

NGMA 2017 Annual Grants Training Presenter Bios



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David Bender is an associate in the Health Law and Federal Grants practice groups at FTLF. David assists in matters pertaining to litigation and compliance by conducting legal research and drafting documents that further client interests. David works on a wide variety of issues affecting Federally Qualified Health Centers and other federal grantees, including those relating to the False Claims Act, the Federal Tort Claims Act, Medicare and Medicaid overpayments, and OMB cost principles.

Shiva Bhat is a cloud technology evangelist, strategist, solution architect and PMI certified Project Management Professional. He has 20+ years of experience in enterprise analysis, software development, systems integration, and project management. He has worked extensively on all phases of business/IT lifecycle automation and managed the customization and implementation of many packaged software solutions. He has built and implemented cloud-based CRM & grants management solutions and on public cloud platforms including force.com, Azure, and AWS, adhering to security and standards. He is specialized in building tailored business applications on Salesforce platform. He has led the development of public sector and commercial software applications using object oriented modeling, agile methodology, and industry standard quality assurance processes (CMM). He has accomplished many COTS package implementation /integration and product development projects, involving grants management, funding, business cases, requirements, solution architecture, modular design, development, integration, testing, and training. Shiva holds an M.B.A. in Finance and Management Information Systems from the University of Bangalore, India.

Nancy Bibb is a Senior Auditor with U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General, Office of Audit Services (OAS). She has been with OAS since 2009. Prior to that, Nancy worked in public education. While working for OAS, Nancy has conducted audits on the Child Care Development Fund, Community Service Block Grants, Head Start and a variety of other grant programs. Additionally, Nancy participates in the Medicare Fraud Strike Force efforts. Nancy is a Certified Fraud Examiner.

Cynthia Branch, MBA, CAE, CGMS is the National Contract Manager for the American Thrombosis and Hemostasis Network (ATHN). She has an MBA with a concentration in Non-Profit Management, is a Certified Association Executive (CAE) and a Certified Grants Management Specialist (CGMS). She brings over 20 years of experience in the areas of Grant/Contract Management; Grant writing/Resource Development; and Financial/Nonprofit Management. Prior to joining ATHN, Cynthia worked for the American Medical Association (AMA), the Community and Economic Development Association of Cook County (CEDA, Inc.), and the Cook County President's Office of Employment Training (POET). In these roles, she worked with local, state and federal funders to develop programs and direct several grant funded initiatives. Cynthia utilizes her expertise and background to support over 135 ATHN Affiliate Organizations (Hemophilia Treatment Centers) throughout the country via the following: contract development, negotiations and execution; training and technical assistance support; and reconciliation of invoices for reimbursements. She provides contractual development support/technical assistance to ATHN's executive leadership team as they develop and implement new program initiatives to further expand, support, and provides assistance to ATHN's Affiliates, Sponsors, and Partners in the Hemophilia Community. Cynthia is very passionate about developing and maintaining great working relationships with these organizations to ensure the necessary support in serving the Hemophilia Community.

NGMA 2017 Annual Grants Training Presenter Bios



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Andrea Brandon is currently the Deputy Assistant Secretary for the HHS Office of Grants and Acquisition Policy and Accountability (OGAPA). She was formerly the Director, Financial Assistance Policy and Oversight, Department of Homeland Security (DHS). She provided leadership and strategic direction for financial assistance programs across the DHS. Andrea also has broad experience in risk management, audits, internal controls, information technology, acquisition management, and financial operations in her federal career spanning 27 years. Previous to DHS, she was an Assistant Director for the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), USDA. Andrea has led several government-wide initiatives: Co-Chair for the Council on Financial Assistance Reform (COFAR), Financial Assistance Representative on the DATA Act Interagency Advisory Committee (IAC), Program Manager for the Federal Financial Assistance Management Improvement Act (FFAMIA) Grants Streamlining Initiative; and Chair of the OMB CFO Council's Grants Training and Certification Workgroup and the Transparency Act Grant Sub-award Pilot Subcommittee (while also leading the Transparency Act grant sub-award pilot). Andrea also previously led the HHS Grants Management Line of Business (GMLoB) Grants System consolidation effort (2003-2006). Andrea holds a Bachelor's degree in Behavioral and Social Sciences from the University of Maryland, a Master's in Public Administration from American University; and is a member of the Pi Alpha Alpha Honor Society.

Jesse Buggs serves as the Director, Office of Grant Development & Administration in the City Manager's Office for the City of Bowie, MD where he is responsible for all housing and homeless services. He develops and manages municipal Grant Administration functions (research, grant writing and filing grant documents), as well as all requisite reports and supportive documents with various grantors and regulatory agencies and is responsible for maintaining multiple on-line reporting systems with several federal agencies (HUD, DOE, USDOJ and HHS). He is called to conduct training sessions in grant administration, strategic planning, and organizational development. Jesse serves as the Chair of the Housing Directors Advisory Committee for the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, Member of the Greater Washington Housing Leaders Group, is a member of Thompson Information Services Grants Editorial Advisory Board, and was formerly President of the National Capital Area Chapter of GPA. Prior to joining the City, Jesse designed and managed the Residential Recycling Programs for Prince George's County and served as the Enterprise Zone Administrator for the County's Economic Development Corporation. He has worked with the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development on project development in the Neighborhood Revitalization Division. Jesse has served as a Systems Engineer with IBM and as a Senior Rate Analyst with PEPCO. After leaving PEPCO, he served as an expert witness and litigation strategist in many utility regulatory proceedings. Jesse has conducted research in the fields of Biomedical Engineering and Plasma Physics. He is a graduate of Howard University School of Engineering.

Paul Calabrese is a senior manager at the public accounting firm of Rubino & Company. Paul has worked in the government procurement contract arena with the Defense Contract Audit Agency and three government contractors. He has worked with Rubino & Company in their consulting group for 20 years serving both the Federal contracts and grants communities. With respect to Federal grants, he has developed policies and procedures that are compliance with the new Uniform Guidance, performed financial sub-recipient monitoring for Past Through Entities' sub-grantees, and prepared over 100 indirect cost rate proposals for nonprofits where all resulted in a successful negotiated indirect cost rate. Paul teaches at various venues such as Greater Washington Society of CPAs, Maryland Association of CPAs, and other state CPA societies. He also teaches monthly webinars from Rubino & Company on various Federal grants management topics.

NGMA 2017 Annual Grants Training Presenter Bios



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Laura Canfield has been an attorney with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Office of Inspector General (OIG) since 2006 largely advising OIG auditors, evaluators and investigators on matters involving HHS's public health and welfare programs. Prior to that, she worked for 14 years in the HHS Office of the General Counsel (OGC) providing legal advice to the Administration for Children and Families on immigrant eligibility issues and to the Office of Refugee Resettlement on their programs for refugees, torture victims and victims of severe forms of trafficking. Laura began her Federal service in OGC's Region II office (New York), spending two years litigating a variety of HHS cases, including Medicare and Medicaid fraud cases. Laura graduated from Boston College and then Syracuse University's College of Law.

Thomas Chapel, MA, MBA, was appointed CDC's first Chief Evaluation Officer in 2011, but has been providing leadership and guidance in evaluation and planning in some capacity since joining CDC in 2001. Tom's job is to build the capacity of CDC programs and partners to do stronger, useful, and practical evaluation, performance measurement, and strategic planning. He and his staff in the Program Performance and Evaluation Office set guidelines and standards, provide training and customized hands-on technical assistance, oversee a large Evaluation Fellowship program, connect subject matter experts to programs, and a range of other activities. Tom is known nationally for his work and his trainings in evaluation and planning, and for his leadership with the American Evaluation Association. He was the 2013 winner of AEA's Myrdal Government Evaluation Award and was elected in 2015 to AEA's Board of Directors. Before joining CDC, Tom was a vice president in the Atlanta office of Macro International (now ICF International), where he directed hundreds of projects and tasks in evaluation and planning for CDC, other Federal agencies, and state, local, and community-based organizations. A New Jersey native, he received his BA from Johns Hopkins University and his MBA and Master of Public Policy degrees from the University of Minnesota.

Debbie Chen is the Deputy Director of the Office of Grants Management (OGM) at the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI) within the National Institute of Health. Prior to joining NHLBI, she served as a Branch Chief at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), where she managed a team of grants specialists on programs related to marine and atmospheric sciences. She has served in positions of increasing responsibility in grants administration and policy at various agencies across the Federal Government. From 2006-2010, Ms. Chen worked in the Grants Administration Branch at the National Human Genome Research Institute. Debbie started her grants career at the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and has also worked with grants policy at the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

Michael Cook has been involved in working under, supporting, and teaching government contracts and grants management for over 10 years. His firm, Colleague Consulting, provides a full curriculum of grants and financial assistance training, with an emphasis on tailoring the courses to the client's policies and procedures.

Chris Copenbarger is the Senior Grants System Advisor for the USDA OCFO Grants Management Line of Business. He is a key visionary for USDA's enterprise-wide grants management solution, ezFedGrants, which is part of USDA's National Finance Center's shared financial services. Chris provides senior level functional support, including key roles in marketing services, expanding system functionality, supporting client agencies, and implementing governance structure. His efforts are aligned with providing greater transparency, accountability, efficiency, and cost savings. He collaborates with

NGMA 2017 Annual Grants Training Presenter Bios



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multiple agencies to ensure USDA's compliance with grant related Federal statutes and regulations, including FFATA/DATA and 2 CFR Part 200. Chris has over 12 years of Federal grant and related agreements experience, including positions at the National Institute of Food & Agriculture (Senior Policy Advisor), Foreign Agricultural Service (Agency Grants Management Officer), Forest Service (Grants Policy Analyst and Presidential Management Fellow). Chris also served in the Peace Corps in Tanzania. He earned a Doctor of Jurisprudence from Houston College of Law, and a Master in International Development and Social Change from Clark University. Chris is the 2016 National Grants Management Association Impact/Public Sector Award recipient.

Melinda DeCorte is a Partner at Crowe Horwath with over 18 years of accounting, auditing, and government financial management experience. She directs and serves as a subject matter expert in the areas of accounting, internal controls, financial reporting, and business process re-design for public sector clients. She directs, manages, and serves in a quality assurance capacity for financial statement audits conducted in accord with government auditing standards. She is experienced in applying applicable Office of Management and Budget, GAO, and American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) methodologies and requirements and ensuring that audit teams comply with applicable professional standards.

Kenneth Dieffenbach, CFE has served as a special agent with the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of the Inspector General, Fraud Detection Office since 2003. Ken has served as the lead investigator for dozens of complex and sensitive fraud and internal misconduct investigations and has made well over one hundred presentations about fraud to a wide variety of audiences, including several National Grant Management Association conferences. He is a guest instructor at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center and the Inspector General Academy, is a key leader of DOJ's Financial Fraud Enforcement Task Force's Grant Fraud Working Group, and has had articles published in the ACFE White Paper magazine and the Non-Profit Times newspaper. In his current role, Ken is an Assistant Special Agent in Charge managing an eight-person team focused on contract fraud and proactive data analytics projects. Prior to his current position, Ken served over six years as an active duty officer special agent with the United States Air Force Office of Special Investigations. He received his undergraduate degree in business and accounting from the Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina and his graduate degree in criminal justice from the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Robert Drummer is a Candidate for the Master of Laws (LL.M.) Program in Government Procurement and Environmental Law at The George Washington University Law School. His Thesis Paper focuses on *False Claims Act Trends Involving Federal Grants*. He earned his B.A. degree in Mass Communications from Morehouse College and his J.D. degree from the University of Georgia School of Law. He is licensed to practice law in the District of Columbia, Georgia, and Maryland. Robert's expertise is primarily in government relations and public policy, particularly on issues involving the use of federal grant funds for the construction of environmental and/or transportation infrastructure projects by state and local governments. His experience includes serving as Legislative Assistant for a state agency Director and for a Member of Congress, in-house counsel for two national trade associations, and outside counsel for national trade associations and municipal entities with his own firm, Drummer & Associates, LLC. Robert is also a retired Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army Reserves Judge Advocate General's Corps, where he gained extensive experience and training in administrative law, alternative dispute resolution, government contracts, fiscal law, and ethics. His military awards include the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Achievement Medal, Army Reserves Component Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserves Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, NATO Medal, and the Army Service Ribbon.

NGMA 2017 Annual Grants Training Presenter Bios

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Gregory Eaton is a Senior Manager in Deloitte & Touche's Crisis Management practice. He brings experience in managing disaster recovery programs and providing unique insights into the challenges and obstacles organizations face. Leveraging lessons learned and experience from across the country, he brings a wide variety of knowledge in crisis management and recovery programs. Previously, Greg served in two roles with the FEMA. As the Recovery Division Director for Region VI, he was responsible for the implementation of the Individual and Public Assistance Programs as well as processing declaration requests. As a Federal Coordinating Officer for FEMA in Region V, he served as the FCO for 13 presidentially declared disaster declarations in WV, OK, WI, IN and IL. He has also worked with the State of Indiana as the Pre-Designated FCO for a New Madrid Seismic Zone earthquake including participation in National Level Exercise 2011. Prior to joining FEMA, Greg served 30 years with the U.S. Navy on Active Duty and Reserves. In the Navy Reserves, Greg has held many leadership roles and has served as the Commanding Officer of four Navy Reserve units. Greg also served as the Navy Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officer for FEMA Region V where he supported the response to the I-35W Bridge Collapse in Minneapolis, the 2008 Republican National Convention, and many national level exercises including Ardent Sentry 2007. In 2010, he was awarded his "Certified Emergency Manager" (CEM) by the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM).

Alex Forst brings more than a decade of industry and subject matter expertise to the courses he facilitates on multiple topics involving business analytics and data analysis. He has worked with private and public-sector organizations in the U.S. and Europe ranging in size from small start-ups to multi-national conglomerates with over 100,000 employees. Alex's training experience also includes courses he has delivered to numerous government agencies, including the Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Homeland Security, NASA, HUD, Department of Veterans Affairs, Federal Aviation Administration, and the General Services Administration. Alex also serves as a subject matter expert in statistics and analytics for the development of training courses. He serves as an Adjunct Professor at Tulane University, teaching Marketing Research and Strategic Consulting, and he earned an MBA with honors from the Freeman School of Business at Tulane University.

Bonnie Little Graham is a Partner at Brustein & Manasevit and actively represents federal education grantees and subgrantees in the resolution of adverse audit and program review determinations, civil rights complaints, and other administrative legal actions. Bonnie also works closely with clients on issues pertaining to "high risk" grantee and subgrantee designations and indirect costs. Bonnie regularly assists her clients with the requirements of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Uniform Grants Guidance and other administrative regulations, such as the General Education Provisions Act and the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR). Bonnie also works with clients on the requirements of the Individual with Disabilities Education Act, the Every Student Succeeds Act (the reauthorized Elementary and Secondary Education Act), and Title IV of the Higher Education Act. Bonnie graduated summa cum laude from the University of Kentucky with Bachelor's Degrees in Finance and Public Relations and received her Juris Doctorate from Vanderbilt University Law School. Bonnie is a member of the District of Columbia bar, the North Carolina bar, and the U.S. Third Circuit bar.

NGMA 2017 Annual Grants Training Presenter Bios



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Maritza Hawrey has over 25 years of experience as an auditor with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Office of Inspector General (OIG). Maritza started her career at OIG in Jacksonville, Florida in 1989. She then moved to the Miami, Florida office and became an audit manager in 2006. Prior to her career at OIG, Maritza earned her Certified Public Accountant in the State of Georgia and worked at Ernst and Whinney in Indianapolis, Indiana after graduating with a Bachelor's degree from Indiana State University. While working for HHS-OIG's Office of Audit Services (OAS), Maritza has obtained experience and knowledge in the areas of Medicare, Medicaid, grants, and financial statement audits under the Chief Financial Officer's Act. Her experience also includes several investigative audits with Assistant U.S. attorney, including working with FBI agents from the Department of Justice, as well as managing staff in the Miami field office. She transferred to OIG headquarters in Washington, DC in September 2008 and serves as the Headquarters Audit Manager responsible for the Administration for Children and Families and Indian Health Services in the Grants and Internal Activities Division. She has been actively involved in developing and overseeing the implementation of the suspension and debarment process for the OAS and serves as a subject matter expert (SME). As the OAS SME, she has worked on several suspension and debarment referrals based on regional audit work. She works with other OIG components' in coordinating with HHS officials on suspension and debarment matters.

Becky Heisinger prides herself in providing customized grant support. Actively listening to project team needs, developing and implementing a plan to meet those needs, provide necessary trainings and education, and offering a helping hand are just a few of the ways she enhances project success. While she recognizes that each grant has similar characteristics, she finds that a "one size fits all" approach is not effective. Becky customizes her service to provide the best results for the team and project at hand. Her educational background includes a Master in Business Administration from the University of Sioux Falls in Sioux Falls, SD. She is a Certified Grant Management Specialist (CGMS) from National Grants Management Association and earned my certification as a Project Management Professional (PMP) from Project Management Institute. She has spent over 10 years in the grant industry with a focus on federal and state awards. She currently works as a senior grant administrator for Sanford Health, located in Sioux Falls, SD.

Les Hollie is an Assistant Inspector General for Investigations (AIGI) within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Office of Inspector General (OIG), Office of Investigations (OI). As the AIGI, Les is the senior executive responsible for supervising the activities of Special Agents in Charge as assigned. This includes over 600 professional staff to include Philadelphia, Boston, New York, Chicago Offices and Administrative Operations Branch, and Special Investigations Branch Offices in Washington, D.C. Under his leadership, the Office of Investigations had record accomplishments to include over \$5 billion in investigative receivables. Les is the senior executive responsible for coordinating OIGs national initiative pertaining to Research Integrity investigations. In 2008, Les was promoted to Inspector with the Special Investigations Branch at OI Headquarters, Washington, DC, where he investigated numerous high profile and highly sensitive investigations referred to OI by the United States Congress. In 2009, Les was appointed as the National HEAT/Strike Force Coordinator for OI. In this capacity, Les managed and provided oversight in the day to day function of all Strike Force activities nationwide. Les has received numerous professional awards including the Secretary's Award for Distinguished Service, the IG Exceptional Achievement Award, IG Award for Excellence in Securing the Future and the Inspector General Academy's Williams H. Barton Award. Les earned his Bachelor's Degree at Indiana University-Purdue University.

NGMA 2017 Annual Grants Training Presenter Bios

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Peter James has over 20 years of involvement with federal and state grants, with the cities of Ft. Worth and Houston, Texas, and with the Territory of American Samoa. He has been responsible for Aviation, Health & Human Services, and Emergency Management grants. He holds an MBA from the University of South Carolina and has extensive training and experience in change management and in the improvement of cross-functional systems. He is currently the Supervisor of Grant Accounting for the City of Fort Worth's Financial Management Systems Department.

Bryce Johnson is an accountant for the US Department of Agriculture. He attended college at West Virginia University where he received his BSBA in accounting as well as his Masters of Professional Accountancy. His primary duty is to provide USSGL compliant solutions to internal accounting issues.

Tiffany Winters Kessler is a Partner at Brustein & Manasevit, PLLC and assists clients with Federal grants management compliance, including the fiscal requirements under the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Uniform Grants Guidance and other administrative regulations including the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) and the General Education Provisions Act. Tiffany advises on programmatic compliance with the Every Student Succeeds Act, the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. In addition, Tiffany actively represents clients in administrative appeals. Tiffany regularly conducts trainings and speaks nationally on federal grants management requirements. Tiffany performs mock monitoring visits for fiscal and programmatic compliance, reviews internal controls and assists with creating and updating policies and procedures for agency compliance. Tiffany regularly conducts audio-conferences and webinars for LRP Publications and the Thompson Information Services. Tiffany graduated cum laude from Clemson University and received her Juris Doctorate from the Catholic University Columbus School of Law. Tiffany is a member of the District of Columbia bar and the U.S. Supreme Court bar.

Tom Kodiak currently serves as Strategic Coordinator at the U.S. Department of State, Political Military Bureau, and his current grant portfolio includes all bureau grant awards exceeding \$3 million. Previously Tom served for six years as Senior Grants Officer for the Political Military Bureau, covering Conventional Weapons Destruction, Humanitarian Demining, and Peacekeeping Operations grants. Before working with the U.S. Department of State, Tom worked with National Emergency Grants at the US Department of Labor where he began his career as an MBA Fellow working with Veterans Employment Training Services (VETS). Prior to government Tom worked as Director for an Illinois International Trade Center which was funded through an SBA grant. In a previous life, he worked as a cowboy in Colorado and a bonsai apprentice under a traditional Japanese bonsai master in Japan. Tom holds an MBA from the College of William and Mary, a Masters of International Management from Thunderbird, and BS from Purdue University.

Steve Lancaster transitioned over 12 years ago from the Global 500 corporation data communications business and market development to focus on US government entity challenges for the move to the digital age of business collaboration, social media and cloud computing. This was accomplished through transitioning state-of-the-art technology into business opportunities. Capitalizing on innovative marketing concepts. Mentoring top-performing teams and implementation of full Business Development Life Cycle Management, Digital Marketing and Social Media to drive long-term business growth. At REI Systems, Steve's focus has been around cloud computing for government business process automation, with a focus on grants management solutions for the Federal, State, and local government entities.

NGMA 2017 Annual Grants Training Presenter Bios



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Nicky Lettini, MBA is Founder and CEO of CostTree, LLC. With almost two decades of experience in the cost allocation world, and after preparing over 600 complete cost plans (helping clients recover over \$500 million in missed reimbursements), Nicky knows what it takes to build, manage and maintain effective cost allocation strategies. That's what led her to found CostTree, LLC - the premier cloud-based cost allocation platform for governments, nonprofits, and private organizations. In addition to Nicky's commitment to her clients, she is also committed to staying abreast of local government rules and regulations including the Office of Management and Budget 2 CFR part 200 (formally OMB A-87) Regulations and has received formal training endorsed by the State of California. Nicky has a Bachelor of Science in Managerial Economics from University of California, Davis and has her MBA in Accounting from California State University, Sacramento. She has OMB A-87 and 2 CFR part 200 specialized training, provided by Management Concepts – a state approved course on the ins and outs of the Circular, providing continuing education credits and unique insights into OMB A-87 guidelines. CostTree, LLC is also certified as a woman-owned business by the National Woman Business Owners Corporation.

Kenneth Lew is a thought leader in technology strategy and delivers solutions to optimize investment in information technology and accelerate operational efficiencies for the Innovation Network's public, not-for-profit, and commercial clients. Kenny has a unique blend of strong technology skills and knowledge, coupled with business process development and organizational experience. Prior to founding the Innovation Network (IN), Kenny began his career at Noblestar in May 1996, and later became CEO in 2005. He led ERP implementations for clients such as Borders Group, Sprint, BT North America, College Board, the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, among others. During his time at Noblestar, he transformed the company into a technology consulting-focused organization. Kenny leverages IN's deep technology implementation experience and provides delivery and strategic support to IN's clients in the grants community. This includes clients such as American Cancer Society, Knight Foundation, United Way Worldwide, Energy Foundation, Margaret Cargill Foundation, Kresge, and the Kauffman Foundation. Kenny also led efforts to form strategic partnerships with SmartSimple, Fluxx, IBM, Amazon Web Service, and JInfonet. Kenny is a board member of the Monte Jade Science and Technology Association and a frequent guest speaker at industry conferences and other events. Kenny holds a M.S. in Software Engineering from Johns Hopkins University and a B.S. in Information Systems from the University of Maryland.

Philip Maestri is the Director, Risk Management Service, U.S. Department of Education. Phil has coordinated various activities within the Department involving financial planning and training, audit follow-up activities, debt management and other accountability issues. He currently coordinates a number of efforts assisting states and other grantees to manage risks involved in implementing federal grant programs. As part of that responsibility he has been designated the chief risk officer for grants within the Department. Prior to joining the federal government in 1991, Phil spent 20 years working in the banking and financial consulting industry, most recently as regional vice president for a large national bank.

Kim McGatlin is Assistant Director, Financial Management and Assurance at the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO). She is responsible for performance audits associated with federal agency grants. She has been responsible for internal control work coordination for GAO's grant engagements including the Recovery Act as well as internal control work associated with the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. Her experience at GAO since joining in 2002 has included governance and accountability reviews of agencies including Designated Federal Entities, Legal Services Corporation, and White House Commission on the National Moment of Remembrance. She has also worked on a variety of projects including consolidation and competition in the public auditing industry, public company restatements, and Sarbanes-Oxley Act auditing effects on small businesses. Her financial audit experience at GAO includes

NGMA 2017 Annual Grants Training Presenter Bios



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the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Consolidated Financial Audit of the US government. Prior to joining GAO, Kim worked in public accounting, providing auditing services to financial institutions including banks, venture capital companies and mortgage banks and employee benefit plans. She also was an assistant bank examiner with the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco. She earned her MBA with accounting and finance emphasis from California State University at Hayward (now known as California State University – East Bay). She holds a CPA license from the state of California.

Jason McGill is the Director of Partner Services within the Division of Systems and Support Services at GrantSolutions. Jason joined GrantSolutions in 2011 after 10 years in the private sector information technology field. Jason currently oversees and supports a team of individuals who interface directly with GrantSolutions' Partner community, as well as taking the lead on cultivating new strategic relationships for the organization. Additionally, Jason is responsible for managing the communication and outreach strategy for GrantSolutions.

Catherine Melvin serves as the Chief Auditor for the Texas Department of Public Safety. She has extensive experience in governmental internal auditing, including over 20 years' service as chief audit executive. Prior to DPS, she served as the responsible Chief Audit Executive for the Texas Lottery Commission, for the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, and for the Office of the Governor under Governor George W. Bush. A leader in both state government and in the internal audit community, Catherine has served on and led numerous interagency and professional committees and task forces. She has focused her career in public service; assisting Texas state agencies achieve their stated goals and objectives while being accountable to the public for efficiency, transparency, economy, effectiveness, and excellence. Catherine holds the designations of Certified Public Accountant, Certified Internal Auditor, and Certified Law Enforcement Auditor.

Lucy Morgan, CPA, MBA, is a refreshingly different trainer and speaker. Her methods are simple, down-to-earth, and designed to turn everyday people into extraordinary professionals. Lucy shows you how to increase self-confidence and open the door to greater job satisfaction and opportunities, build alignment of the individual's role in the organization's vision and goals, and discover a truer purpose in grant management that goes beyond dollars. Lucy is the author of 3 books including "*Decoding Grant Management- The Ultimate Success Guide to the Federal Grant Regulations in 2 CFR Part 200*" and "*The Diamond Mindset*" an Amazon ranked best seller. She is a leading authority on Federal grant management with over 250 articles to her credit featured in LinkedIn and various blogs including the MyFedTrainer.com blog. Lucy's techniques and teaching style come from experience. Having faced many of the same challenges as her audiences, she knows that what looks good on paper may not always work in the real world. She speaks to practical suggestions that finally link theory with implementation. Lucy uses stories from her personal journey to remind audiences that each of them brings valuable strengths for making the world a better place.

Emy Neuman-Javornik, CGMS has more than 20 years of experience in government auditing, grant accounting, consulting, and forensic accounting. Her experience includes the state, local and federal government, not-for-profit organizations, and manufacturing. Currently, Emy is a fiscal analyst with the State of North Carolina Weatherization Program. Her previous experience includes managing cost incurred audits on behalf of the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction for grants, contracts, and cooperative agreements funding projects conducted in Afghanistan. She has assisted state and local organizations with audit response and resolution including, in one instance, the resolution of nearly \$2 billion in federal-questioned costs relating to grants, entitlements, and contracts. She has provided training in the areas of 2 CFR 200, fraud detection and prevention, ethics and risk assessment preparation. Emy is a longtime member of NGMA and is currently serving as NGMA's President.

NGMA 2017 Annual Grants Training Presenter Bios



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Karen Norris is a national expert in the grants community and private consultant. She has experience in grants and contracts for more than 20 years, formerly as a grants administrator for educational institutions in the State of Maryland, as an author and managing editor for national publications, and trainer for Management Concepts. Karen has served on the Board of Directors of professional associations and nonprofit organizations. She is an invited annual presenter at national conferences, including GPA, NGMA and the CRD. Karen conducts grants training at national summits, for federal agencies and for nonfederal entities. Her white paper about health grants was published by the White House Conference on Aging. Karen has advised and responded to information requests about the grants process from the U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management and has served as a federal reviewer for the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Kendra Norwood counsels and represents large and small government contractors, subcontractors, and grant recipients on a range of legal issues. She has handled bid protests before several federal government agencies, as well as the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO), the U.S. Court of Federal Claims (COFC), and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit (CAFC). Kendra has also represented clients in size protests before the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), and has litigated Contract Disputes Act (CDA) claims before the Armed Services Board of Contract Appeals (ASBCA) and in federal district court. She has represented government contractors in Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) disputes, False Claims Act (FCA) matters, and government investigations involving procurement integrity, ethics, and conflict of interest statutes. Kendra also regularly counsels' clients on compliance with various procurement laws and regulations. Prior to entering private practice, Kendra spent more than 10 years at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), working in the areas of budget and procurement, legislative affairs, and grant portfolio management.

Bert Nuehring is a Partner at Crowe Horwath LLP with over 30 years' experience in public accounting. Bert's responsibilities have included planning, administering and supervising audit, accounting and consulting service engagements for governmental, higher education and not-for-profit entities. His experience includes projects related to grants compliance, subrecipient monitoring, compliance, performance measurement, performance auditing, internal auditing, indirect cost rates, accounting consulting, budgeting, federal program administration, and Uniform Grants Guidance implementation. Bert holds a Bachelor of Arts in Accounting and Business Administration from Wartburg College, Iowa and is a certified public accountant.

Shalonda Oliver started her grant financial management career in 2000 while working for Galveston County Parks Department. Her experiences lead her to the City of Galveston where she was the grant accountant in the Grants and Housing Department. Shalonda moved to the Dallas Fort Worth area in 2002 and there she began working for the City of Irving as an accountant and later promoted to the grant accountant. After her 12½ tenure with Irving, she left to start her new position with the City of Fort Worth as a Senior Accountant where she is currently on the city's grant accounting team. Shalonda holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Accounting from University of Houston Clear Lake and a Master in Accounting and Financial Management Degree from the Keller Graduate School of Management DeVry University.

James Ortmann serves as an Associate Counsel with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Inspector General. There he advises auditors, investigators, and evaluators on legal issues arising in the Department's discretionary programs. Before joining the OIG, James practiced with the Minnesota Department of Human Services, advising it on health and human-services matters, with a focus on data privacy, licensing, and fraud, waste, and abuse. James holds a J.D. from William Mitchell College of Law. Before law school, James founded a nonprofit organization that raised money for Vietnamese children living in poverty.

NGMA 2017 Annual Grants Training Presenter Bios



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Jana Patterson is a Senior Legal Adviser in the U.S. Department of Commerce Office of General Counsel with a broad range of legal, policy, and operations experience on teams advancing initiatives in science, technology, the environment, and business. Jana advises on program development and implementation, with expertise covering transactions, policy, operations, administrative, fiscal, statutory, regulatory, and legislative matters. Jana currently advises programs at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration that fund projects supporting protection of ocean and coastal resources, and improved understanding and stewardship of the environment. Jana has served as Chair, Federal Bar Association Government Contracts Section; Chair, Procurement Policy Leader Speaker Series; Co-Chair, Federal Grants Committee; and speaker at training events for organizations such as the National Grants Management Association and Federal Bar Association. She previously advised on Federal assistance at the National Institute of Standards and Technology and served as a senior attorney at the National Telecommunications and Information Administration within Commerce, as well as in positions on Capitol Hill and in the television industry.

Kate Perry is currently part of the City of Fort Worth Financial Management Services' Grants Team. Kate oversees grants passed through the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, along with related privately funded grants to provide clients with job training, energy efficiency renovations, small business services and other low-income assistance. Kate has been with the City of Fort Worth since May 31, 2016. Prior to her employment at the City of Fort Worth, she worked at the United Way of Tarrant County in Fort Worth for over 10 years. During her tenure at United Way, she worked as a fiscal manager with the Area Agency on Aging for grants providing various services to seniors, federally funded through the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services. She also was the fiscal manager of the Affordable Care Act grant for marketplace enrollment assistance, and various state and private foundation and agency pass-through grants aimed at reducing homelessness, veteran's assistance and providing a variety of services for Fort Worth and surrounding areas. Kate is a graduate of Baylor University.

Kaitlin Porter, MPH is a Manager with Deloitte Consulting LLP, specializing in grants program management services. She has spent the past nine years supporting the federal grants community, including programs within global health, chronic disease, and emergency preparedness. She has worked closely with government agencies to improve how they manage their extramural portfolio and how they collect, analyze and report performance data. Kaitlin has a Master of Public Health from Emory University and a Bachelor of Arts from James Madison University.

Erica Preston serves as the Product Management Director for Grants & Assistance at Management Concepts. In this role, she works company-wide to maintain and grow workforce training and enhancement products and services for grants professionals. Prior to joining Management Concepts, Erica spent more than 10 years with Booz Allen Hamilton as a management consultant. Her experience spanned grants management, stakeholder engagement, and program and contract management for homeland security and other Federal clients. During that time, she completed Management Concepts *Grants Management Certificate Program*™. Erica holds a BA from Johns Hopkins University and an MBA from the Kenan-Flagler Business School at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill.

Terry Ramsey currently works part-time for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families as a technical advisor on the Single Audit process and grants management. He retired in 2015 after 45 years of government service at the state, local, and Federal levels including 12 years with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). He was a key player in the development of the audit requirements under the Uniform Guidance as well as OMB Circular A-133 and the Compliance Supplement. Terry is a Certified Public Accountant and Certified Internal Auditor and has an accounting degree from Virginia Tech. He was the 2014 recipient of the National Grants Management Association's Newton Award recognizing outstanding, sustained leadership in the grants management field.

NGMA 2017 Annual Grants Training Presenter Bios



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Naomi Rasmussen is the Deputy Director of Programs at Democracy International, an organization that supports active citizens, responsive governments, and engaged civil society and political organizations achieve a more peaceful, democratic world. DI is a federal contractor and implements programs and conducts analytical projects primarily on behalf of the U.S. Agency for International Development and the U.S. Department of State. At DI, Naomi provides management support to home office and field office teams managing politics, governance, and peace and resilience programs globally. DI currently has ongoing programs in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, South Sudan, and Tunisia. Previously, Naomi managed DI's Afghanistan portfolio as a Senior Program Officer. Before joining DI, Naomi worked with other non-governmental organizations on advocacy, international development, and humanitarian assistance. She has worked with GRM International, Search for Common Ground, International Rescue Committee, and Genocide Intervention Network, among others. Naomi holds an M.A. and a B.A. in International Development and Social Change with a specialization in Conflict and Development from Clark University.

Alexandra Raver earned her Bachelors of Science in Integrated Science and Technology with a concentration in Environment, from James Madison University in 2000. She completed her Graduate Certificate in Natural Resources from Virginia Tech Northern Virginia Center in 2003. Alex has over fifteen years of service with the United States Government, beginning her career with the United States Department of Agriculture at the then-called, Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service. Alex currently works at the United States Environmental Protection Agency as the Policy Team Leader and Senior Grants Policy Specialist in the Office of Grants and Debarment. Alex serves on the Integrated Award Environment's Award Committee for E-government as well as the Financial Assistance Committee for E-government. As EPA's representative on these two groups, Alex has worked with colleagues across government to implement initiatives such as Uniform Guidance (aka 2 CFR 200), FAPIIS and the DATA Act.

Mark Riley serves as the Deputy Director for Disaster Recovery for GOHSEP. Mark came to GOHSEP in June 2007 and served as the Assistant Deputy Director, Disaster Recovery. In that capacity, Mark is responsible for all recovery activities related to the Public Assistance (PA) and Hazard Mitigation (HM) Programs authorized by the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Response Act. Currently Mark is managing efforts for Hurricanes Katrina and Rita and eight (8) other open disasters in Louisiana, totaling approximately \$18 billion in FEMA PA and HM funding for more than 1,600 applicants and 36,000 projects. Mark is designated the Deputy Governor's Authorized Representative for all open disasters. Prior to accepting the position with GOHSEP, Mark was the Legal Advisor to the Joint Warfighting Center, U.S. Joint Forces Command, in Norfolk, Virginia. He is a long time, off and on, resident of Baton Rouge, dating back to his graduation for Louisiana State University (LSU) in 1974. Mark holds a Master of Law Degree, with a specialty in Tax Law, from Georgetown University; a Juris Doctorate from LSU Law School; and a Bachelor of Science (Economics) from LSU. He is admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court, the Federal Fifth and First Circuit Courts, the U.S. Claims Court, the U.S. Tax Court, all military courts, and all courts of the State of Louisiana.

Johna Rodgers has worked nearly 30 years in the corporate and nonprofit worlds, supporting/managing organizations of all types and sizes. A specialist in federal grant proposal development, she has secured more than \$134 million for schools and educational groups since 2001, including the nation's largest Race to the Top District award benefiting 116 Kentucky schools. In 2013, she joined Grant Writing USA as a national trainer in grant writing and management; and in 2015, she traded in a regular paycheck for a consulting shingle. Johna is a passionate advocate for the grants profession, and she serves nationally as a mentor to many and a committed voice for what works in the field.

Adam Roth is the founder and CEO of StreamLink Software, a privately held company at the forefront of automating grant compliance in the public sector. Adam formed StreamLink Software in 2008 in response to personally encountering a need for greater process efficiencies during a 15-year career in the nonprofit sector. Its grant management software, AmpliFund, is at the forefront of data standardization

NGMA 2017 Annual Grants Training Presenter Bios



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and grant automation across federal agencies, states, and local governments. Adam works closely with industry and government officials to facilitate the development of improved regulatory guidelines for management grant funding using standardized data structures and speaks frequently on the topic to audiences around the country. As a result of his work, he was honored with the NGMA Impact Award/Private Sector for his exceptional contributions to advancing the field of grant management. Adam earned masters' degrees in social work and management from Case Western Reserve University's Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences and the Weatherhead School of Management, respectively.

Eric Russell, CIA, CGMS, MPA is a senior manager in Crowe Horwath's Risk Consulting – Regulatory Compliance practice. Eric's work focuses on the management and audit of federal awards and contracts on behalf of the federal agencies and various non-profit and commercial recipients and subrecipients. His efforts have included the planning and execution of audits in accordance with government auditing standards, conduct of organizational risk assessments, Uniform Guidance audit preparation activities, and design and implementation of subrecipient monitoring activities. In addition, Eric has worked with clients to assess and enhance their internal controls and to plan for the procurement and implementation of financial management systems.

Kristen Schwendinger is a Senior Counsel in the Office of Inspector General (OIG) for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). She handles cases brought under the federal False Claims Act alleging fraud against HHS grant programs and against the Medicare and Medicaid programs. She represents the OIG in the negotiation of numerous settlements with health care providers and HHS grant recipients. She collaborates extensively in these cases with a multidisciplinary team of OIG auditors and investigators and attorneys for the Department of Justice. Kristen is a recipient of an Inspector General Award for Advancing Excellence and Innovation for Grant and Procurement Fraud. She is an alumna of Washington University (B.A. and J.D.) and Indiana University School of Public and Environmental Affairs (M.P.A.).

Melicia Seay is a Program Specialist in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General (OIG), Office of Evaluation and Inspections. In this role, she develops strategy and facilitates work planning for a number of topics to include grant administration and fraud. She also coordinates with various HHS operating and staff divisions on grants management oversight and provides programmatic evaluation support. Prior to working at OIG, she worked for over 12 years as a healthcare policy analyst in both the public and private sector, analyzing program such as Medicare and Medicaid and the nation's emergency preparedness infrastructure. Melicia received her bachelor's degree in health sciences from Howard University and a master's in health care management from Marymount University.

Scott Sheffler is a Partner with the Firm in the Federal Grants and Health Law practice groups at FTL. Scott advises clients on matters of federal grant law, government contract law, and health care law. Scott assists grantees with the myriad requirements that apply upon awarding of federal grant funding, including the requirements established in the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance), the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circulars that preceded the Uniform Guidance, and program-specific statutory and regulatory funding conditions. Scott's representations include cost disallowance and grant termination appeals before the HHS Departmental Appeals Board, assisting grant recipients in establishing internal policies and procedures, providing grant recipients with compliance advice, and guiding grant recipients in responding to subpoenas from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of Inspector General. Scott also advises clients on matters of federal and District of Columbia government contract law, including contract claims, bid protest matters, and small business regulations. Prior to joining the firm, Scott practiced with the U.S. Navy Office of General Counsel, advising on government contract matters and government investigations. Prior to that, he served as an officer in the Navy Judge Advocate General's Corps where he advised Commanders on administrative, criminal and operational law matters and represented individual clients in administrative and criminal defense proceedings. Scott leverages his experience to assist mission-driven grant recipients in successfully navigating the highly regulated federal system and in weathering unexpected adverse situations.

NGMA 2017 Annual Grants Training Presenter Bios



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Sandra Swab is an independent consultant focusing on grants management, data standardization, risk analysis and performance management for federal funding programs and recipients. She is a knowledge leader in federal grants management and provides advisory, training and administration services for her clients, as well as analyses and evaluations on management policies and procedures, systems development. She has over 30 years of federal government experience that included work in grants, procurement, finance, and program management. While in the government, her efforts were directed towards management improvement; developing standard reporting requirements with standard data; incorporating performance management measures and techniques; and writing the associated policies incorporating new requirements. Sandy recently retired from the Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board where she was the Data Manager and Senior Advisor for Grants, Data Standards and Performance Measures. While at the Recovery Board she developed the concepts for agency and recipient profiles that provided information on ARRA grant spending and reporting. She managed the Grants Reporting Information Project. Sandy spent most of her federal career working in grants and financial management. Following her work at OMB, Sandy was a Director of Financial and Grants Management at Digital Net (BAE Systems Consulting); a senior manager with KPMG in the CFO Advisory Service; and a program manager at SiloSmashers, Inc. Sandy holds a B.A. from The State University of New York at Plattsburgh and a Master of Public Administration, and a M.S. in information systems management from American University. She is a member of NGMA and a recipient of NGMA's Life Service Award, and the Association of Government Accountants. She sits on the Grants Advisory Board for Thompson Publishing.

Paula Terrill has 17 years of local governmental accounting experience with the cities of Irving and Fort Worth, Texas. She has spent four of those years working with federal and state grants. The grants she has worked with include FEMA Emergency Management grants, Flood Plain Mapping Technical Partners grants, Environmental grants, and is currently working mainly with HUD grants. Paula holds a CPA certification and has pursued various training concerning Federal grants including NGMA's GMBOK training and attending last year's NGMA Annual Training Program.

Nancy Walden serves as Audit Manager for the Texas Department of Public Safety. In this role, she is responsible for coordinating and overseeing Single Audit efforts in her agency. Nancy promotes and facilitates collaboration among all grant administration functions to ensure external auditors are given a full understanding of the complete grant administration process. Nancy has 23 years of internal auditing experience, working for several state agencies, including the Texas Department of Transportation and the Texas Lottery Commission. During her tenure, Nancy has overseen internal audit projects to objectively evaluate the effectiveness, efficiency, and integrity of Department operations and governance processes. Nancy is a Certified Internal Auditor, Certified Government Auditing Professional, and also holds a Certification in Risk Management Assurance. Nancy is a graduate of the DPS Command College and assists in the education and development of future leaders.

Brian Walsh is an Associate in Wiley Rein's Government Contracts practice. Brian counsels and represents government contractors and subcontractors, as well as federal and state grant recipients, on a broad range of government contracts matters, including contract claims and disputes, teaming and subcontracting issues, data rights and intellectual property issues, government investigations and audits, and compliance with ethics and procurement integrity laws. He further represents clients in bid protests before the Government Accountability Office (GAO) and the U.S. Court of Federal Claims (COFC) and has litigated hundreds of protests at these forums. Brian also actively participates in Wiley Rein's pro bono program and has assisted clients in achieving successful results in a variety of different areas, including parole hearings, divorce and custody matters, and landlord-tenant disputes. Further, Brian is an active member of the firm's Diversity Committee and Co-Chair of the American Bar Association (ABA), Section of Public Contract Law Diversity Committee. Brian is admitted to practice in the District of Columbia and Virginia. He is also admitted to practice before the United States Court of Federal Claims and the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.

NGMA 2017 Annual Grants Training Presenter Bios



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Christy Ward has a combination of a professional background in project coordination and a life-long passion for writing has been a great foundation for launching her career in grants management. While relatively new to grants, it has been an excellent match for her experience and passions. Christy earned a professional certification as a Project Management Professional (PMP) from the Project Management Institute in 2014. Her Bachelor of Science degree is from Northern State University. She is currently enrolled in the Master of Science in Administration program (Health Services Administration emphasis) at the University of South Dakota. Christy joined the team at Sanford Health in Sioux Falls, SD in April 2016 and serve as a Grant Administrator for the Enterprise Office of Grant Development & Administration.

Edward T. Waters, has been the Managing Partner of the law firm Feldesman Tucker Leifer Fidell LLP since 2003. He is recognized for his experience in federal grants and health care and is a frequent speaker on subjects within his areas of expertise. In 2014, he started what is believed to be the first class in federal grants law in the country at George Washington University School of Law and continues teaching today. He regularly advises clients on grant and subgrant requirements, cost accounts and cost disallowances, audit issues, and federal, administrative and appropriation law. He has significant experience in diverse areas such as the complex legal requirements pertaining to programs funded under the Public Health Service Act, the Head Start Act and the Social Security Act among others; the regulatory requirements applicable to State and Federal procurements including extensive experience with Medicaid managed care and other government-funded health care programs; and corporate governance and oversight. Ted has served as lead litigation counsel in numerous actions in State and Federal Court, as well as before various administrative bodies. Subjects include appeals of grant terminations and cost disallowances, bid protests and contract claims, review of agency action under the Administrative Procedure Act, and commercial arbitration of contract disputes. Ted speaks and writes about the areas in which he practices and has conducted trainings for the National Association of Community Health Centers, the National Head Start Association, the D.C. Bar, Thompson Publishing, and many other organizations. He is a Professorial Lecturer in Law at the George Washington University School of Law.

Alex Weekes is a Principal in ML Weekes & Company, PC located in Guilford, Connecticut. For over 20 years, he has provided a variety of services to assist clients who receive grants and contracts from federal agencies including the National Institute of Health (NIH), Office of Naval Research (ONR), Department of Labor (DoL) and the Department of Defense (DoD). He assists in the evaluation, interpretation and implementation of procurement and administrative regulations related to government grants and contracts. He has extensive experience with the federal regulations and guidelines governing NIH and DoD grants and contracts including the Federal Acquisition Regulations, OASC-3 (A Guide for Hospitals) and OMB Circulars A-122, A-110, A-87 and A-21 and now the Uniform Guidance (2 CFR Part 200). Alex has served many Hospitals, nonprofits, and Colleges/Universities with various federal grant and contracting matters. He specializes in assisting clients with optimizing direct and indirect cost reimbursement while minimizing compliance risk. His experience and services include the preparation and analysis of Facilities and Administrative (F&A) and indirect cost rates and the negotiation of these rates with government representatives. He is recognized nationwide for his expertise on direct and indirect cost recovery. Alex began his career as an Auditor with the Defense Contract Audit Agency. Prior to founding ML Weekes & Company he spent eight years with Ernst & Young's Government Contract Services practice, where he held a senior management position. Alex earned his B.S. in Accounting from Plymouth State College and is a Certified Public Accountant in the State of Connecticut.

Sylvie Witten has worked at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General, Office of Audit Services, in the Austin, Texas field office since 1991. She has been an Assistant Regional Inspector General since 2003. In this role, Sylvie primarily supervises audits involving programs administered by the Administration for Children and Families and the Medicaid program. She also serves as a recruiting coordinator. Sylvie graduated from the University of Texas at San Antonio and is a Certified Public Accountant.