her professional career in "Big 8" public accounting. Subsequently Rita worked in internal auditing in manufacturing and spent 10 years in corporate offices of telecommunications corporation in a variety of positions including SEC reporting. She has worked in local government since 1994 as a Finance Director in both park districts and municipal environment.

Rita is a past president of the IL Government Finance Officers' Association and an active member of the IGFOA's Technical Accounting Review Committee since 1995. Rita is a CPA, CMA and certified IL Government Finance Officer with over 30 years of experience. She earned a B.S. and M.S. in Accounting.

**Susan Wade** is Vice President of Public Funds for First Midwest Bank. She has over 26 years of banking experience almost exclusively in the public funds market. She is a treasury manager specialist, manages the banking relationships for governmental entities and is a frequent speaker and volunteer at association events. She is a graduate of Eastern Illinois University with a Bachelor's degree in Political Science. Susan is a member of the Illinois Association of School Business Officials, Illinois Government Finance Officers Association, Will County Governmental League, South Suburban Mayors and Manager's Conference and is appointed to the Financial Advisory Board for the City of Naperville.