# DOWNSTATE CHAPTER CONFERENCE

### February 15 - 16, 2018



Learning • Connecting • Progressing

#### **ILLINOIS GFOA DOWNSTATE CHAPTER CONFERENCE** February 15 - 16, 2018

Jumer's Casino & Hotel, 777 Jumer Drive, Rock Island IL, 61201

#### AGENDA

#### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2018

9:30 – 10:00 AM	Check-in and Networking
10:00 – 10:10 AM	Welcome and Opening Remarks
	Molly Talkington, MPA, Finance Director, City of DeKalb and President, IGFOA Downstate Chapter
	Megan Petersen, Finance Director, City of East Moline and Secretary - IGFOA Downstate Chapter
10:10 – 11:25 AM	Keynote Address: Connecting with Your Audience Speaker: Donna Hare, MFA, Teaching Fellow, Communications Studies Department, Augustana College
11:25 – 11:40 AM	Break
11:40 AM – 12:30 PM	<b>Refresh and Update your Resources &amp; Tools for the New Year</b> Speaker: Mary Smith, Managing Partner of Baecore Group, Inc.
12:30 – 1:30 PM	Networking Luncheon
1:30 – 2:20 PM	<b>The Insurance Tide is Turning</b> Speakers: Tia Incapreo, Arthur J. Gallagher Ethan Salsinger, Arthur J. Gallagher
2:20 – 2:30 PM	Break
2:30 – 3:20 PM	Legislative Update Speaker: William D. McCarty II, Director, Office of Budget and Management, City of Springfield, IGFOA Executive Board Member-at-Large, and Legislative Committee, Chair
3:20 – 3:30 PM	Break

#### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2018 CONTINUED

3:30 – 4:45 PM	Illinois Police/Fire Pension Fund Consolidation: Discussion Points Speaker: Dan Ryan, Project Coordinator for the Illinois Public Pension Fund Association (IPPFA)
4:45 – 5:00 PM	<b>Open Discussion/Q&amp;A</b> <i>Megan Petersen</i> , Finance Director, City of East Moline and Secretary - IGFOA Downstate Chapter
6:00 – 9:00 PM	<b>Mystery Fraud Dinner</b> <i>Speaker: Tim Hungerford</i> , CPA, CFE, CIA, CMA, CISA, CGAP, MBA, Hungerford Vinton, LLC

#### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2018

8:00 – 8:50 AM	Breakfast
8:50 – 9:00 AM	<b>Announcements</b> <i>Megan Petersen</i> , Finance Director, City of East Moline and Secretary - IGFOA Downstate Chapter
9:00 – 10:15 AM	How to Have an Efficient and Successful Yellow Book Audit Speaker: Linda Abernethy, Partner, RSM US LLP
10:15 – 10:30 AM	Break
10:30 – 11:45 AM	Key Rating Drivers and Trends for Illinois Local Governments Speakers: David Levett, Assistant Vice President, Moody's Investors Service Shannon Bibby, Associate Lead Analyst, Moody's Investors Service
11:45 AM – NOON	<b>Closing Remarks</b> <i>Megan Petersen</i> , Finance Director, City of East Moline and Secretary - IGFOA Downstate Chapter
NOON – 12:45 PM	Luncheon with the IGFOA Executive Board

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Connecting with Your Audience

### What to Expect

- Audience's Disposition
- Engaging Content
- Confident Delivery
- PowerPoint Reminders

### Is it ever NOT about the audience?



Source: "Boring Political Caucus" (cropped image) by James Brooks via Wikimedia Commons

### Types of Audiences

Friendly	<ul> <li>Humor</li> <li>Examples</li> <li>Personal Experiences</li> <li>Participation</li> </ul>
Neutral	<ul> <li>Avoid Humor and Anecdotes</li> <li>Use Statistics</li> <li>Compare/Contrast</li> <li>Include Time for Questions</li> </ul>
Uninterested	<ul> <li>Use Humor</li> <li>Use Visuals</li> <li>Don't Expect Participation</li> </ul>
Hostile	<ul> <li>Avoid Humor and Anecdotes</li> <li>Objective Data</li> <li>Expert Opinion</li> </ul>

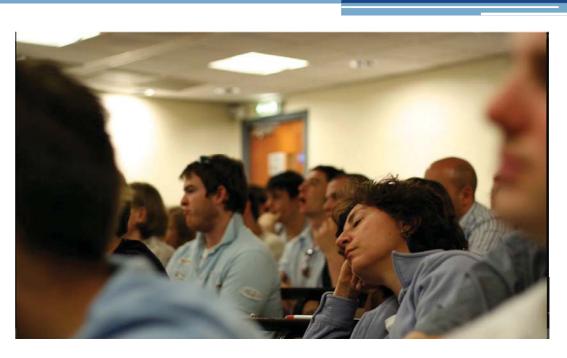
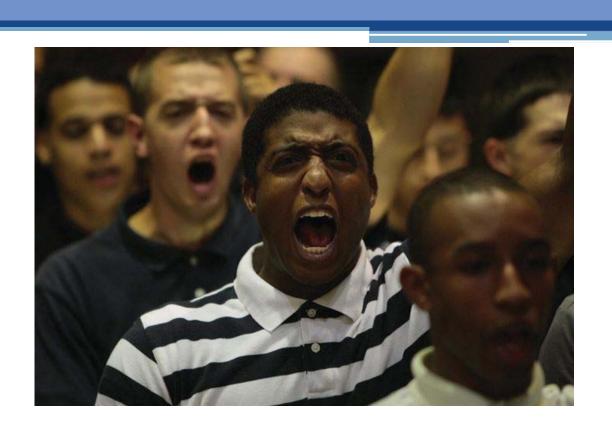
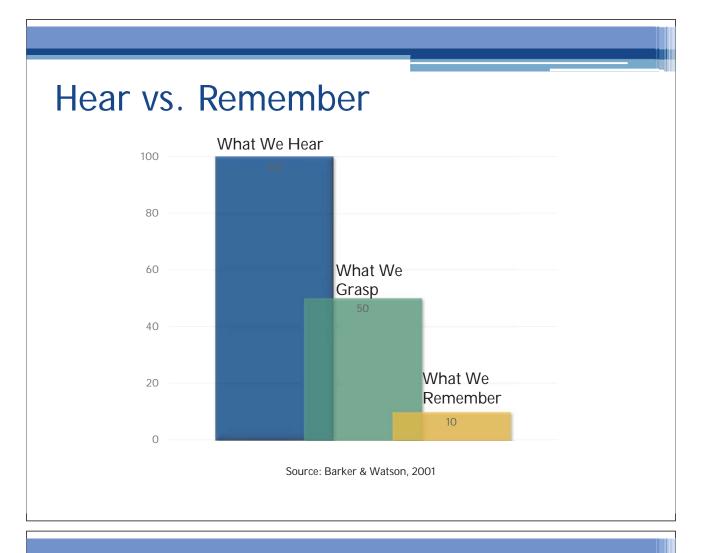
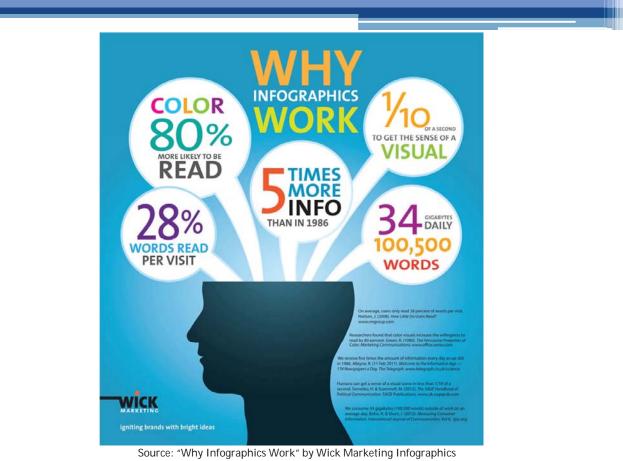


Photo Credit: "Audience" by Faruk Ateş via FlickrCC



Source: Untitled by CpI Caitlin Brink: The appearance of U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) visual information does not imply or constitute DoD endorsement.





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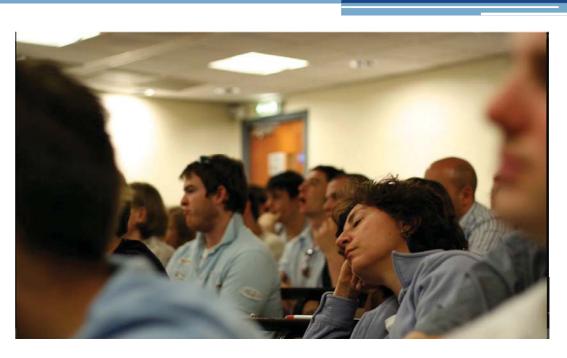
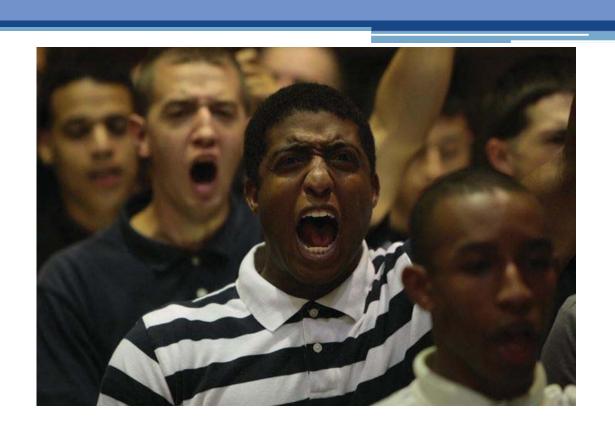
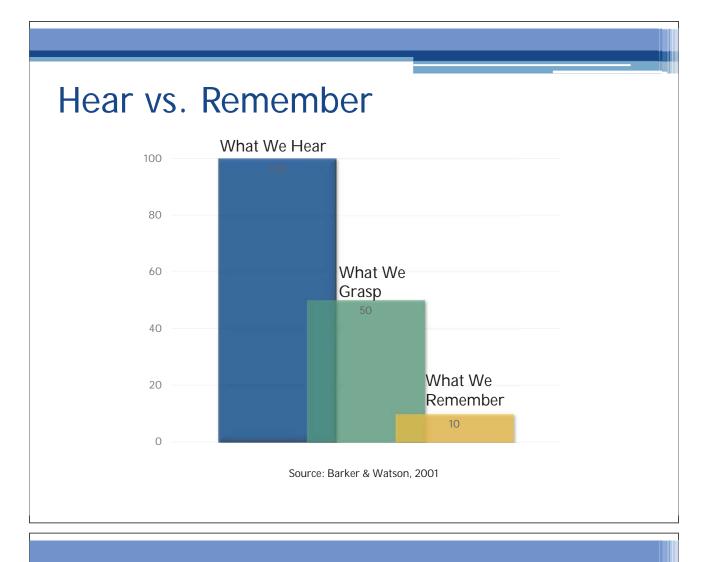
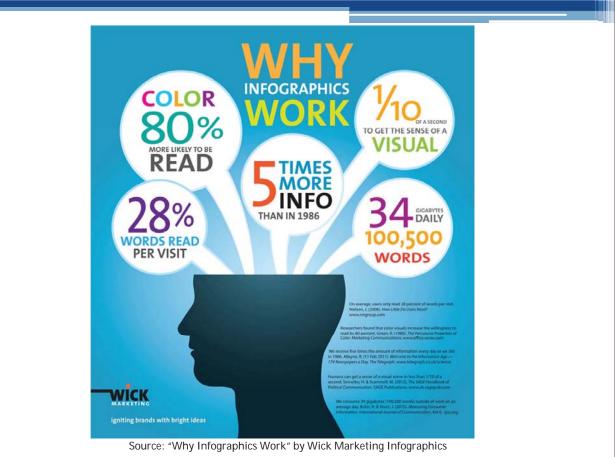


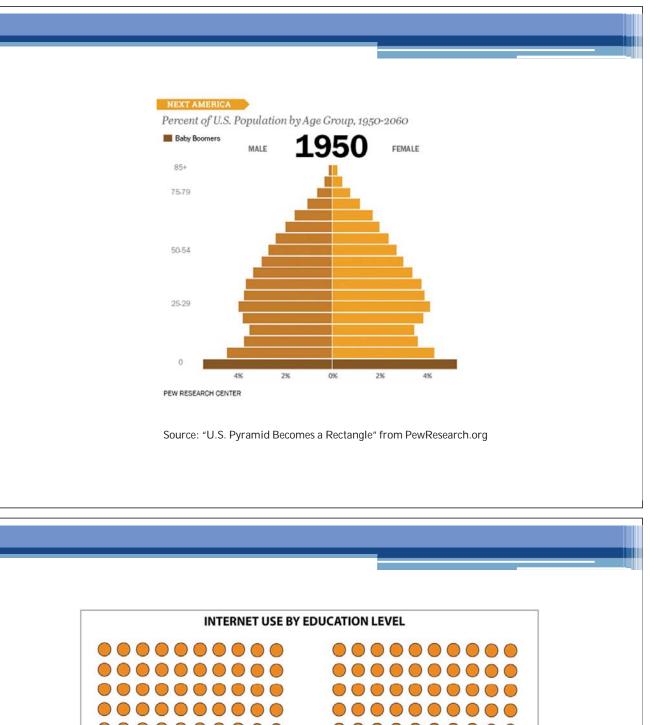
Photo Credit: "Audience" by Faruk Ateş via FlickrCC

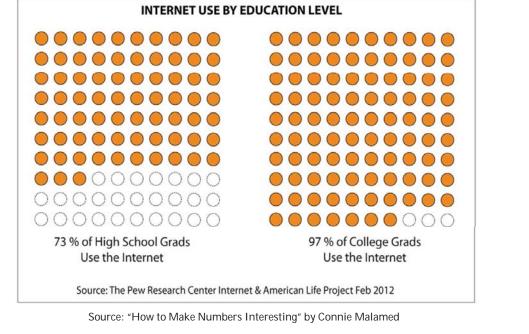


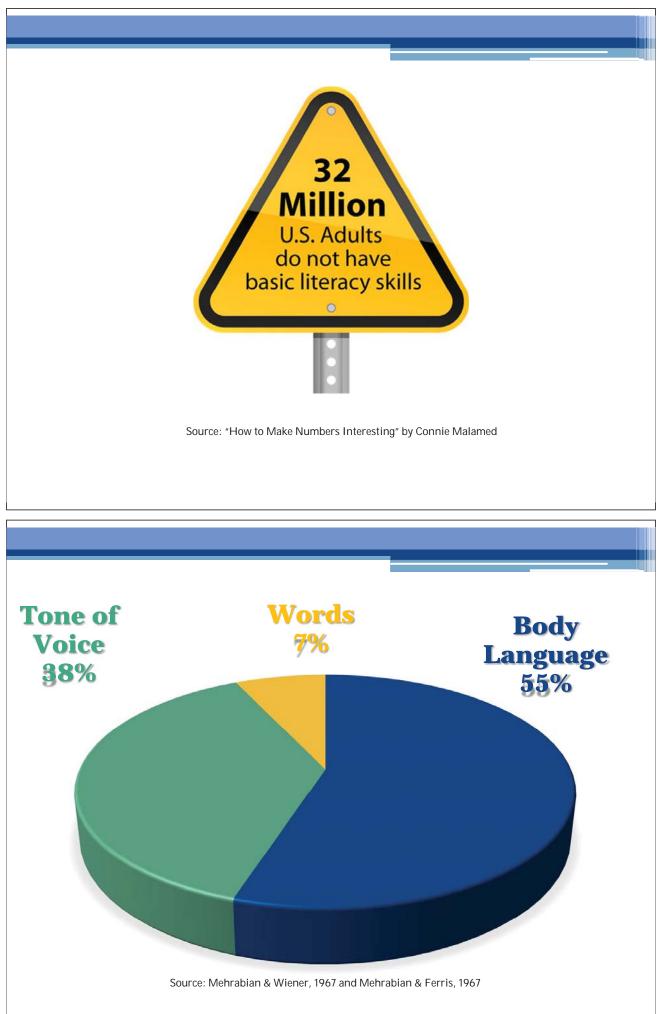
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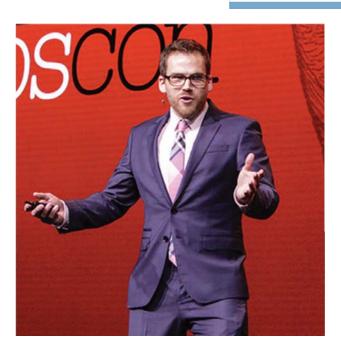




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### **Participation Time**

- Ineffective Communicator?
- Effective Communicator?



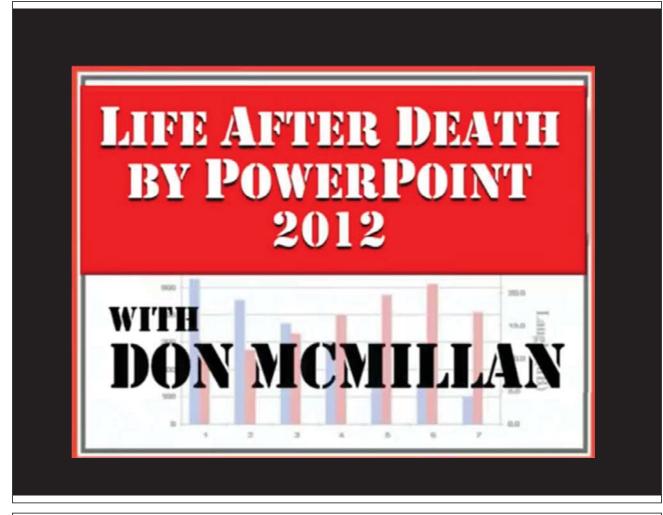
Source: "Speakers" by O'Reilly Internal via FlickrCC



Source: "Speakers" by O'Reilly Internal via FlickrCC

### Types of Audiences

Friendly	<ul> <li>Eye Contact</li> <li>Gestures</li> <li>Vocal Variety</li> <li>Friendly</li> </ul>
Neutral	<ul><li>Confidence</li><li>Small Gestures</li><li>Nothing too Showy</li></ul>
Uninterested	<ul> <li>Dynamic</li> <li>Entertaining</li> <li>Large Gestures</li> <li>Movement</li> </ul>
Hostile	<ul><li>Calm</li><li>Controlled</li><li>Speak Slowly and Evenly</li></ul>



### Create Your Speech First

#### This

#### Keep in mind...

- Time of Day
- Room
- Topic
- Speaker

#### **Not This**

- Why do we speak? Because we have knowledge to pass on to an audience (whether it is to City Council, concerned citizens, or even other departments. However, as human beings we are very egocentric.
- If we don't understand the information or if we don't perceive that this knowledge affects us directly, we are less apt to pay attention.
- Think about all the times you have zoned out during either a conference or even a weekly meeting. While some of this could be pinned on the speaker for not being the best deliverer, a larger portion can be blamed on human nature.
- Sometimes the deck is stacked against the speaker (bad time or room).
   Sometimes, you actually stack the deck against yourself by not thinking about the audience first. Is it ever <u>not</u> about the audience? NO! If you're used to thinking it's more about getting all your facts and figures out, then you're probably used to seeing audiences that look like this.

### Keep It Simple

#### More than 6 seconds

- This takes more than six seconds to read.
- It's really here because I didn't plan well.
- Sadly, you are trying to read this too.
- Anyone keeping up with me?
- I think we are all having a hard time with this slide.

#### 6 seconds and less

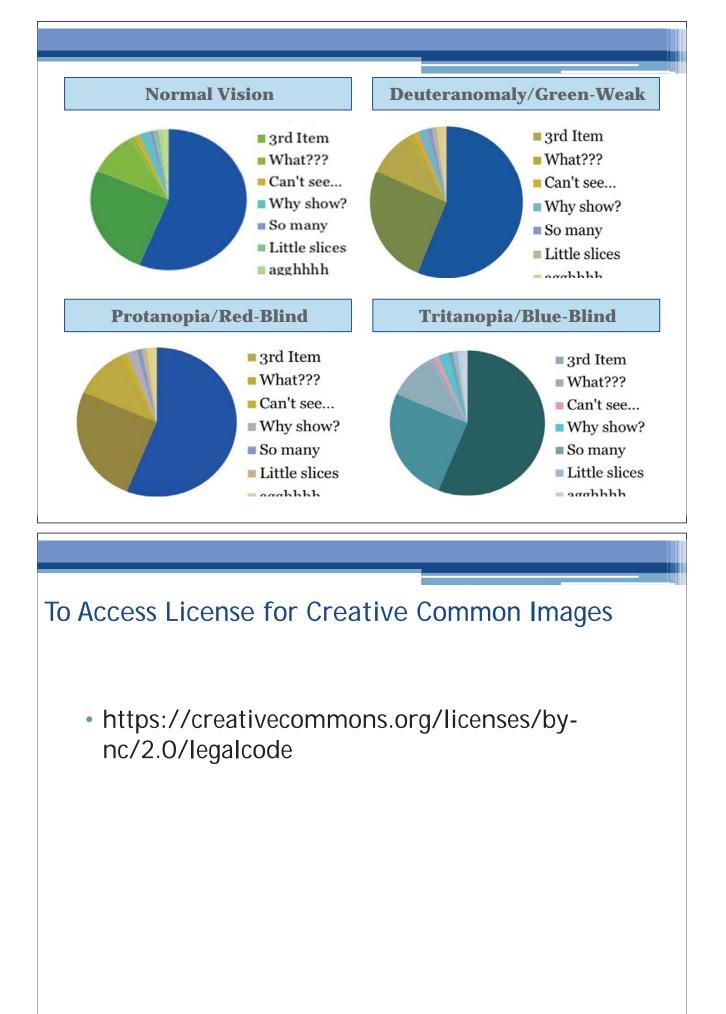
- No more than 6 words
- No more than 6 bullets
- Now you get it!

### Limit Number of Slides and Bullets

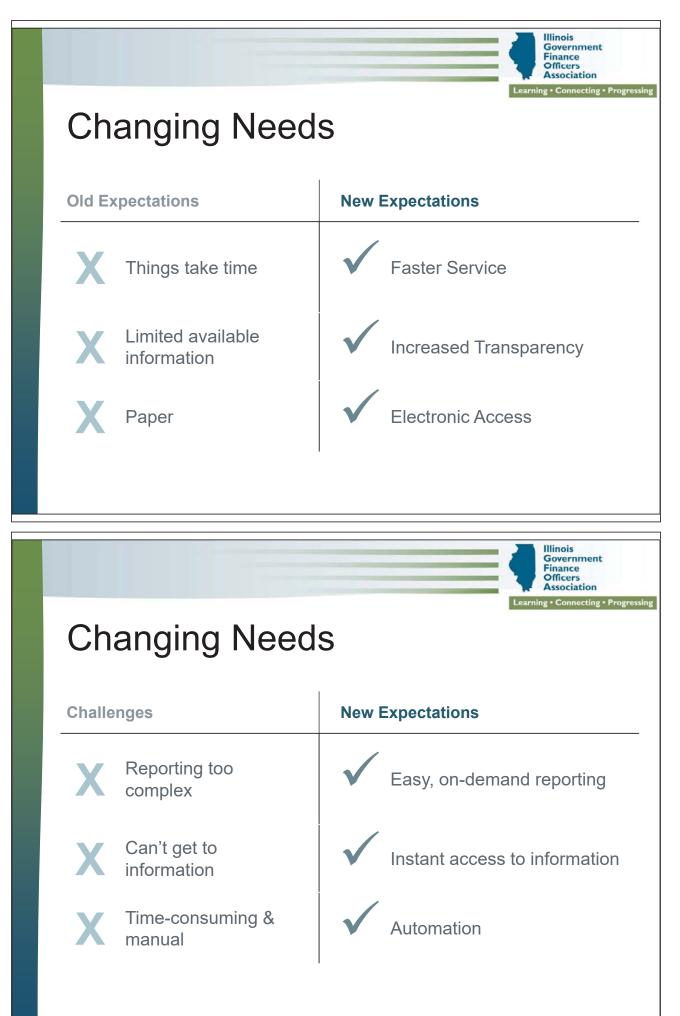
# <u>Length of speech</u> + 1 = max slides 2

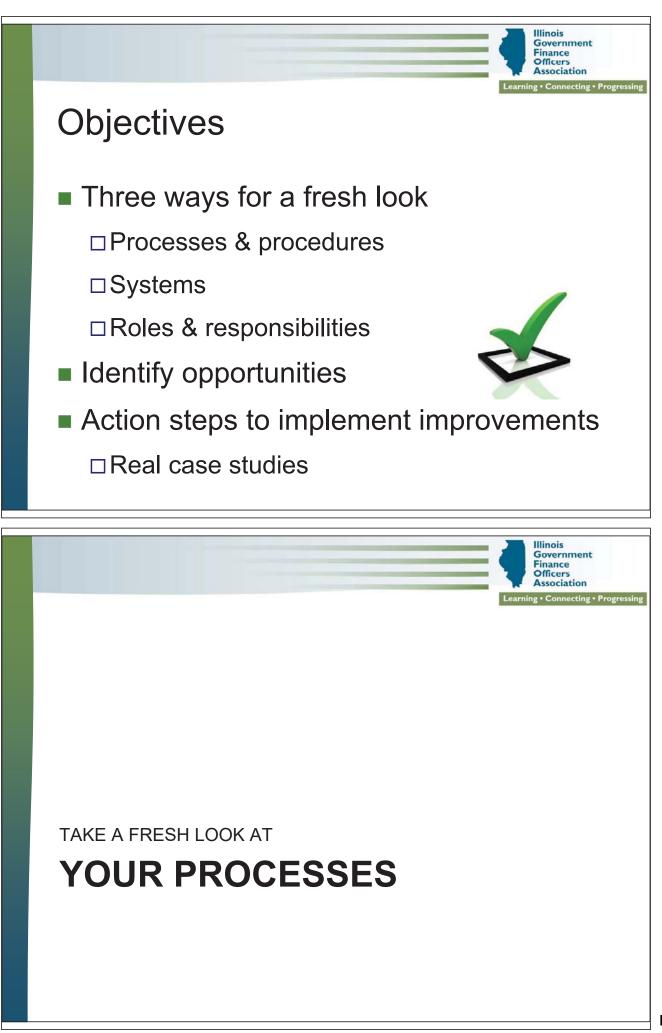


Source: "Coblis—Color Blindness Simulator" via color-blindness.com











### Assessment: Processes

#### <u>WHAT</u> you do

The major areas of activity in your department (e.g., Enter invoices, check processing, generate water bills)

#### <u>HOW</u> you do it

The detailed, step-by-step process flow from beginning to end to accomplish each major activity

#### WHY you do it

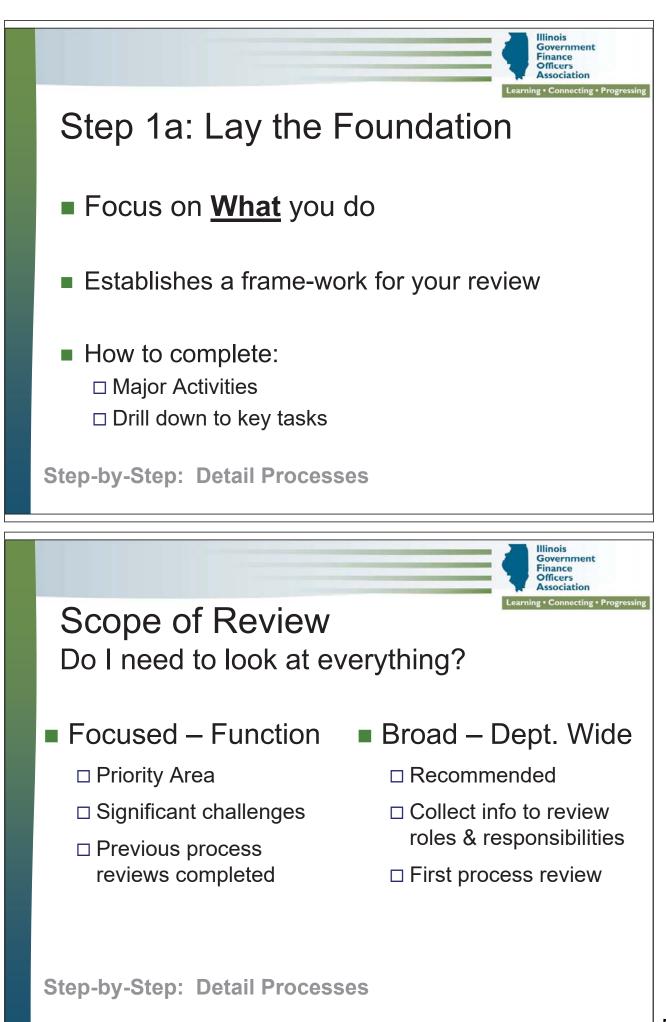
The reason why a particular activity is done (e.g., review packing slips)

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#### WHO does it

The person(s) responsible for completing each step

**Process Assessment** 



### **Involve Your Team**

- Round-table discussion
- Inclusive: groundwork for change management
- Closest to the daily activities
- Common to hear: "We do that?"

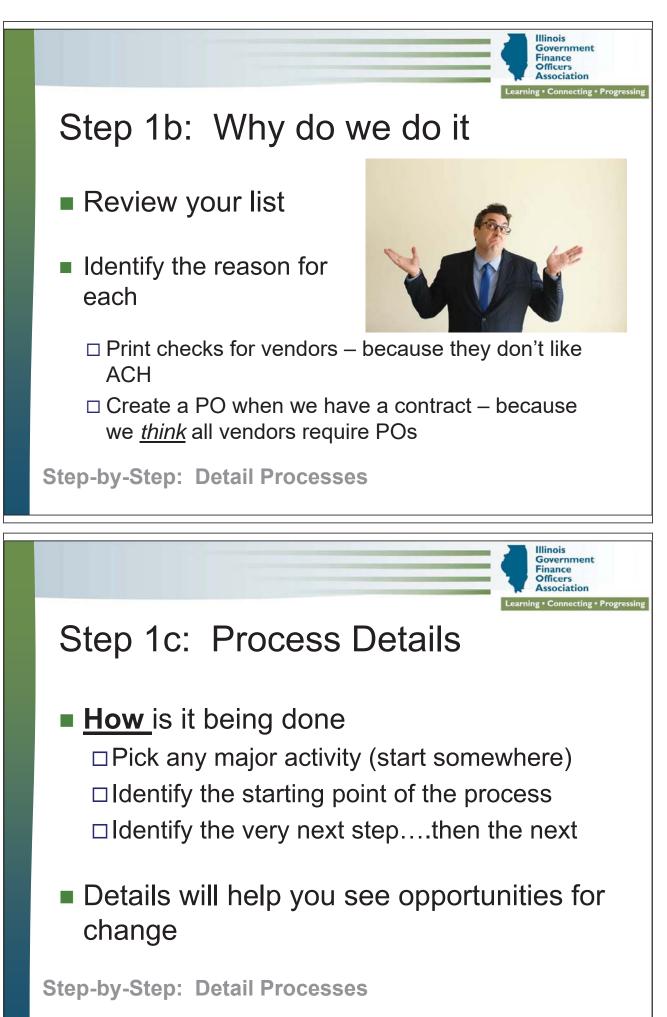


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Step-by-Step: Detail Processes

			Government Finance Officers Association
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Process Assessment			
Major Activity	Tasks	System Used	Person Responsible
Maintain vendor records			
Process Vouchers			
Enter invoices			
1099 processing			
Check run			
Void check			
Track misc. bill numbers (some depts.)			
Track misc. bill payments (some depts.)			
Create misc. bills			
Take customer payments			
Balance cash drawer			
Track vehicle stickers			



### Step 1d: Who Is Responsible

- Who is doing it
- Gather WHO is responsible for each step of the process
- Primary & back up



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Step-by-Step: Detail Processes
\*\*\*Key step for redefining roles and responsibilities

						Illinois Government Finance Officers Association	
	Method	ds To D	)oci	umer	nt	Learning • Connecting • Pro	ogressing
	Process Assessment	t					
	Major Activity	Tasks	System Used	Person Responsible			
	Maintain vendor records						
	Process Vouchers	Dept. staff complete paper voucher form	Paper				
	Enter invoices	Dept. Head reviews/signs off on form	Paper				
	1099 processing	Dept. Head writes accounts on form	Paper				
	Check run	Dept. Head sends form to AP clerk via interoffice mail	Paper				
	Vold check	Account Clerk receives voucher from	Paper				
	Track misc. bill numbers (some depts.)	Account Clerk sends voucher form to	Paper				
	Track misc. bill payments (some depts.)	Accountant Accountant verifies expense code &	Paper				
	Create misc. bills	budget Accountant sends form to Finance	Paper				
	Take customer payments	Director (manual delivery) Voucher Processing (Current State)					
	Balance cash drawer	voucier riocessing (current state)					
	Track vehicle stickers	Completes voucher request form A	Dept. Head signs off on form				
		Friance	Account Clerk verifie receives voucher or request form pur	Segnole de und Shave in celf on form enters	nt Clark Invoices Accountant posts Account creat Invoices daily voucher report		
S	Step-by-Step	: Detail P	roces	Ses			

### Step 2: ID Opportunities

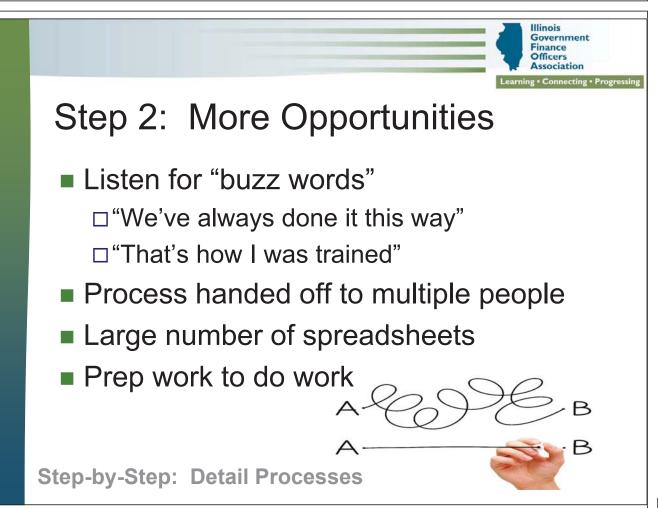
- Filling out, passing, or filing paper forms
- Manually creating reports
- Time-consuming tasks
- No cross-training
- No back-up
- Redundancy



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Step-by-Step: Detail Processes



## Step 2: Highlight Opportunities for Action

 Mark activities that provide opportunities
 Paper
 Redundancy

Process Assessment			
Major Activity	Tasks	System Used	
Maintain vendor records			
Process Vouchers	Dept. staff complete paper voucher form	Paper	
	Dept. Head reviews/signs off on form	Paper	
	Dept. Head writes accounts on form	Paper	
	Dept. Head sends form to AP clerk via interoffice mail	Paper	
	Account Clerk receives voucher from	Paper	
	Account Clerk sends voucher form to Accountant	Paper	

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#### Step-by-Step: Detail Processes

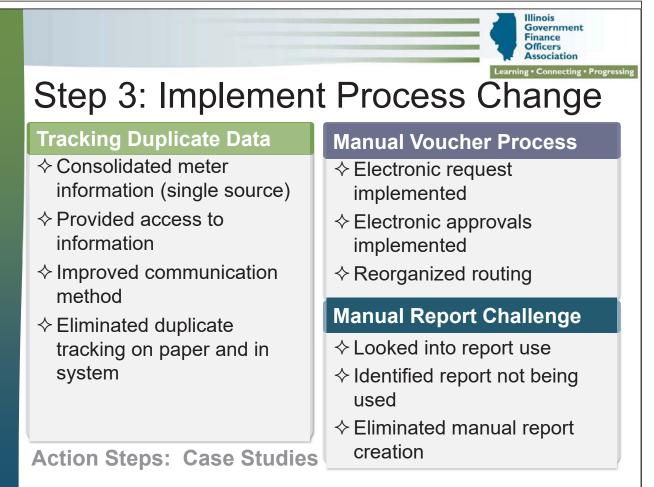
			Illinois Government Finance Officers Association
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Process Assessme	nt		
Major Activity	Tasks	System Used	Person Responsible
Maintain vendor records		0300	Кезропзые
Process Vouchers	Dept. staff complete paper voucher form	Paper	Multiple – outside dept.
	Dept. Head reviews/signs off on form	Paper	Multiple – outside dept.
	Dept. Head writes accounts on form	Paper	Multiple – outside dept.
	Dept. Head sends form to AP clerk via interoffice mail	Paper	Multiple – outside dept.
	Account Clerk receives voucher from	Paper	Lee Stecklein
	Account Clerk sends voucher form to Accountant	Paper	Lee Stecklein
	Accountant verifies expense code & budget	Paper	Will Borgen
	Accountant sends form to Finance Director (manual delivery)	Paper	Will Borgen
	Finance Director reviews and approves form (sign off)	Paper	Cayla Barnes
	Assistant to Finance Director sends signed form to Account Clerk (manual delivery)	Paper	Chris Bourque
	Account Clerk enters invoice	IDC	Lee Stecklein

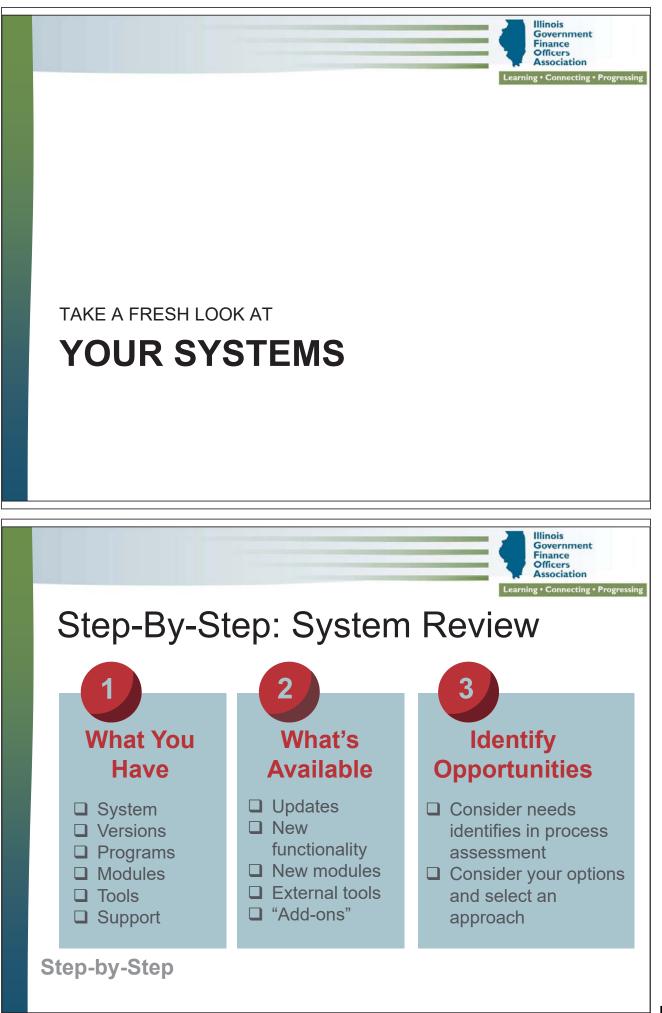
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#### What Have We Accomplished?

- Identified all of your major activities
- Identified opportunities to make improvements
- A list of areas to focus on to make improvements
- Any other challenges or changes, add to the list

**Opportunities For Implementation** 





### Step 1: Get To Know Your Tools

- What software do you own
- Are you paying for support & upgrades
- Who are your vendors
- What versions



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Step-by-Step: Find out what you have



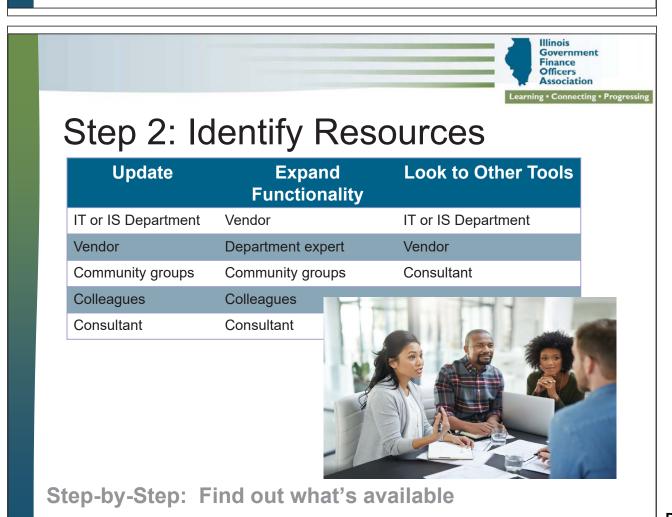
<section-header><section-header><section-header></section-header></section-header></section-header>	<ul> <li>Not using</li> <li>Why not</li> <li>Isn't implemented</li> <li>No training</li> <li>Doesn't quite work right</li> <li>Wasn't needed at the time</li> <li>Couldn't see the whole</li> </ul>
Image: State Stat	Illinois Government Finance
Subject Matter E	Expert
<ul> <li>What is a subject is</li> <li>Expertise/knowled</li> <li>System or process</li> <li>Can identify their major activities</li> </ul>	0
Step-by-Step: Detail Proce	esses

### Step 2: You Have Options

Update	Expanded Functionality	Other Tools
Confer with your resources	Confer with your resources	Confer with your resources
Meet with your vendor	Meet with your vendor	Identify other tools available
Identify updates and new features available	Identify modules available	Identify available features

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Step-by-Step: Find out what's available



#### Learning • Connecting • Progressing Step 3: Identify Opportunities

Update	Expanded Functionality	Other Tools	
Consider identified	Consider identified	Consider identified	
needs (process	needs (process	needs (process	
review)	review)	review)	
Review available new features	Review module functionality	Review available features	
Identify opportunities	Identify opportunities	Identify opportunities	
to make	to make	to make	
improvements	improvements	improvements	

Step-by-Step: Identify Opportunities



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### Implement System Change

Update		Expanded Functionality		Other Tools		
1.	Gather your team	1.	Gather your team	1.	Gather your team	
2.	Schedule the update	2.	Define goals	2.	Define goals	
3.	Plan testing procedures	3.	Implement the module (with vendor or other expert resource)	3.	Implement the tool (with vendor or other expert resource)	
4.	Test new processes	4.	Test new processes	4.	Test new processes	
5.	Take the update live	5.	Take the module live	5.	Take new process live	
Action Steps						



# Implement System Change

#### Manual Process Challenge

- ♦ Defined key needs
- Evaluated functionality of existing modules
- Match needs to available functionality
- Implemented process in existing module

**Action Steps:** Case Studies

#### **Data Access Challenge**

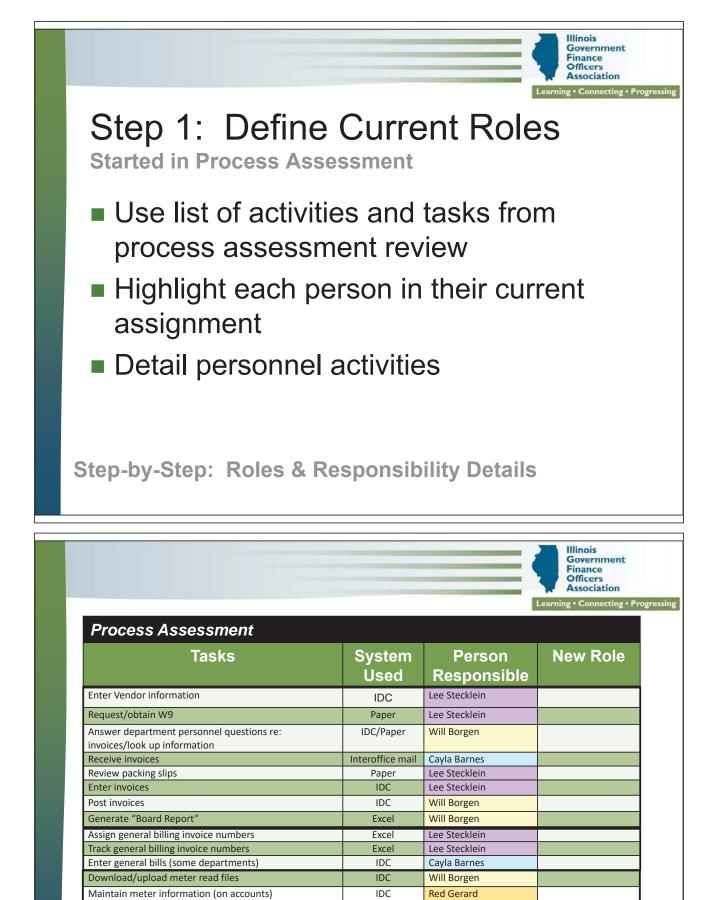
- Dashboard features in new version
- ♦ Updated system
- Provided training on using new dashboards

#### **Payroll Process Challenge**

- ♦ Older system
- Evaluated document mgmt. software
- Implemented online forms and workflow







IDC

IDC

IDC

IDC

IDC

Paper report

Cayla Barnes

Cayla Barnes

Red Gerard

**Red Gerard** 

Lee Stecklein

**Red Gerard** 

Maintain Meter inventory

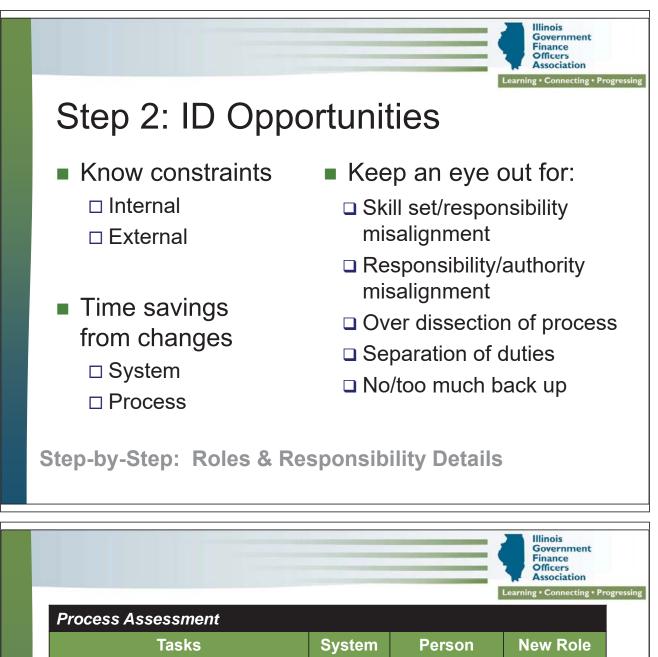
Review and resolve UB run exceptions

Monitor and update shut off list

General utility bill runs

Delinquency processing

Generate shut off list



Process Assessment			
Tasks	System Used	Person Responsible	New Role
Enter Vendor information	IDC	Lee Stecklein	
Request/obtain W9	Paper	Lee Stecklein	
Answer department personnel questions re: invoices/look up information	IDC/Paper	Will Borgen	1
Receive invoices	Interoffice mail	Cayla Barnes	
Review packing slips	Paper	Lee Steeklein	
Enter invoices	IDC	Lee Stecklein	
Post invoices	IDC	Will Borgen	
Generate "Board Report"	Excel	Will Borgen	
Assign general billing invoice numbers	Excel	Loo Stockloin	
Track general billing invoice numbers	Excel	Lee Steeklein	
Enter general bills (some departments)	IDC	Cayla Barnes	
Download/upload meter read files	IDC	Will Borgen	
Maintain meter information (on accounts)	IDC	Red Gerard	
Maintain Meter inventory	IDC	Cayla Barnes	
General utility bill runs	IDC	Red Gerard	
Review and resolve UB run exceptions	IDC	Cayla Barnes	
Delinquency processing	IDC	Red Gerard	
Generate shut off list	IDC	Red Gerard	
Monitor and update shut off list	Paper report	Lee Steeklein	

# Step 3: Realign Responsibilities

- Consider one role at a time
- Match responsibilities to skill set
- Align responsibility & authority
- Consolidate process activity
- Clarify oversight role
- Identify back up

**Action Steps** 



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# Case Study

#### **Roles Shift Over Time**

- ♦ Personnel attrition
  - Positions remained open
  - Responsibilities allocated to remaining staff
- Received promotion & retained responsibilities
- Manager's temporary help became permanent

Action Steps: Case Study

#### **Challenges Identified**

- $\diamond$  "Not enough people"
- Small pieces of multiple activities
  - Process delays
  - Duplicated effort
- $\diamond$  Duplicated efforts
- Manager responsible for administrative tasks

# Case Study (cont.)

#### Solutions

- ♦ Times Savings: Process improvements
- Reallocated managerial responsibilities/focus

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- Oversight
- Budget
- Audit

Consolidated process activities

- ♦ Reallocated "back up"
- Identified subject manager experts

### Action Steps: Case Study

					Illinois
			-		Government
TASK	PRE (hrs/mo)	POST (hrs/mo)	PRE	POST	Finance
AP	22.25	5 14.25		Person 3	Officers
Enter Vendor info	2	2 2			Association
Request/obtain W9	1	1			
Collect, verify "approval" and enter invoices	8	3 3			Learning • Connecting • I
Answer questions, look up info	4	1			
1099 reporting	0.25	0.25			
Check Run	3	3 3			
Send out checks	2	2 2			
Void checks (NSF, etc)	2	2 2			
GB	9.75	3.25			
Assing & track bill #s	2	2 0			
Receive invoices and put in binder	1	. 0			
Track payment in binder & send reciept to dept	2	2 0			
Occasional receipt and entry insurance pymt	0.5	0.25			
Track PD invoices, generate receipt and send to PD	2	2 2			
Create PD invoices (security)	2.25	5 1			
FRONT DESK/PAYMENT ENTRY	15	5 15		Person 1 and 2	
Take customer payments					
Balance Drawer (daily/cashier)	11	11			
Vehicl sticker trackig & recon	2	2 2			
Real estate transfer stamp tracking	2	2 2			
UTILITY BILLING	54.75	35.75			
Download/upload meter read files	0.5	0.5			
Maintain meter info (on accounts, no inventory)	1	0.5			
Generate UB bill run	2	2 2		person 1 and 2	
Review and "resolve" UB bill run exceptions	17.5	5 3			
Maintain UB accounts	2	2 2			
Move in/Move out - New UB account	2.5	5 2			
Answer cust inquiries	21.5	21.5			
Create/maitnain payment plans	1	L 1			
Delinquency processing	2	2 2			
Shut off process	4.5	5 1			
Update/maintain utility rates	0.25	0.25			
PAYROLL	11.5	5.25			
Enter PD & Foreman time	3.25	5 0		Person 4.5	
Process employee events (personnel actions)	1.25	i 1			
Update/Maintain pay rates (figure retro if needed)	1	1 1			
Generate W2 tax forms	0.25	0.25			
Update/maintain direct deposit info	0.75	i 0.5			
questions	4	4 2			
Garnishment bills, etc.	1	L 0.5			
BUSINESS LICENSE	9.25	3.5		Person 2	
Enter and track new applications	6	5 2			
Generate, send renwals track payment and issue licenses	3.25	1.5			
MANAGER				Person 5	
Time off approval				Manager	
backfill vacancies based on sick time/time off, etc.					
Complete personnel evaluations					
Issue resolutions					
AP check run Proof approval & print	1	1 1			
Payroll Check run approval and review					
"Final" ("supervisor") balance drawer/create deposit	22	10			

# Recap

#### **Process Review**

- Identify major activities
  - What are you doing
  - $\hfill\square$  Why are you doing it
  - $\hfill\square$  How are you doing it
  - $\hfill\square$  Who is doing it
- Identify opportunities
- Implement the change



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Illinois

Take A Fresh Look



Take A Fresh Look



# Recap

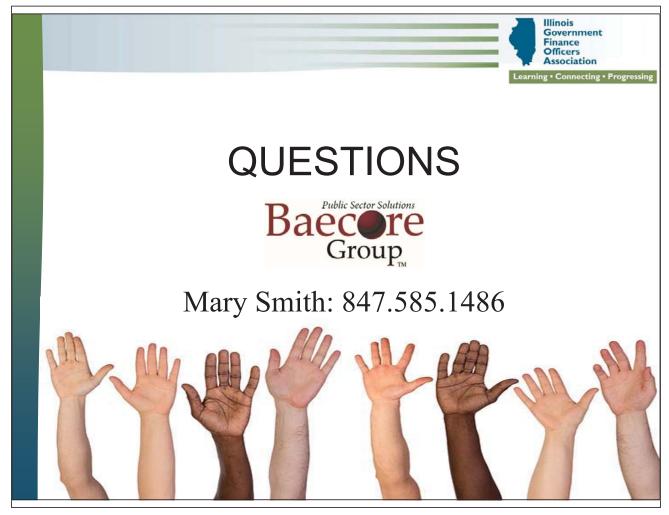
#### **Roles & Responsibilities**

- Define your team's roles
  - Detail roles using process review
  - Incorporate process & system improvements
- Identify opportunities
  - Time savings (process or system changes)
  - □ Actionable opportunities

Realign responsibilities

Take A Fresh Look







Ethan Salsinger & Tia Incapreo | Thursday, February 15

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## Agenda

#### February 15, 2018

- I. 2017 Insurance Marketplace Review
- II. Natural Disaster Recap
- III. 2018 Insurance Marketplace Review
- IV. Last Year vs. This Year
- V. What It Means For IL Municipalities
- VI. What to Expect
- VII. How to Prepare

Gallagher
Insurance | Risk Management | Consulting

Gallagher

Insurance | Risk Management | Consulting

AND

# **Ethan Salsinger Producer - Gallagher** Illinois State University • Began career with Gallagher in 2012 Focus on Illinois Municipalities IGFOA Conference Committee Member Fun Fact: I have a fear of pumpkins

## **Tia Incapreo**

### **Producer - Gallagher**

- University of Illinois Chicago
- Began Career with Gallagher in 2013
- Focus on IL munis, libraries, and K-12 schools
- ILCMA Committee Member
- Fun Fact: I'm getting married this year!



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Gallagher Insurance | Risk Management | Consulting



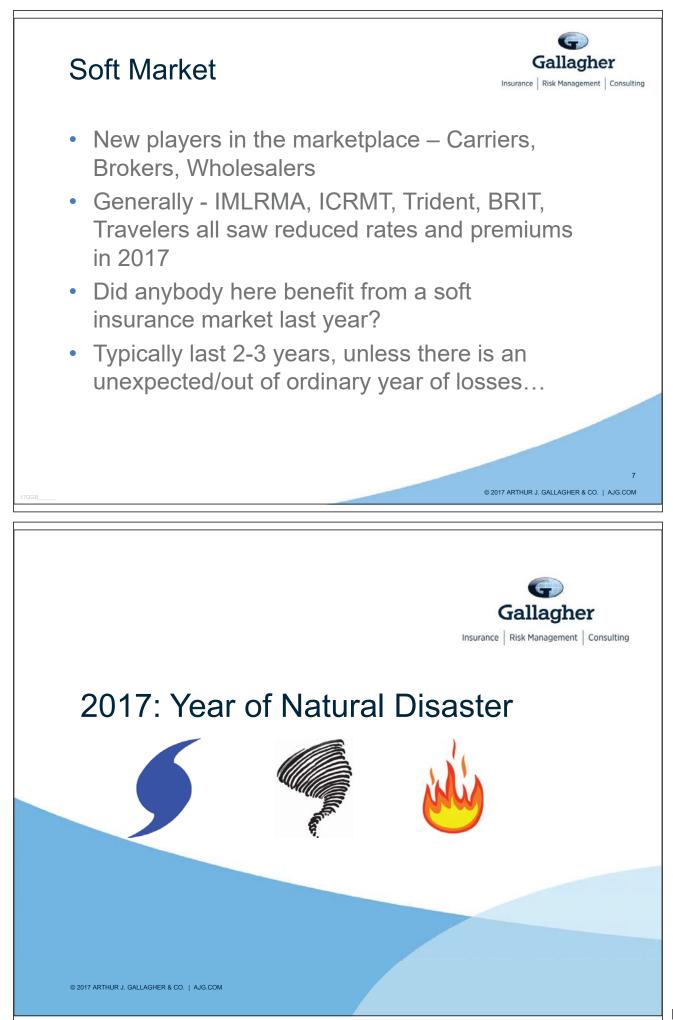


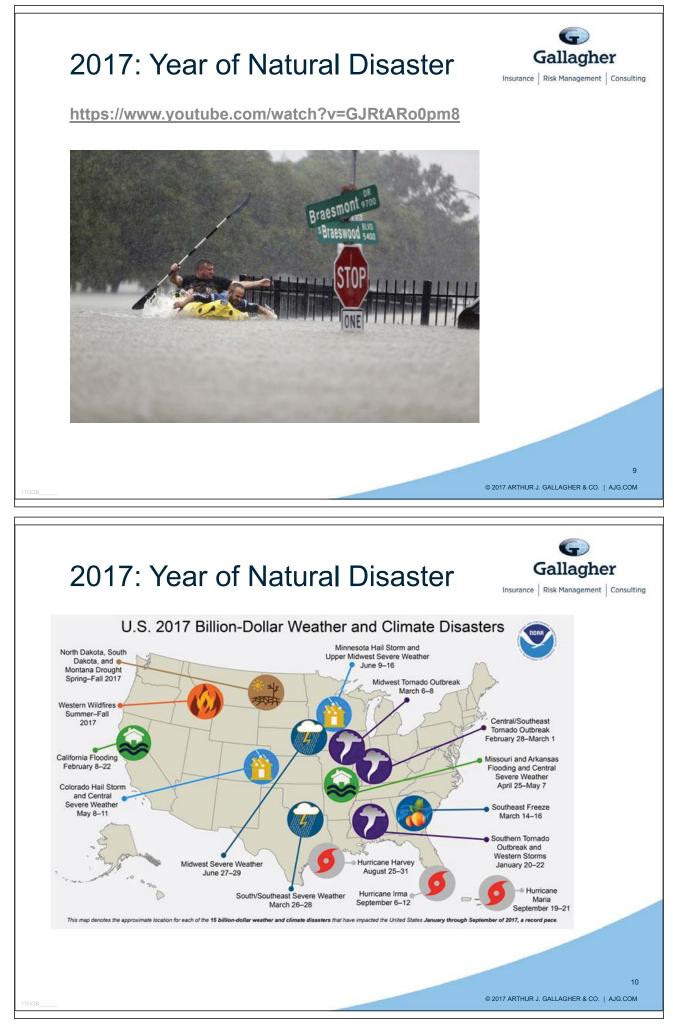


## Soft Market



- Lower insurance premiums
- Broader coverage
- Reduced underwriting criteria
- Increased capacity insurance carriers will write more policies and often include higher limits
- Increased competition among insurance carriers
- Rate reductions associated with a soft market affect the insurance carriers' bottom line, as a carrier relies on a combination of insurance premiums and investments to make money as a company





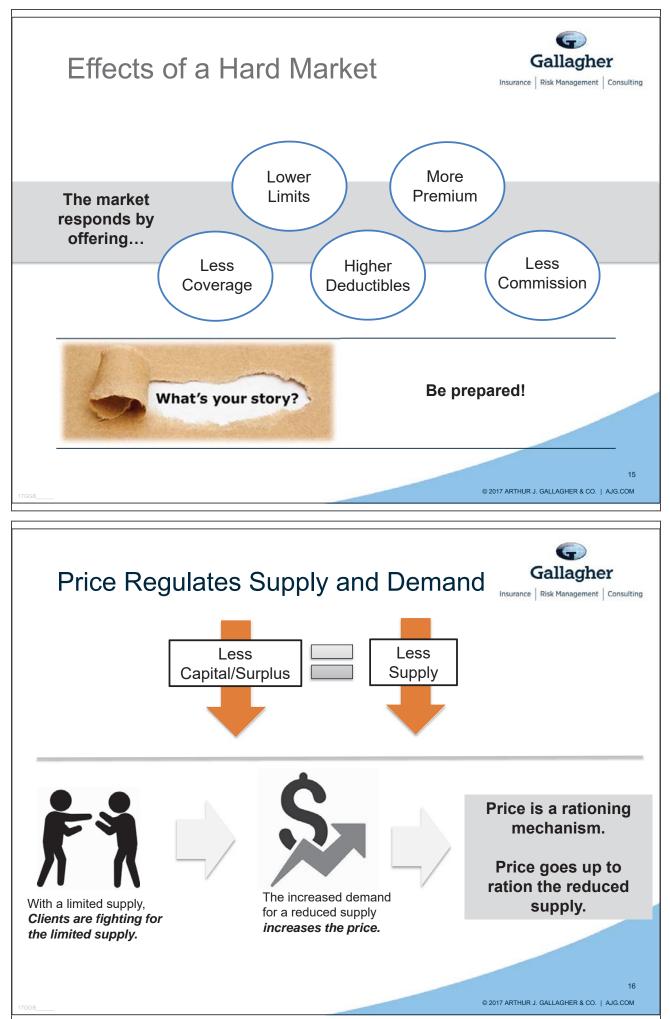




## Hard Market



- Typically will see higher insurance premiums
- More stringent underwriting criteria, makes underwriting tougher
- Reduced capacity less insurance policies written
- Less competition in market place



## Marketplace - 2017 vs 2018



Insurance | Risk Management | Consulting

2017	Market Conditions	Notes	2018	Market Conditions	Notes
		✓ Capitalization is strong; surplus at record levels (\$680B), which is up \$8B from previous year.		Conditions	✓ Surplus expected to be reduced by \$130B of to CAT losses.
		✓ 2017 combined ratio projected at 107%.			✓ Irma loss estimate at \$40-\$50B.
		✓ 12 years since a major FL Hurricane.			✓ Harvey loss estimates at \$25-\$30B.
		✓ Combined ratio for 2013 was 96.4, for 2014	as 97, for 2015 was 97.8 and 2016 is pected to be 100. These results are creating ge excess capital positions. <b>Primary Insurance</b>		✓ Maria loss estimate at \$15B-\$30B
Primary Insurance (+)P	(+) Positive	was 97, for 2015 was 97.8 and 2016 is expected to be 100. These results are creating large excess capital positions.		( -) Negative	<ul> <li>✓ Wildfires loss estimates are \$6B.</li> </ul>
		✓ US M&A activity in 2015 was \$39.6Bits			<ul> <li>Citizens Irma loss projected at \$1.25B. \$6.9 remaining in surplus.</li> </ul>
		✓ Global M&A activity is increasing especially			✓ Carriers targeting 20%-50% rate increases.
		in Asia.			<ul> <li>London experienced significant CAT losses around the world.</li> </ul>
					✓ -9.5% WC rate drop for Florida.
Reinsurance (+) Positive	<ul> <li>Keinsurers passing along premium reductions to primary carrier in 2016 and will result in</li> </ul>	Reinsurance	( -) Negative	✓ Reinsurers targeting 20-50% rate increases	
			(-) Hegauve	✓ Unlikely to see any Property rate decreases	
		favorable pricing to insurance buyers.			$\checkmark$ Dow Jones consistently at all-time highs.
Investments (+/-) Stat	*	✓ The Trump Bump – will it continue? 10 year treasury is up .5 since election.	Investments	( ) ( ) ]	<ul> <li>Interest rates are forecasting improvement over the next five years.</li> </ul>
	( +/- ) Stable	✓ Interest rates are forecasting improvement over the next five years.		(+) Stable	✓ GDP is still running at 2% on average.
		✓ GDP is still running at 2% on average.			<ul> <li>Insurers will not eam profits from underwriting in 2017.</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Insurers continue to earn profits through underwriting, not investments.</li> </ul>			underwinding in 2017.
lodeling	(+) Stable	<ul> <li>RMS v15 is the latest model being utilized by carriers. There hasn't been an effect on</li> </ul>	Modeling	(+) Stable	<ul> <li>RMS v17 is the latest model being utilized carriers. There hasn't been an effect on pricing due to modeling so farin 2017.</li> </ul>
xposure Growth		pricing due to modeling so farin 2017. ✓ Some improvements in the US economy and	Exposure Growth (Demand)	( +/- ) Stable	✓ Some improvements in the US economy as job growth have resulted in modest exposu
emand)	( +/- ) Stable	job growth have resulted in modest exposure growth.	(Demand)		growth.
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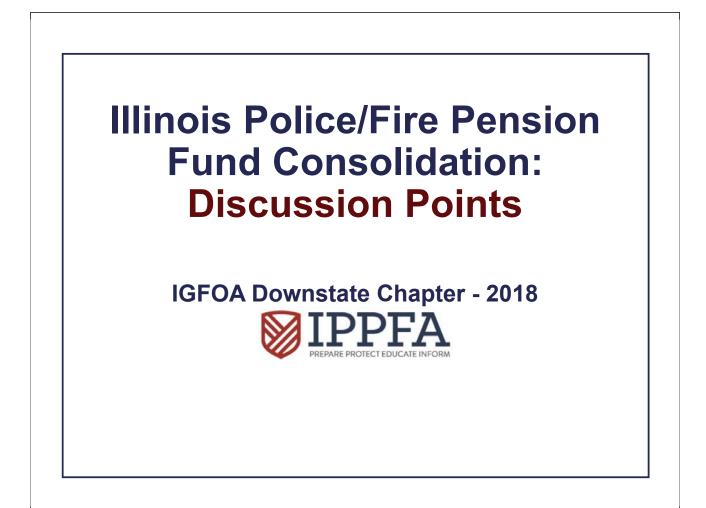


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Illinois Government Finance Officers Association

Learning • Connecting • Progressing

# **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**



Article 3-4 "Downstate" Systems					
	Police	<u>Fire</u>	<u>Total</u>		
Assets (billions)	\$7.452	\$5.419	\$1 <b>2.871</b>		
Actives	13,488	9,451	22,939		
Retires	<u>10,339</u>	<u>8,175</u>	<u>18,514</u>		
Total Members:	23,970	17,018	41,453		

Source: FY 2016 Illinois Dept. of Insurance Data from 2017 biennial report.

# Various Consolidation Proposals

<u>Proposed legislation</u> or advocacy groups recommend that Article 3-4 pension systems be consolidated into a statewide fund (either combined with an existing fund or in a separate public safety plan). IML working on several drafts at this time.

<u>Alternative</u> proposals have individual funds continuing to exist but investment authority is centralized at IMRF, the State Board of Investment or similar entity. This is a 2015 recommendation of the Illinois Department of Insurance.

## Other States

Numerous states operate single (or dual) pension funds for police/fire. Ohio, Iowa and others charge a fixed percentage of payroll to all districts (*i.e.*, a uniform rate throughout the state). In Arizona, each participating city pays a different rate based on local experience (in a manner similar to IMRF).

In Indiana, county sheriffs are covered under individual county plans. In some states, police/fire pensions are provided by statewide systems that include coverage for non-sworn personnel also.

In Florida, Pennsylvania, Texas, separate municipal systems are common, like Illinois.

# **Consolidation Argument**

- Consolidation is argued to provide for greater investment returns not achievable by the smaller, individual pension plans. The benefit supposedly comes from fewer limits on investment options, greater expertise and lower costs.
- Consolidation is argued to reduce operational expenses if local funds are combined into a statewide system.

## **Concerns Regarding Consolidation**

Consolidation is *not* guaranteed to produce the claimed outcomes.

As a result, all parties need to move cautiously and fully understand the issues, especially those that could result in unexpected outcomes.

Those concerns include (1) the loss of financial assets that occurs when portfolios are combined, (2) the investment outperformance of many existing Article 3-4 police/fire funds, (3) the complexity and costs of adjudicating and monitoring public safety disability claims and (4) the loss of flexibility regarding municipal funding.

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## Concerns Regarding Consolidation: #1 – Investment Balance Loss

When portfolios are consolidated, there is an immediate loss from what experts call "transition costs." <u>Transition costs result from:</u>

- Fees and Commissions.
- Market impact from increased sales/purchases.
- Lost opportunity during the period of time that the assets are not invested during transition.

Costs can be reduced by use of a "transition manager," but a loss cannot be avoided.

## Concerns Regarding Consolidation: #1 – Investment Balance Loss (continued)

A 2012 Illinois COGFA Report estimated the transition costs of combining Downstate police/fire systems to be \$108.8 million. The payback period to recover this loss, if investment and operational improvements were achieved, was eleven (11) years.

Thus, to begin an experiment in the *could-be* benefits of consolidation and loss of local control, the costs would be over \$108 million. This estimate is as of 2012; costs would likely be higher today given the growth in the portfolio size.

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## Concerns Regarding Consolidation: #2 – Improved Investment Performance?

IMRF and ISBI plans are well managed and high-performance operations. But, there are Downstate plans that meet or beat their performance. Spot Analysis of Downstate Plans (2015 10-year IDOI Report) shows:

Matching or Beating IMRF:	Carol Stream Fire Oak Lawn Fire	Deerfield Police
Beating ISBI:	Waukegan Fire Mt. Vernon Police Libertyville Police Hinsdale Police	Freeport Fire Oak Lawn Police Skokie Police
Almost Beating ISBI:	Rock Falls Fire Carol Stream Police Naperville Police	Rockford Fire Warrenville Police Darien-Woodridge Fire

### Concerns Regarding Consolidation: **#2 – Investment Performance** (continued)

Further, while investment performance of Article 3-4 plans lagged statewide plans in total, *the Downstate plans did not have their current expanded investment authority for the full period analyzed (2006 – 2015).* 

Downstate plans have only "geared up" to take full advantage of the new investment authority in the past five years.

## Concerns Regarding Consolidation: #3 – Operational Expenses

The Pension Fairness for Illinois Communities (PFIC) report cites lower per capita operating expenses at IMRF than in Downstate 3-4 plans.

In reality, IMRF benefits are less expensive to administer. Disability claim processing is a good example. IMRF benefits are adjudicated in two phases: temporary (first 30 months), then permanent. And the permanent benefits are offset by Social Security and worker compensation. *Lower benefits cost less money to administer.* 

### Concerns Regarding Consolidation: **#3 – Operational Expenses** (continued)

Downstate Police/Fire Plans do an excellent, documented job of managing disability benefits. In benefits processing, higher administrative costs often result in better benefit cost-control (without denying individuals their deserved pensions). Note Illinois stats from most recent IDOI Report:

<u>Plans:</u>	<u>Percent of Pension Dollars Paid</u> Out in Disability Form:
Illinois Article 3 Police	9.8 %
Illinois Article 4 Fire	17.3 %
Article 3-4 Combined	13.1 %

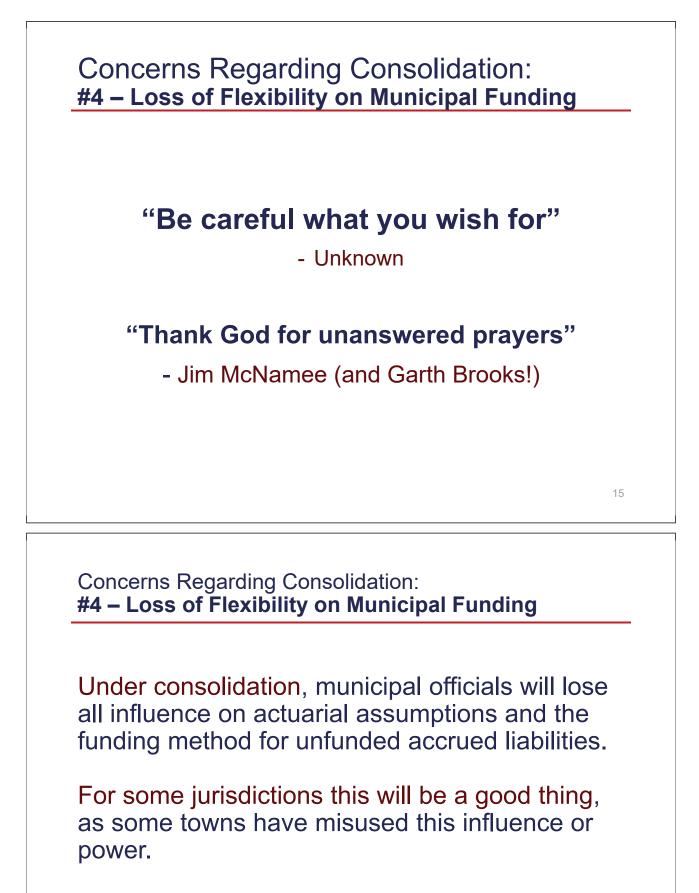
## Concerns Regarding Consolidation: #3 – Operational Expenses (continued)

<u>Plan:</u>	Percent of Pension Dollars Paid Out in Disability Form:
Ohio Police/Fire	28.8 %
Muni Police/Fire Iowa	35.9 %
Arizona Public Safety	13.2 %
New York Police/Fire	(ex NYC) 19.8 %
Arkansas Local Fire/F	Police 16.7 %
New Jersey Fire/Polic	ce 14.9 %
Colorado Fire/Police	9.1 %
Illinois Downstate Co	mbined 13.1 %

### Concerns Regarding Consolidation: #3a Current System Underrepresents taxpayers

PFIC Report opines that current 5-member boards underrepresent the taxpayer. PFIC claims that the three elected representatives "have no direct financial stake in addressing the shortfall in investment revenues" or "the award of benefits or disability pensions."

In reality, there is no evidence that the uniformed members bring anything other than significant understanding, integrity and capability to address their fiduciary roles. The aforementioned disability pension statistics show evidence of success.



But for others, the first "invoice" received from the consolidated fund could be a sticker-shock moment with substantial budgetary impact.

## Concerns Regarding Consolidation: A Discussion with One Mayor

What would happen in your town if there was Article 3-4 consolidation into one or more statewide plans?

- Local fund transfers records and assets to Springfield.
- <u>Account credited</u> in the name of the municipality incurs a transition-cost loss.
- <u>Actuarial valuation is conducted</u> and employer payment assessed using new fund's statewide actuarial assumptions and unfunded liability funding method.
- <u>Community receives its first monthly bill</u> to be applied against the next month's payroll. Payment must be made.

## **Consolidation Issues - Concluding**

Nationwide, public safety pension benefits are provided by an array of systems: local, statewide all employees, and statewide public safety (both uniform funding and individual community funding). *Concerns regarding moving from local to a statewide approach in Illinois are:* 

- Transition costs (over \$108 million).
- **Projected investment improvements may not be achieved**, and would not be achieved for some jurisdictions.
- **Operational savings may not be achieved**, and favorable disability management could be jeopardized.
- City losses funding flexibility.

## **Consolidation Issues – Additional Concern**

The Department of Insurance recommendation regarding merger of investment portfolios (*i.e.* not *full* consolidation) carries the same investment portfolio concerns as full consolidation (transition costs, failure to outperform).

Further, additional study on this structure is needed. It would have to accommodate cash-flows to-and-from individual pension funds toand-from a large system that has an allocation to illiquid investments needs considerable further study. At a minimum, an actuarial oversight role may be needed.

This approach may be unprecedented nationwide.

## **Consolidation Issues – Final Concern**

Is anyone suggesting that IMRF be broken up into thousands of separate pension systems?

No.

Then why not consolidate the public safety groups?

<u>One Answer</u>: there is a factor that is a problem in either direction: IMRF to separate or police/fire to consolidated. That factor is: **disruption.** 

A valid question is: would the systems benefit from the disruptive changes?

## Either Way: Issues to be Addressed

- Investment Performance. There is a wide range of investment performance in the Article 3 and 4 pension group. Action?
- **Disability Review Expenses**. Public Safety disability claims are expensive to administer under the current law. Action?
- Other Expenses. Can more economies be achieved from thoughtful review? Actions?

## Questions ?

# HOW TO HAVE AN EFFICIENT AND SUCCESSFUL YELLOW BOOK AUDIT

IGFOA Downstate Conference 2018

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### Agenda

Торіс	Estimated Minutes
Efficient and successful – what it looks like	10
GAAS versus GAS audit	15
Internal control and compliance	30
Exercises	15
Q and A	5

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#### Learning Objectives

- Understand what your auditors expect from you
- Develop strategies for making the audit less stressful
- Understand the differences between a GAAS audit and a GAS audit, and when a GAS audit is required
- Learn how GAS audit preparation can benefit your organization long after the audit is complete
- Discover a new way to think about internal controls and compliance matters

#### **Polling Question**

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My involvement with the annual audit:

1. Minimal

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- 2. I often have to fulfill some requests and answer some questions
- 3. I am the audit liaison

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#### Efficient and Successful

#### Successful:

- Minimize auditor adjustments and findings
- Meet statutory and other reporting deadlines
- Reduce negative publicity
- Avoid issues with regulatory and oversight agencies
- Spend more time with the board explaining the FS, and less time defending against findings

#### Efficient and Successful

#### Efficient:

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- Minimize the time required to prepare for the audit after year end
- Minimize the time auditors need to remain "in the field"
- Minimize the occurrence of audit findings and auditor adjustments

The key to it all is thorough planning, and executing the plan appropriately

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#### Preparing for the audit

Minimize audit prep time after year end:

- Be proactive throughout the year, gather, abstract, and save copies of:
  - Grant agreements
  - Debt covenants
  - Major contracts
  - New laws/regulations
- Look at prior year internal control documentation, update it quarterly

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#### Preparing for the audit

Minimize audit prep time:

- Maintain certain schedules quarterly so they need minimal update at year end
  - Capital asset additions and deletions
  - Schedule of tax receipts (property, income, sales etc.)
  - Debt roll-forward schedules
- Research pending accounting standards, reach out to the auditors with questions early in the process
- Prepare certain FS sections early (Budget amounts, statistical sections, shell for MD&A and Transmittal letter)

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#### Minimize auditors time in the field

- Hold a planning meeting with auditors several months before year end
  - · Agree to timetables for PBC items
  - · Establish a regular status meeting schedule
  - · Make auditors aware of significant changes since the prior audit
    - New revenue source, new department, significant workforce turnover, new debt issuances, new grants and contracts, etc.
- Meet <u>internally</u> and assign all PBC items. Create due dates and accountability. Get department head support.

#### Minimize the occurrence of audit findings and auditor adjustments

- Make time for supervisory reviews of key PBC items as well as year end closing entries
- · Critically review trial balances and "off the books" schedules
  - Current year versus prior year actual amounts
  - Current year actual versus budget
  - Be prepared to explain significant differences
- Compare trial balance amounts to the schedules
  - Mistakes happen
  - Additional entries get recorded, may need to update the PBC schedules
- · Think holistically when making closing entries
  - Example: an A/P item may also be a capital asset addition

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# **Polling Questions**

When the auditors propose an audit adjustment, they are also required to include a written finding in their report:

- 1) Yes
- 2) No

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3) Maybe



## Minimize auditor time in the field, and minimize findings

- Understand your compliance requirements and related internal control
  - Internal risk assessment meetings (quarterly/ semi annually?)
    - What are the compliance requirements?
    - What have we done to ensure we are complying with the requirements?
    - What more do we need to do?
    - What ongoing monitoring is done to determine we complied?
    - Address known noncompliance

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# GAAS versus GAS

• GAAS = Generally Accepted Auditing Standards in the United States

• GAS = Government Auditing Standards

GAS is established in what is referred to as the "Yellow Book" issued by the GAO.

GAAS is required for all Illinois governmental financial statements audits. GAS is also allowed however it is only <u>required</u> in limited circumstances.

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## GAAS versus GAS

GAAS is the minimum requirement.

GAS incorporates <u>all</u> of GAAS, and adds additional audit/auditor requirements and ethical principles.

A GAS audit is typically more expensive because of the additional requirements.

A GAS audit is <u>required</u> when an entity is required to have a single audit.

A GAS audit may also be required by legislation.

Management is responsible for determining which type of audit is needed.

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# Government Auditing Standards (GAS)

In conducting audits of financial statements in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, the auditor assumes certain responsibilities beyond those of audits performed in accordance with GAAS.

- General standards
  - Independence
  - Professional judgment
  - Competence

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- Quality control and assurance

### Government Auditing Standards (GAS)

Additional GAS requirements for financial audits:

- Auditor communication
- Previous audits and attestation engagements
- Fraud, noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements
- Developing elements of findings
- Audit documentation

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# Government Auditing Standards (GAS)

Additional Reporting Standards

- Reporting auditors compliance with GAS
- Reports on internal control and compliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements
- Communicating deficiencies in internal control, fraud, noncompliance and abuse
- Reporting views of responsible officials
- Reporting confidential or sensitive information
- Distributing reports

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## Government Auditing Standards (GAS)

GAAS requires auditors to consider the impact of noncompliance with laws and regulations. GAS extends that to <u>also</u> include consideration of the provisions of contracts and grant agreements.

- Auditors are responsible for identifying noncompliance that could have a material impact on the financial statements.
- GAS also requires that auditors report "abuse" that is material to the FS, of which they become aware and modify their audit procedures.

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# GAAS versus GAS – Questions?



"Yes! Our financial data is PERFECT; nobody touch ANYTHING until the auditors leave!"



# Internal Controls and Compliance

What will your auditors do?

- Request then read grant agreements, contracts, laws and regulations
- Consider which could have material FS impact
- Abstract requirements and create an audit program
- Inquire about/document the relevant internal controls
- Obtain populations and select a sample
- Test controls and compliance
- Report

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# Internal Controls and Compliance

Debt Covenants – Compliance Requirements:

- Use of debt proceeds
  - Construction/acquisition of a specific item
  - Capital outlay/purchases in general
  - Operations (less common)
- Administrative requirements
  - Information posting on EMMA
- Flow of funds
  - Need for separate funds and accounts

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Debt Covenants – Internal Control:

- Controls over the authorization, review and approval of expenditures of bond proceeds
- Controls over tracking of unspent amounts and related restricted fund balance/net position
- · Controls over bond filings with EMMA
- Controls over the opening and closing of funds and the distribution on monies to funds

# Internal Controls and Compliance

Debt Covenants – Example

The City of Anywhere issued \$25 million in 2018 GO Bonds to construct a new Village Hall.

- a) The Village established the 2018 Bond Construction Fund to account for all Village Hall construction balances and activities.
- b) The Deputy Village manager is assigned responsibility for monitoring contractors including the initial approval of all construction related invoices.
- c) The Village manager is responsible for a secondary review of contractor invoices and reviews/approves prior to payment.
- d) The accounts payable clerk processes invoices for payment only after
- <sub>24</sub> determining both approvals have been documented.

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Auditors select a sample of expenditures from the 2018 GO Bond Construction Fund. Auditors determine if the 2 required approvals are present (TO Control).

Auditors review the invoice to determine if it is a proper Village Hall construction item (TO Compliance).

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# **Polling Question**

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My government requires a single audit:

- 1. Annually
- 2. Occasionally
- 3. Almost never

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Federal grants have 12 compliance requirements (currently):

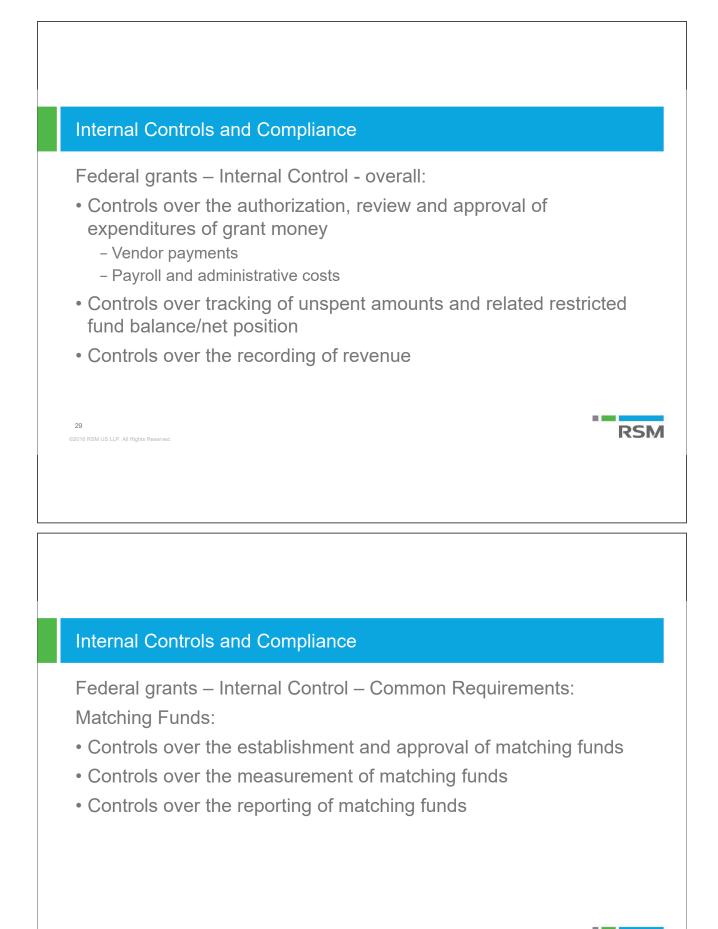
- · Activities allowed or unallowed
- Allowable costs
- · Cash management
- Eligibility
- · Equipment and real property management
- · Matching, level of effort, earmarking
- Period of performance
- · Procurements, suspension, debarment
- Program income
- Reporting
- Subrecipient monitoring
- <sup>27</sup> Special tests and provisions

### Internal Controls and Compliance

Federal Grants – Overall:

- If a single audit is required, auditors will be required to test compliance for all applicable requirements and the related internal control.
- If a single audit is not required, auditors will test compliance for all significant requirements that are deemed material to the financial statements.
- Similarly, auditors will test compliance for all significant <u>State/local</u> grant compliance requirements that are deemed material to the financial statements.

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Federal grants – Internal Control – Common Requirements: Eligible Costs:

- Controls over the dissemination of eligible and ineligible expenditures
- Controls over the approval of expenditures charged to grants
- Controls over the reporting of expenditures to grantors

# Internal Controls and Compliance

Federal grants – Internal Control – Common Requirements: Procurement:

- Controls over / establishing purchasing policies and procedures
- Controls over the award of contracts
- Controls over the vetting of individual vendors
- Controls over special provisions, EEOC, use of minority vendors, etc.

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# **Polling Question**

My government has established clear and consistent guidelines for evaluating proposals/bids received:

- 1. Yes
- 2. No

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### Internal Controls and Compliance

Eligible Costs- Example

The City of Anywhere received a \$2 million federal grant to install additional safety features at a railroad crossing.

- a) The grant requires the City to hire the lowest qualified/responsive bidder.
- b) The grant requires the money to be used on new traffic signals, crossing gates, adjacent sidewalk repair and road pavement within 500 feet of the crossing.
- c) The grant money may not be used for City payroll or administrative expenses.

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Eligible Costs Example (Cont.)

The City has established the following controls:

- The City's procurement policy requires procurement through RFP and the receipt of sealed bids for all construction contracts over \$100,000.
- Sealed bids are opened by a committee of 3 individuals, bid tabulations and results are documented and used as a basis for the award, which is approved by the Board.
- All awards to individual vendors in excess of \$50K require a signed contract.
- All payments to vendors under these contracts require pre-approval by the Head of Public Works.
- The Head of Public Works was provided an abstract of eligible and ineligible costs.

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### Internal Controls and Compliance

Auditors review Board minutes and sight Board approval of vendor awarded the contract. Auditors sight Department Head's abstract. Auditors select a sample of disbursements charged to the grant award and sight DH approval of invoices. (TO Control).

Auditors select a sample of paid invoices and determine if amounts paid were limited to eligible expenditures under the grant agreement. (TO Compliance).

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# Polling question

Our legal counsel provides annual updates on legislation that impacts our government:

- 1. Yes
- 2. No

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3. Maybe, but I don't get the information

# Internal Controls and Compliance

Deposit and Use of Restricted Resources:

- Established by State statute, grant award or contribution, Official Statements, local ordinance etc.
  - Grants nearly all have restrictions on use of proceeds
  - MFT funds road improvements
  - Bond proceeds typically limited to a specific project
  - Contributions many have restrictions on use (NIU)
  - Local ordinance use of hotel/motel tax

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Internal Control over deposit and use of restricted resources:

- · Controls over the establishment of special funds and accounts
- Controls over the expenditure of funds
- · Controls over monitoring remaining funds
- Controls over reporting

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### Internal Controls and Compliance

**Restricted Funds- Example** 

The Library of Anywhere received a \$10 million endowment from a resident of Anywhere. The Library can use the investment earnings to purchase children's books, the principal amount must remain intact in perpetuity.

- a) The Library invested the money in 40 year US Treasury bonds rated AAA.
- b) The Library established a permanent fund, the CB Endowment Fund and the \$10 million UST bonds were recorded in the fund.
- c) The Head Librarian reviews and approves all book purchase invoices before they are paid. Only children's books may be charged to the CB Endowment Fund.
- d) The accounting manager determines if sufficient investment income exists

before recording book expenditures in the CB Endowment Fund.



Auditors selected a sample of disbursements from the CB Endowment Fund and sighted the Head Librarian approval. (TO Control).

Auditors selected a sample of disbursements from the CB Endowment Fund and determined if the expenditures were for purchases of children's books. Auditors confirmed the UST Bond with the custodian and sighted the balance agreed to the trial balance in the amount of \$10 million. (TO Compliance).

# Internal Controls and Compliance

Authorized investments:

- Established by Statute as well as local ordinance/investment policy
- Typically different for pension funds
- Consider types of investments and other factors such as
  - Maturities

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- Credit worthiness of investee
- Limits (concentration)

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Internal Control over Authorized Investments:

- Controls over the authorization of deposits and investment purchases
- · Controls over tracking of credit ratings
- · Controls over monitoring balances and limits
- Controls over opening and closing accounts
- · Controls over custody and access rights

## Internal Controls and Compliance

Investments-Example

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The City of Anywhere is authorized by State law and its investment policy to deposit cash with financial institutions to the extent of FDIC coverage. Amounts that exceed FDIC coverage should be collateralized at 102% with highly rated UST or Agency securities.

- a) The Finance Director recommends financial institutions to the Board and the Board approves.
- b) The Village manager executes agreements with the approved FI's, such agreements require adequate collateralization of excess deposits.
- c) The accounting manager obtains a monthly collateral statement from each bank and compares to reconciled account balance (excess amount).

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Auditors review Board minutes and sight Board approval of financial institutions. Auditors obtain copies of executed agreements for larger banks and sight VM signature. (TO Control).

Auditors review bank agreements and note 102% collateral requirement. Auditors review year end balances in individual banks and the collateral statements for those that exceed FDIC limits. Determine if collateral is sufficient and consists of UST and Agency securities. (TO Compliance).





Budgets and Appropriations:

- Required by State Statute
- Authorize spending limits and are approved by the Board
- Policy for level at which overspend can/cannot occur
  - Fund level
  - Department level
  - Object level

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• Requirements for amending budget

# Internal Controls and Compliance

Internal Control over Budgets and Appropriations:

- · Controls over the authorization of spending limits
- · Controls over monitoring of expenditure totals
- Controls over measuring spending totals and limits
- Controls over budget amendments

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### Budget- Example

The City of Anywhere is required to adopt the appropriation and annual budget document the quarter prior to the start of the FY.

- The legal level of budgetary control is at the Fund level.
- Expenditures in excess of the established level in the budget require approval of 2/3rd of the Board.
- The City uses an encumbrance system to monitor expenditure levels compared to the approved budget.
- The Board receives a monthly and YTD report of budgeted versus actual expenditures by Fund in the Board packet. The Finance Director provides an overview at each Board meeting.

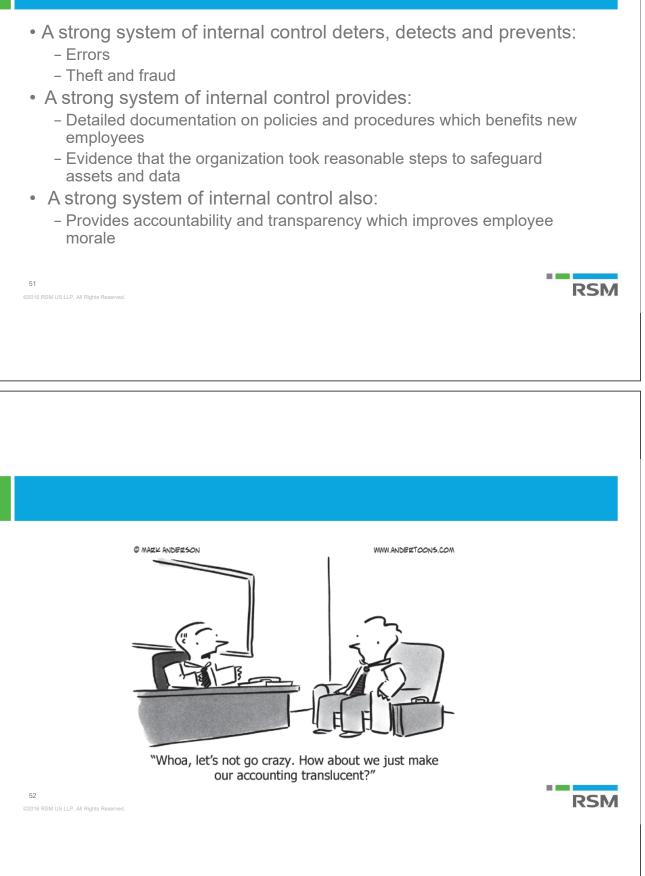
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Internal Controls and Compliance

Auditors review Board minutes and sight Board approval of the annual appropriation/budget. Auditors review minutes and sight budget versus actual expenditure discussion in the Finance presentation. (TO Control).

Auditors compare year end balances of total expenditures compared to the amended budget. Auditors sight Board approval of budget amendments in the Board minutes. (TO Compliance).

# **Added Benefits**



# Exercise

When designing or evaluating internal controls, see if it addresses the following:

Who (who is performing the control activity)

What (what are they doing)

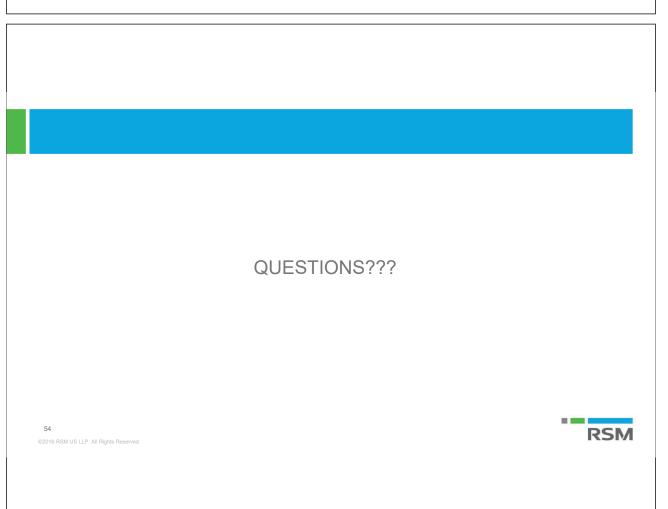
Where (where is it performed  $-\,i.e.$  electronic, paper, central or offsite, etc. )

When (is it a daily control, weekly, monthly etc.)

How (how is it performed)

ALWAYS CONSIDER SEGREGATION OF DUTIES

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# Key Rating Drivers and Trends for Illinois Local Governments

David Levett, Assistant Vice President Shannon Bibby, Associate Lead Analyst February 16, 2018

# Agenda

- 1. Moody's General Obligation (GO) Methodology
- 2. Limited Tax Debt
- 3. Pensions
- 4. Illinois Credit Trends

# Moody's General Obligation Methodology

# Moody's GO Methodology Scope of the GO Methodology:

- » Applies to U.S. local governments issuing debt secured by a general obligation pledge.
- » Principal and interest are secured by the full faith and credit of the issuer and supported by the issuer's unlimited or limited taxing power.
- » Includes cities, counties, school districts, some community colleges and special districts.

# Methodology Scorecards Goals of the GO methodology and scorecard factors:

- » Provide a starting point for a more thorough analysis.
- » Enhance the transparency of our rating process.
- » Include some qualitative metrics in addition to quantitative factors.
- » Formally incorporate historical trend analysis.
- » Capture key considerations that correspond to particular rating categories.
- » Not an exhaustive list of factors that we consider in every rating.
- » May adjust up or down from scorecard-indicated outcome based on additional factors.
- » Final rating is determined by a Rating Committee after consideration of all relevant facts.

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# **General Obligation Scorecard Factors**

# Factor 1: Economy/Tax Base – 30%

- » Full value (10%) market value of taxable property.
- » Full value per capita (10%) provides a resources per resident metric.
- » Median Family Income (10%) measure of strength and resiliency of a tax base.

	Very Strong	Strong	Moderate	Weak	Poor	Very Poor
	Aaa	Aa	Α	Baa	Ba	B & Below
ECONOMY/TAX BA	ASE (30%)					
Tax Base Size: Full Value (in 000s)	> \$12B	\$12B≥n>\$1.4B	\$1.4B≥n>\$240M	\$240M≥n> \$120M	\$120M≥n> \$60M	≤ \$60M
Full Value Per Capita	> \$150,000	\$150,000≥ n > \$65,000	\$65,000≥ n > \$35,000	\$35,000≥ n > \$20,000	\$20,000≥ n > \$10,000	≤ \$10,000
Socioeconomic Indices: MFI	> 150% of US median	150% to 90% of US median	90% to 75% of US median	75% to 50% of US median	50% to 40% of US median	≤ 40% of US median

# General Obligation Scorecard Factors Factor 2: Finances – 30%

- » Fund Balance (10%) typically assigned and unassigned Operating Fund balance.
- » Cash Balance (10%) measures liquidity; excludes accruals, interfund loans, etc.
- » 5-Yr. \$ Change in Fund Balance and in Cash Balance as % of Revs (each 5%).

	Very Strong	Strong	Moderate	Weak	Poor	Very Poor B & Below			
FINANCES (30%)	Aaa	Aa	Α	Ваа	Ва	B & Below			
Fund Balance as % of Revenues	> 30.0% > 25.0% for School Districts	30.0% ≥ n > 15.0% 25.0% ≥ n > 10.0% for SD		5.0% ≥ n > 0.0% 2.5% ≥ n > 0.0% for SD	0.0% ≥ n > -2.5% 0.0% ≥ n > -2.5% for SD	≤ -2.5% ≤ -2.5% for SD			
5-Year Dollar Change in Fund Balance as % of Revenues	> 25.0%	25.0% ≥ n > 10.0%	10.0% ≥ n > 0.0%	0.0% ≥ n > -10.0%	-10.0% ≥ n > -18.0%	≤ -18.0%			
Cash Balance as % of Revenues	> 25.0% > 10.0% for School Districts	25.0% ≥ n > 10.0% 10.0% ≥ n > 5.0% for SD		5.0% ≥ n > 0.0% 2.5% ≥ n > 0.0% for SD	0.0% ≥ n > -2.5% 0.0% ≥ n > -2.5% for SD	≤ -2.5% ≤ -2.5% for SD			
5-Year Dollar Change in Cash Balance as % of Revenues	> 25.0%	25.0% ≥ n > 10.0%	10.0% ≥ n > 0.0%	0.0% ≥ n > -10.0%	-10.0% ≥ n > -18.0%	≤ -18.0%			
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# **General Obligation Scorecard Factors**

# Factor 3: Management – 20%

- » Institutional Framework (10%) legal ability to match revenues with expenditures.
- » Operating History (10%) 5-yr average ratio of operating revenues to expenditures.

	Very Strong	Strong	Moderate	Weak	Poor	Very Poor	
	Aaa	Aa	Α	Baa	Ва	B & Below	
MANAGEMENT (20%)							
Institutional Framework	Very strong legal ability to match resources with spending	Strong legal ability to match resources with spending	Moderate legal ability to match resources with spending	Limited legal ability to match resources with spending	Poor legal ability to match resources with spending	Very poor or no legal ability to match resources with spending	
Operating History: 5- Year Avg of Op Rev / Op Expend	> 1.05x	1.05x≥ n > 1.02x	1.02x≥ n > 0.98x	0.98x ≥ n > 0.95x	0.95x≥ n > 0.92x	≤ 0.92x	

# **General Obligation Scorecard Factors**

# IL Institutional framework scores

» Framework scores include an evaluation of governments' legal ability to adjust revenue and expenditures, as well as the predictability of revenues and expenses.

Counties		Α
Cities		Α
School Districts		Α
Community College Districts		Α
Fire Districts		Α
Other Districts (Airport, Transit, Library)		Aa
Park and Recreation Districts		Aa
Utilities (GO Secured)		Aa
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# General Obligation Scorecard Factors

# Factor 4: Debt/Pensions – 20%

- » Debt to Full Value (5%) & to Operating Revenues (5%) measures debt relative to resources.
- » 3-Year Average Moody's Adjusted Net Pension Liability (ANPL) to Full Value (5%) & to Operating Revenues (5%) – measures pensions relative to resources.

	Very Strong	Strong	Moderate	Weak	Poor	Very Poor
	Aaa	Aa	Α	Baa	Ba	B & Below
DEBT/PENSIONS						
(20%)						
Net Direct Debt / Full Value	< 0.75%	0.75% ≤ n < 1.75%	1.75% ≤ n < 4.00%	4.00% ≤ n < 10.00%	10.00% ≤ n < 15.00%	> 15.00%
Net Direct Debt / Operating Revenues	< 0.33x	0.33x ≤ n < 0.67x	0.67x ≤ n < 3.00x	3.00x ≤ n < 5.00x	5.00x ≤ n < 7.00x	> 7.00x
3-Year Average ANPL/ Full Value	< 0.90%	0.90% ≤ n < 2.10%	2.10% ≤ n < 4.80%	4.80% ≤ n < 12.00%	12.00% ≤ n < 18.00%	> 18.00%
3-Year Average ANPL/ Op Revenues	< 0.40x	0.40x ≤ n < 0.80x	0.80x ≤ n < 3.60x	3.60x ≤ n < 6.00x	6.00x ≤ n < 8.40x	> 8.40x

# **GO Scorecard- Notching Factors**

Description		Direction
Economy/Tax Base		
Institutional presence		up
Regional economic center		up
Economic concentration		down
Outsized unemployment or poverty levels		down
Other analyst adjustment to Economy/Tax Base fac	ctor (specify)	up/down
Finances		
Outsized contingent liability risk		down
Unusually volatile revenue structure		down
Other analyst adjustment to Finances factor (speci	fy)	up/down
Management		
State oversight or support		up/down
Unusually strong or weak budgetary management	and planning	up/down
Other analyst adjustment to Management factor (	specify)	up/down
Debt/Pensions		
Unusually strong or weak security features		up/down
Unusual risk posed by debt/pension structure		down
History of missed debt service payments		down
Other analyst adjustment to Debt/Pensions factor	(specify)	up/down
Other	(	
Credit event/trend not yet reflected in existing dat	a sets	up/down
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# General Obligation Scorecard Factors Standard Notching for Illinois Sectors

- » Illinois school districts and community colleges receive a -0.5 downward adjustment for exposure to underfunded state pension plan and pension cost-shift.
- » Home rule Illinois cities and counties that have home rule status receive +0.5 given the broader authority to levy taxes and incur debt compared with non-home rule entities.

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# Limited Tax Debt

# **General Obligation Limited Tax Debt**

# 1. Debt Service Extension Base (DSEB)

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» Payable from a property tax levy unlimited as to rate but limited by the amount of the LG's DSEB.

### 2. Debt Certificates

» Payable from all available funds and are a first budget obligation.

# Moody's Assessment of GOLT Debt

- » GOULT rating or its equivalent is the starting point for our analysis.
- » GOLT ratings in IL generally rated equivalent to the GOULT rating because of the broad security pledge (debt service is a first budget obligation).
- » In February 2017, we upgraded the GOLT ratings of approximately 40 issuers.
- » Notching differential can change under severe credit stress. As local governments approach default, we may adjust the differential between GOLT and GOULT based on our issuer-specific expectations regarding relative recovery rates.

# Pensions

# Pensions

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# Moody's Adjusted Net Pension Liability

- » Under GASB standards, public pension plans with the same benefit obligations and similar asset values may report different unfunded pension liabilities due to differences in assumed rates of investment return.
- » Since assumed rates of investment return are linked to pension fund portfolio asset composition, plan funded status can improve under GASB accounting rules solely due to greater asset risk-taking.
- » Our adjustment allows for greater transparency and comparability of pension liability measures for use in our credit analysis.
- » Reflects the market value of pension promises weighed against the assets backing them as of the measurement date.
- » Our adjustment is intended to reflect the point-in-time market value of a zero-coupon fixed-income payment stream that is similar in risk, timing and amount to accrued pension benefits.

# Pensions

# **Moody's Tread Water Indicator**

- » The measures of pension costs provided under GASB 67 and 68 do not provide a comparable or reliable indication of the cost of keeping up with pension plan funding.
- » Tread water represents our estimate of the pension contribution necessary to prevent unfunded pension liabilities from growing, year-over-year, in nominal dollars, if all actuarial assumptions are met.
- » Contributions that exceed the indicator reflect positive amortization of reported unfunded liabilities.
- » In contrast, contributions that lag the tread water indicator typically signal budgetary imbalance, because the ongoing contribution does not cover the cost of implied interest on unfunded liabilities under reported assumptions.

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# Pensions

# Strong legal protections for pensions limit ability to change benefits

- » The Illinois Supreme Court has found various attempts to change pension benefits – including COLAs – to be in violation of the Illinois Constitution.
- The inability in Illinois to reduce public pension liabilities through benefit reductions stands in contrast to public pension reforms that have been upheld in several other states.
- » Lower benefit tiers for new employees will provide eventual savings but do not reduce liabilities that have already been accrued.

# Pensions

# **Questions to expect from Moody's analysts**

- » Are pension costs paid with a dedicated revenue source?
- » What was the contribution in the current year and projected for next year?
- » How does the city size its annual pension contribution (state minimum, actuarially determined contribution, other)?
- » If pension contributions are projected to rise, what revenue or expenditure options does the city have to absorb growing costs?
- » Any recent changes in actuarial assumptions or expectations going forward (mortality tables, assume rate of returns, etc)?

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# Illinois Credit Trends – Cities

# Pensions are a pressure challenge, but credit quality remains strong

- » Steady growth in pension burdens and fixed costs to service the burden drive recent downgrades.
- » Home rule status provides substantial legal flexibility.
- » Many cities have strong reserves and stable financial operations; we consider pension contributions practices in context of finances.
- » Pension contribution practices vary widely, with some cities at or exceeding tread water, but some far below.
- » Budget impasse had limited impact on rated cities as primary state shared revenues were not subject to appropriation.
- » Cuts to income tax revenue sharing and sales tax fee negative for communities with narrower financial operations.

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Illinois Credit Trends – Counties

# **Stabilizing sector**

- » Pension burdens are more moderate than for cities and contribution practices are generally stronger.
- » Tax base valuations are stabilizing and recovering, which is critical given absence of home rule status.
- » Minority of counties have challenges associated with human service enterprise operations and occasionally jail operations.

# Illinois Credit Trends – Other sectors

# Stabilizing credit profiles

- » Tax bases are starting to recover though remain well below precession peaks in most areas.
- » Uncertainty from the state's financial challenges and legislative proposals remains a credit challenge.
- » Community Colleges: State operating aid is again flowing.
- » Park and recreation districts: Generally strong reserves, but a handful of park districts are pressured from enterprise operations and / or carry narrow balances.

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# Illinois Credit Trends – Schools

# Limited dependence on state aid, but exposure related to pension support

- » Just 18 of 255 rated districts received 40% or more of their annual funding from the state in fiscal 2016.
- » We view dependence on state aid as credit negative, but recognize such districts generally benefit under new state aid formula.
- » Most property tax dependent districts enjoy steady growth in revenues despite tax base declines given ability to offset valuation declines with tax rate increases.
- » Most rated schools have strong reserves and above average MFI.
- » Currently low pension burdens likely to slowly grow over time following implementation of tier 3.

# Illinois Credit Trends – state exposure

# Financial flexibility can help mitigate state pressures

- » Has management analyzed the impact of state proposals and are they able to quantify potential exposure?
- » Are there contingency plans in place including specific expenditure cuts or revenue enhancements?
- » Does the local government have the ability to adjust revenues or issue working cash bonds?
- » Does the local government maintain a financial forecast? What are the key assumptions in the forecast?
- » Does the local government have a minimum fund balance policy?
- » Are the government's reserves strong enough to withstand additional pressures?

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# Appendix

# Pensions Moody's Adjusted Net Pension Liability

- Step 1: Identify Reported Liabilities and Discount Rates. Whether a government participates in a single-employer plan, multi-employer cost-sharing plan, and/or multi-employer agent plan, we start with the government's share of reported total pension liabilities (TPL).
- Step 2: Discount Reported Liabilities. We discount the reported TPL using the Citigroup Pension Liability Index, a high-grade (Aa-rated or higher) taxable corporate bond index. Liabilities are discounted using the index on the same date as the plan valuation date. We estimate plan-specific duration using GASB disclosure of sensitivity to discount rate changes.
- » **Step 3:** From the discounted liabilities, we subtract the fair or market value of assets (MVA) as of the actuarial reporting date.

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# Pensions Moody's Adjusted Net Pension Liability example

Label	Line Item	Value - Hypothetical Example	Source
A	Measurement Date	6/30/2017	Reported
В	Single Equivalent Discount Rate	7.25%	Reported
С	Total Pension Liability	\$10,000,000	Reported
D	Plan Fiduciary Net Position (i.e., market value)	\$7,500,000	Reported
E	Net Pension Liability	\$2,500,000	Reported = C less D
F	Net Pension Liability (Single Equivalent Discount Rate minus 100 bp)	\$3,850,000	Reported
G	Total Pension Liability (Single Equivalent Discount Rate minus 100 bp)	\$11,350,000	= F less E, plus C
Н	Estimated Liability Duration	13.50	= 100 * (G less C, divided by C)
I	Citi Pension Liability Index as of Measurement Date	3.87%	Published monthly by the Society of Actuaries
J	Moody's Adjusted Liability	\$15,399,794	= C * (1+B) <sup>H</sup> * (1+I) <sup>-H</sup>
К	Moody's Adjusted Net Pension Liability (ANPL)	\$7,899,794	= J less D

# Pensions Tread Water is Indicator Sum of Two Components

- » *Employer portion of the service cost:* Subtract employee contributions from total service costs.
- Implied interest on the net pension liability: Multiply the net pension liability at the beginning of the plan's fiscal year by the discount rate from the prior year, or in other words, at the beginning of the plan's fiscal year.
- » Uses reported discount rate.

Label	Line Item	Value of Plan - Hypothetical Example	Source
A	Total Pension Liability (beginning of year)	\$50,000,000	Reported
В	Plan Fiduciary Net Position (beginning of year)	\$40,000,000	Reported
С	Net Pension Liability (beginning of year)	\$10,000,000	= A less B
D	Single Equivalent Discount Rate (prior year)	7.50%	Reported
E	Implied Interest on Net Pension Liability	\$750,000	= C * D
F	Service Cost	\$500,000	Reported
G	Employee Contributions	\$200,000	Reported
н	Employer Service Cost	\$300,000	= F less G
I	Tread Water Indicator	\$1,050,000	= E plus H
	*		

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Key Rating Drivers and Trends for Illinois Local Governments, February 16, 2018 31 **Linda Abernethy** is a public-sector partner in RSM's Schaumburg office. Linda has served governments her entire career, spanning over 30 years. Linda's client base includes State agencies, counties, municipalities, hospitals, special districts, colleges and universities. Linda has performed numerous audits, single audits, grant and special audits throughout her career as well as performing consulting services for governments. Linda recently served on the State and Local Government expert panel of the AICPA, and currently serves on the ILCPA Governmental Executive Committee and conference task force, as well as the GFOA, the IL GFOA and is a past member of the IGFOA technical accounting review committee. Additionally, Linda is on the State Comptroller's local government advisory board.

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