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## **IGFOA Utility Billing Seminar Speaker Bios | June 20, 2024**

### **Furney “Alex” Brown, Principal, Plante Moran**

Furney “Alex” Brown has over 25 years of information technology audit, technology regulatory control compliance, and system integration project experience. Alex has extensive experience in the assessment of technology risk and evaluation of IT controls in support of IT security regulatory compliance engagements (e.g., HIPAA/HITECH and Sarbanes-Oxley). In addition, Alex has comprehensive experience in working with various IT security control frameworks (e.g., NIST 800, ISO 27001/27002, COBIT, HIPAA, FERPA). Alex has considerable industry experience including healthcare, government, higher education, and manufacturing. Alex’s experience includes 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.

### **Maria de Lourdes Coss, MPA, CPPO, Owner, ML Coss and Associates, LLC**

Maria de Lourdes Coss, MPA, CPPO, is the author of "Procurement Methods: Effective Techniques". She is a certified Maxwell Leadership Team member and Independent Executive Director. She is also a professional speaker, executive coach, and trainer. Maria is a personality consultant, a Licensed Brain Trainer, a Certified Neuro-encoding Specialist, and a Cialdini-certified coach.

As a transformational leader and former Chief Procurement Officer, Maria invested two decades of her 27-year career successfully leading procurement transformations at some of the U.S.'s largest agencies, such as the City of Houston, Cook County, the University of Illinois, the Public Building Commission of Chicago, and the City of Chicago. She now leverages her experience and expertise to help individuals and organizations transform their performance to reach new heights. She shares her expertise by providing training, consulting, and coaching. Maria continues to add value to the profession through her educational procurement transformation blog and podcast.

Maria graduated magna cum laude from the University of Puerto Rico and received her MPA from Florida State University. She has served on several boards, including the NIGP Board. She is the recipient of the 2016 Spirit of NIGP Award and the 2018 NIGP Integrity Award. Thinkers360 recognized Maria as one of the top *100 Women Thought Leaders to Follow* and among the *Top 50 Global Influencers and Thought Leaders in Procurement*.

### **Mallory Milluzzi, Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins, Ltd.**

Mallory Milluzzi is a partner with Klein, Thorpe, & Jenkins. She counsels school districts, municipalities and public bodies on the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), Open Meetings Act, social media issues, zoning, telecommunications, PSEBA and general municipal and school law issues.

Mallory has litigated a range of claims on behalf of her clients including claims involving PSEBA, the First Amendment, civil rights and Section 1983, ordinance violations, breach of contract, property damage, the

Freedom of Information Act and defending administrative review appeals. She additionally represents public bodies in property tax matters before county Boards of Review, PTAB and the circuit court.

Mallory frequently presents on FOIA, OMA, ethics, zoning, social media and most recently the placement of wireless telecommunication facilities, including small cell and distributed antenna systems. Additionally, she regularly provides clients with training for newly elected officials and is approved to provide statutory required school board member training to districts across the state. She also provides staff with training on FOIA and social media issues.

Mallory received a Bachelor of Arts in English from Ohio University in 2008 and her Juris Doctorate from Chicago-Kent College of Law in 2011. Mallory also received a Litigation and Alternative Dispute Resolution certification from Chicago-Kent. Mallory is admitted to practice in Illinois and the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois.