

2017-2018 FGFOA CANDIDATES BIOGRAPHIES

Secretary / Treasurer (1 Candidate)



Ken Burke, CPA, Clerk of the Circuit Court & Comptroller, Pinellas County

FGFOA Activities

- FGFOA Board member (2014-Present)
- FGFOA member (12 years)
- Legislative Committee (2012-2015); Served as Chair
- Member Development Committee (2016-2017)
- Technical Resources Committee (2015-2016)
- Member Uniform Chart of Accounts White Paper Task Force
- GASB 68 Implementation Task Force; Served as Chair
- Legislative Policies for 2014
- Gulf Coast Chapter, Member

How many FGFOA Annual Conference or Schools of Governmental Finance have you attended?

9

Have you ever been a speaker at an FGFOA training program?

Annual Conference and School of Governmental Finance (2014 and 2016)

What significant contribution have you made to the FGFOA?

Member of the Uniform Chart of Accounts White Paper Task Force; Chair of the GASB 68 Implementation Task Force; Legislative Policies for 2014; Member of Board of Directors (2014-present).

Have you prepared material for an FGFOA newsletter or research project?

Newsletter (Quarterly), Uniform Chart of Accounts White Paper (November 2013), Legislative Policies (February 2014)

Do you participate in any other professional organization and/or civic/fraternal/public interest activities?

- Chair and Member of the Board of Trustees of St. Petersburg College
- Chair and Member of the Association of Community Colleges
- President of Florida Association of Court Clerks and Comptrollers
- Member of Supreme Standing Committee on Fairness and Diversity
- Member, Board of Directors, National Association of County Recorders, Election Officials and Clerk's (NACRC)
- Clerk Liaison to the Florida Bar's Section on Real Property, Probate and Trust Law
- Secretary/Treasurer and Vice-Chair of Legislative Committee, Florida Clerks of Court Operations Corporation
- Member, Higher Education Coordination Council
- Kiwanis Club of Seminole Breakfast
- Suncoast Tiger Bay Club
- Pinellas County Historical Society

Do you participate in any other noteworthy state/local public finance-related activities?

Florida Clerk of Court Operations Corporation (CCOC); Florida Court Clerks & Comptrollers (FCCC)

Education/Certifications

- Associate in Arts, St. Petersburg College (1979)
- Bachelor of Science, Accounting, University of South Florida (1995)
- Certified Public Accountant, Board of Accountancy (1997)

What do you believe should be the objective(s) of the Florida Government Finance Officers Association?

The FGFOA should provide a network of support for the membership. One of the chief objectives of the Association should be education on matters affecting our members. Our education offerings should be of the highest quality, maximum effectiveness and cover all aspects relating to government finances. Finance officers earn the respect of the citizens and government leaders as the public trustees, champions of transparency and presenters of complete financial information. FGFOA should continue to emphasize the important role and the professionalism of finance officers in governmental entities.

Why do you want to be the FGFOA Secretary/Treasurer?

The board works together as a team in coordination with our effective committee structure to carry out the duties of the Association. Officers and board members must be committed to attending board meetings, preparing in advance of those meetings, supporting the activities of FGFOA and respecting the work of the committees that provide recommended actions for the board's consideration. During my time as legislative committee chair, GASB 68 FRS Task Force Chair, member of the Chart of Accounts White Paper Committee, member of the Board of Directors and board liaison to three different committees, I have worked as a team player and demonstrated my thoroughness and dedication. If the membership sees fit to elect me as Secretary/Treasurer, I will work to offer strong support for the goals and duties of FGFOA and to my fellow finance officers.

Directors (6 Candidates & 5 Open Positions)



Frank DiPaolo, CPA, CGMA, Finance Director, City of Lighthouse Point

FGFOA Activities

- FGFOA member (10 years)
- Conference Program Committee (2011-2012; 2013-2017); Served as Chair
- Member Development Committee (2013-2016)
- Webinar Committee (2015-2016)
- South Florida Chapter, Member
- South Florida Chapter, Vice President (2008-2009)
- South Florida Chapter, President/Past-President (2013-2015)

How many FGFOA Annual Conference or Schools of Governmental Finance have you attended?

6

Have you ever been a speaker at an FGFOA training program?

- Annual Conference (2012, 2015 & 2016)
- School of Governmental Finance (2015)

What significant contribution have you made to the FGFOA?

I have been a member of the FGFOA since I was first employed with the City of Dania Beach in 2016. Since then, I have attended the School of Government

Finance, Annual Conferences, sub-chaired and chaired committees, and represented my local chapter on the board for three years in differing positions. Through each of the positions I have held in support of the FGFOA, I have shown my energy, dedication, and belief in everything the association provides to government finance professionals. I will continue to actively promote the FGFOA and encourage practitioners to become members, and also encourage members to become more involved.

Have you prepared material for an FGFOA newsletter or research project?

Newsletters – provided local chapter updates, spotlight articles (2013-2014)

Do you participate in any other professional organization and/or civic/fraternal/public interest activities?

- GFOA member (2006-Present)
- AICPA member (2009-Present)
- FICPA member (2009-Present)

Education/Certifications

- Nova Southeastern University, Master of Accounting (2007)
- University of Florida, Bachelor of Science, Finance & Minor, Economics (2002)
- Certified Public Accountant (2009)

What do you believe should be the objective(s) of the Florida Government Finance Officers Association?

As stated in its bylaws, the purpose of the Florida Government Finance Officers Association should be to “promote the improvement of government financial administration in Florida.” In order to ensure that this purpose is effectively served through FGFOA leadership, I believe the following main objectives should be adhered to consistently and continually:

Membership Development – As trends in employment have changed over the past several years and will do so during the continued generational shift, the FGFOA has been vigilant in its pursuit of developing the next generation of talented government finance professionals. I have personally seen this taking shape through my work on the Membership Development Committee. The mentoring and leadership program should be retooled so it can more effectively provide the

transfer of knowledge and information from one generation of practitioners to the next. The FGFOA should continue to engage students and professionals just starting their career in government as this will ensure the leaders of tomorrow are traveling on the right path.

Training and Education – We know that well educated government professionals will make sound decisions and are better able to react to emerging trends and adapt themselves to a changing environment. The FGFOA should continue to provide high-quality, informative, and relevant educational seminars at the School of Government Finance, Annual Conference, through webinars and other ad-hoc trainings, in addition to the CGFO certification program. This should also be encouraged at the local level through chapter events.

Networking – The saying “It’s not what you know, it’s who you know” really hits the heart of what networking is all about. The more that members are in contact with others in government and in the private sector through conferences, meetings and seminars, the more they will be exposed to new ideas, information, and different schools of thought. This allows individuals to become well-rounded and opens doors to new opportunities and initiatives that can serve their career well in the future. Networking should be encouraged at all levels and serve as a tool for engaging members to become stronger in their profession.

Why do you want to be a member of the Board of Directors?

The FGFOA is the single most important resource available to Florida government finance professionals. As I have benefited greatly from my participation with the FGFOA, I feel it is my duty to continue to engage members and make certain that they are aware of the organization’s benefits, and that they fully take advantage of what is provided by the FGFOA. I have proven my abilities as a leader through my board positions with the local chapter and my work with the Conference Program Committee, where I have served as chairperson once and sub-chair four times. I am ready to take my service to the Board of Directors, where my experience, education, drive, and determination will allow me to serve the needs and interests of the FGFOA with excellence.

The Florida Government Finance Officers Association is an invaluable resource. In my 10+ years as a member of this organization, I have personally and professionally benefited from the opportunities I have been afforded through its service to

government practitioners. I would be honored to serve the FGFOA and its members.



Cindy Emshoff, Finance Manager, Sarasota Office of Housing & Community Development

FGFOA Activities

- FGFOA member (8 years)
- School of Governmental Finance Committee, Member (2012-2013 & 2015-2017)
- Nominating Committee, Member (2013)
- Southwest Chapter, Member
- Southwest Chapter, Director (2007-2010)
- Southwest Chapter, Secretary/Treasurer (2014-Present)
- Southwest Chapter, President (2011-2012 & 2013)

How many FGFOA Annual Conference or Schools of Governmental Finance have you attended?

7

Have you ever been a speaker at an FGFOA training program?

No, but I have been a moderator.

What significant contribution have you made to the FGFOA?

My greatest contribution to the FGFOA is my enthusiasm and willing-to-work attitude, regardless of the task. Since beginning to serve on the Southwest FGFOA Chapter Board in 2007, I've served as President twice and am currently serving as Secretary/Treasurer since 2014. Additionally, I've had the privilege of serving on

the School of Government Finance Committee several times. When the SOGF was held in Sarasota, I initiated the "Restaurant Crawl" with trolley transportation from the hotel to Sarasota's Main Street restaurants and created a catalog of venues to visit during the school so that everyone enjoyed the entire educational experience. Also, I've moderated several sessions at the School and conference. Whatever job I volunteer for, I give 110%.

Have you prepared material for an FGFOA newsletter or research project?

Yes, the FGFOA newsletter. A Spotlight Article on David Flatt (2011) and a Spotlight Article on Linda Senne (2012)

Do you participate in any other professional organization and/or civic/fraternal/public interest activities?

Local food bank volunteer

Do you participate in any other noteworthy state/local public finance-related activities?

Sarasota County Leadership Development Program

Education/Certifications

- University of South Florida, Accounting (Present)
- State College of Florida, Associate of Arts Degree in Accounting

What do you believe should be the objective(s) of the Florida Government Finance Officers Association?

The Florida Government Finance Officers Association is invaluable as a resource to make all of us better government finance officers. Well-trained members can make an impact in their communities and in the state. FGFOA should continue offering superior education to all levels of government employees, promote leadership skills, encourage networking for all members, and provide communication on legislative issues.

Why do you want to be a member of the Board of Directors?

I'm passionate about the organization and would bring the same level of enthusiasm to the Board that I've demonstrated in handling other responsibilities. I've been involved in the FGFOA about 10 years, and the educational opportunities

I've received as an FGFOA member have assisted me in my career. My goals include four main things: expanding webinar sessions so that government finance staff at all levels can attend; increasing participation on FGFOA committees; amplifying our influence in Tallahassee as an eminent voice on legislative issues; and augmenting networking opportunities so that government finance employees recognize the FGFOA as their go-to resource. If I were elected to the FGFOA Board, I would try to apply the same principles we use in our office: I would listen to my colleagues, explore and articulate options, and then try to reach consensus. I would consider it a privilege to serve on the Florida Government Finance Officers Association Board.



Nicole Gasparri, CGFO, Organizational Program Manager, City of Boca Raton

FGFOA Activities

- FGFOA Member (22 Years)
- FGFOA current Board Member (since 2015)
- Conference Program Committee (2010&2015), served as Chair
- Information Technology Committee (1998)
- Membership Development Committee (2014)
- Palm Beach County Chapter, Member

How many FGFOA Annual Conference or Schools of Governmental Finance have you attended?

Approximately 24

Have you ever been a speaker at an FGFOA training program?

Multiple Leadership programs for the past 15 years at both the School and annual conference and local chapters; about 5 times per year (2004 to present)

Have you prepared material for an FGFOA newsletter or research project?

Conference Program Committee Chair, AD Hoc Leadership Committee, and the School of Govt Finance (2014-2017)

What significant contribution have you made to the FGFOA?

I am currently a FGFOA Board Member. I have been on the Board since 2015. Being a Board Member I have visited many of the local chapters to speak on Enhancing your own Personal Performance and Effective Communication. While being a board member I have been the Sub Committee Chair of the Ad Hoc Leadership Committee, as well as the liaison for the School of Government Finance. I was the Conference Committee Chair for the 2015 annual conference as well. I have been a speaker for the FGFOA at the school and conference on-going for the past 15 years. With an average 5 times per year.

Do you participate in any other professional organization and/or civic/fraternal/public interest activities?

I participate in FPPTA – I am a CPPT; I have been a volunteer leader for Landmark Education as a seminar leader and coach. I also teach a free Zumba class for the community.

Education/Memberships

- CGFO
- Bachelors of Business Administration/Accounting, Florida Atlantic University (1992)

What do you believe should be the objective(s) of the Florida Government Finance Officers Association?

I believe that the objective(s) of the Florida Government Officers Association should be several;

- To set the standard of what it means to be a Government Finance officer.
- To remain abreast to changes happening in the State and Federal Government that are directly or indirectly affecting governmental organizations.
- To create training and development opportunities to maintain and exceed the professionalism that is expected of the finance professional.
- To create opportunities to be mentored, or mentor professionals in the organization.

- To maintain the fiscal responsibility of the FGFOA while providing the best services possible to the members.

Why do you want to be a member of the Board of Directors?

I am currently a FGFOA Board member. I have been on the Board since 2015. That in combination with over 22 years in local government in various Management roles has given me a unique perspective and one that all me to see the “big picture” and bring that view to the Board. I have also, trained and coached managers at different levels in a variety of Municipal Governments, and non-profits to successfully run efficient, and effective organizations. As a Board Member I have visited many of the local Chapters to speak on Enhancing your own Personal Performance and Effective Communication. I also have been the Sub Committee Chair of the Ad Hoc Leadership Committee Chair for the 2015 annual conference as well. I have been a speaker for the FGFOA at the school and conference on-going for the past 15 years. With an average 5 times per year. I would be honored to continue to serve the FGFOA members.



Michael "Mike" Gomez, CPA, Audit Manager, Office of Florida Auditor General

FGFOA Activities

- FGFOA member (7 years)
- Conference Program Committee (2014-2017); Served as Chair in 2016
- Big Bend Chapter, Member
- Big Bend Chapter, Director (2015-2016)
- Big Bend Chapter, Treasurer (2016-Present)

How many FGFOA Annual Conference or Schools of Governmental Finance have you attended?

8

Have you ever been a speaker at an FGFOA training program?

- Annual Conference (2008 & 2009)
- School of Governmental Finance (2013 & 2015)

What significant contribution have you made to the FGFOA?

By participating in the Conference Program Committee for the last three conferences, as well as this year's conference, and chairing the 2016 committee, I strived to select speakers that were interesting, discussed topics that were relevant and timely, and added value to the profession. Also, I am a charter member of the FGFOA Big Bend Chapter, served as Director, and currently serve as Treasurer.

Have you prepared material for an FGFOA newsletter or research project?

Newsletter – prepared updates on speakers for 2016 conference program (2015-2016).

Do you participate in any other professional organization and/or civic/fraternal/public interest activities?

The Gideons International (Tallahassee North Camp), serve as treasurer.

Do you participate in any other noteworthy state/local public finance-related activities?

FICPA, member of the State & Local Government Committee, speaker at various FICPA conferences; member of the AICPA; member of the Association of Government Accountants, and its local chapter.

Education/Certifications

- Bachelor’s Degree in Accounting, Florida State University
- Associate of Arts & Associate of Science in Accounting, Miami-Dade College

What do you believe should be the objective(s) of the Florida Government Finance Officers Association?

I believe the objectives of the Florida Government Finance Officers Association (FGFOA) should be to equip government professionals so that they may succeed in their work endeavors. As articulated in its mission statement, the FGFOA, through the availability of its professional resources, is in a position to provide opportunities for creating balanced and cost effective educational programs; establishing relationships with other organizations/individuals; recruiting, mentoring, and promoting leaders; and communicating technical and legislative issues. As such, the FGFOA’s objective should be to strengthen and enhance skills used in individual members’ work life.

Why do you want to be a member of the Board of Directors?

I want to be a member of the Board of Directors because I feel it is important to give back to an organization that has such a worthy mission. With many years of accounting, auditing, and management experience with small and large governments, it would be gratifying to utilize these skills and experiences to the benefit of the FGFOA and its members.



Jonathan McKinney, CGFO, FRA-RP, Assistant City Manager/Finance Director, City of Edgewater

FGFOA Activities

- FGFOA Board of Directors (2014-Present)
- FGFOA member (14 years)
- Certification Committee (2008-2015); Served as Chair
- Member Development Committee (2015-2016)
- Small Government Committee (2012-2013); Served as Chair
- Technical Resources Committee (2006-2008; 2013-2014; 2016-2017); Served as Chair
- Volusia/Flagler Chapter, Member
- Space Coast Chapter, Secretary and Treasurer (2008-2010)
- Volusia/Flagler Chapter, President (2010-2012)

How many FGFOA Annual Conference or Schools of Governmental Finance have you attended?

24

Have you ever been a speaker at an FGFOA training program?

- School of Governmental Finance (2008-2016)

What significant contribution have you made to the FGFOA?

Have helped twice to rewrite the CGFO exam. Have helped to revise the Government Resource Manual. Was the founding member of the Volusia/Flagler

Chapter of the FGFOA. More importantly, I believe I have helped to make the voice of the small Governments heard the past three years as a Director of the FGFOA.

Have you prepared material for an FGFOA newsletter or research project?

Yes. While serving on the Certification Committee between 2008-2015.

Do you participate in any other professional organization and/or civic/fraternal/public interest activities?

Elks, Rotary, Boy Scouts of America

Do you participate in any other noteworthy state/local public finance-related activities?

Only through FGFOA

Education/Certifications

- Master of Business Administration, Stetson University
- Bachelor of Science (Accounting Concentration), University of Central Florida
- Certified Government Finance Officer (CGFO)
- Florida Redevelopment Association Professional Accreditation (FRA-RP)

What do you believe should be the objective(s) of the Florida Government Finance Officers Association?

The main objective of the FGFOA should be accessibility. Our members need local help and assistance on issues that in most cases might be regional in nature. The local chapters bridge the gap between what the state and national associations offer. The push to have every agency reasonable access to a local chapter should be fulfilled. Also, the continued push to have the subject matters of the Webinars relevant at all levels of government is important.

Why do you want to be a member of the Board of Directors?

As a continued member of the FGFOA Board of Directors I wish to continue to bridge the FGFOA and Local Chapters and encourage everyone to participate. Also to continue to encourage all to not only become a Certified Government Finance Officer, but to get engaged with the Local Chapters and the various committees of the FGFOA.



Jamie Roberson, CGFO, Chief Financial Officer, Osceola County Property Appraiser

FGFOA Activities

- FGFOA Board member (2014-Present)
- FGFOA member (14 years)
- Certification Committee (2015-2016)
- Legislative Committee (2016-2017)
- Member Development Committee (2013-2015); served as Chair
- School of Governmental Finance Committee (2012-2013)
- Technical Resources Committee (2011-2012)
- Central Florida Chapter, Member
- Central Florida Chapter, Board Member (2009-2010)
- Central Florida Chapter, President-Elect (2010-2011)
- Central Florida Chapter, President (2011-2014)
- Membership Involvement Ad Hoc Committee (2012-2013); focused on recruiting students to our organization to develop the organizations future leaders. I held the sub-chair for student outreach on this ad hoc committee.
- Social Media Ad Hoc Committee (2016-2017); assist the FGFOA with their social media platform.

How many FGFOA Annual Conference or Schools of Governmental Finance have you attended?

13 Annual Conferences, 7 School of Government Finance, 1 Leadership Boot-Camp

Have you ever been a speaker at an FGFOA training program?

Yes, Annual Conference & School of Government Finance, Speaker & Moderator (2012-2016)

What significant contribution have you made to the FGFOA?

I have been a member of FGFOA since I was first employed by Osceola County Government in 2002. I have attended and participated in various events and programs over the last 14 years. I have served as a Board Liaison, Committee Chair, sub-chair and volunteer for several committees. I have been the Board Liaison for the Membership Development Committee. I have served on the Technical Resources and School of Government finance committees. I was in the first group of Mentees when the FGFOA launched its mentoring program. At the local chapter level, I have contributed as President for three years, President-Elect one year, and Board Member for one year. At the local level I was able to develop and implement a modified CPE policy as well as procedures for accountability. I have also encouraged the use of technology with our "Going Green" effort. I am very enthusiastic about a recruiting strategy to bring young members into FGFOA to enhance the future sustainability and energy for our fine organization. I feel that my greatest contribution to the FGFOA is my personal dedication to this organization. That dedication encompasses my energy, eagerness, passion, determination and willingness to serve wherever needed.

Have you prepared material for an FGFOA newsletter or research project?

Yes, I have provided newsletters for the local chapter as President, committee reports and emails as chair (2011-2015).

Do you participate in any other professional organization and/or civic/fraternal/public interest activities?

GFOA, Member 2008-Present; Michigan Estates Home Owner's Association 2010-2014; St. Cloud Youth Football 2010-2013; Predator Basketball 2010-Present;

Kissimmee Friends of Park 2015-Present; Shock All-Star Cheer Booster Club 2016-Present.

Do you participate in any other noteworthy state/local public finance-related activities??

At the local level I serve on several committees that provide county-wide recommendations for employee benefits. I work hand in hand with various departments from the Osceola County Board of County Commissioners.

Education/Certifications

- Associate of Arts, Accounting, Santa Fe Community College (1996-1999)
- Business Administration, Accounting, University of Florida (1999-2000)
- Bachelor of Science, Business Administration, Accounting, University of South Florida (2000-2002)

What do you believe should be the objective(s) of the Florida Government Finance Officers Association?

The Florida Government Finance Officers Association objective should continue being a member's professional resource that provides opportunities through Education, Networking, Leadership and Information. However, I believe that the business environment is continuously changing; therefore, the delivery method of achieving these goals will change over time. The association is currently exploring opportunities to educate and network through the use of technology and social media at a reduced cost to the membership. This is critical and should continue in the future. Leadership development of future leaders should be emphasized with a more active membership recruiting program. This recruiting program should focus and exploit all membership level opportunities. The method of recruitment solicitation may be different for each target group such as students vs. a seasoned professional. The organization needs to continue to be innovative in the decision making process to achieve current and future goals for all types of government agencies and the professionals who benefit from the FGFOA.

Why do you want to be a member of the FGFOA Board of Directors?

I want to be a member of the FGFOA Board because I am passionate about the association's mission. I would like to inspire and motivate the FGFOA membership through innovation to educate, network, lead and disseminate information

relevant to government finance professionals at all government levels. Over the last 14 years, I have significantly benefited from educational materials, networking opportunities, leadership development opportunities and I want to offer my services to ensure this opportunity is available to current and future members of FGFOA. I believe my experience, dedication, and passion in my education, career, and involvement in the local and state chapters of the FGFOA will allow me to become an asset to the FGFOA board and I would be honored to serve the association and its members.