



Collaboration and Innovation: **Auditors Driving Positive Change**

Speaker Biographies (In Presentation Order)

Kevin McCarty, California State Assemblymember - District 7

Kevin McCarty was elected to the California State Assembly in 2014 to represent the 7th Assembly District, which includes Sacramento, West Sacramento and parts of unincorporated Sacramento County.

McCarty serves as Chair of the Assembly Budget Subcommittee on Education Finance, which oversees the largest component of California's multi-billion dollar budget. As Chair, McCarty made historic investments in public education including expanding access to preschool for low and middle income families, providing greater career technical education programs, and increasing student enrollment at our public colleges and universities.

Other legislative priorities for Assemblymember McCarty include addressing housing affordability, fighting climate change, championing criminal justice reform, curbing gun violence, tackling the opioid crisis and advocating for the middle class.

McCarty began his public service career as a Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Commissioner and served on the Sacramento City Council from 2004 to 2014. As a Councilmember, he created innovative youth programs and wrote common-sense gun laws, tackled sub-standard rental housing, and crafted clean air policies. He created Sacramento's Little Saigon district, the City's Whistleblower Hotline program, and the Independent Auditor department.

A lifelong Sacramentan, McCarty went to local public schools, attended American River College, earned a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from CSU Long Beach and a Master's degree in Public Policy and Administration from CSU Sacramento.

Stacey Andersen, Senior Auditor, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Inspector General

Stacey has been working with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Office of Inspector General (OIG) since July 2009. Prior to working with HUD OIG, she worked for a small construction company as an office assistant and bookkeeper. She has a bachelor's degree in accounting from Arizona State University and a Master's degree in accounting from Southern Polytechnic State University. In 2015 she became a CPA. Stacey enjoys analyzing data and as a result became an ACL Certified Data Analyst. At home, Stacey enjoys playing with her two kids who are five years old and 11 months old.

Ben Ward, Audit Principal, California State Auditor's Office

Auditor for 13 years and is an ACL certified data analyst and a certified information systems auditor. Ben currently oversees seven staff who perform complex data analytics using a variety of data analysis tools. He and his team participate on the planning aspect of all audits to provide input on data analyses, data tools, data security, data matching, and data visualization techniques. He and his team work with the audit teams to determine value-added data analytics.



Collaboration and Innovation: **Auditors Driving Positive Change**

Speaker Biographies (In Presentation Order)

Andy Hanau, Principal Performance Auditor, City of San Diego Auditor's Office

As a Principal Performance Auditor, Andy manages teams completing performance audits on a wide range of topics in order to improve the City of San Diego's efficiency, effectiveness, and accountability. Three of Andy's reports have won Knighton Awards, including performance audits of the City's Waste Hauling and Recycling Programs (2014), the Code Enforcement Division (2015), and Programs for Improving Pedestrian Safety (2016).

Prior to performance audit, Andy worked in local government on a wide range of issues including affordable housing policy, high speed rail, and transportation and land use planning. Andy is a Certified Internal Auditor and holds a Master's of Public Policy from the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs. He also has a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from the University of California, San Diego.

Nathan Otto, Senior Performance Auditor, City of San Diego Auditor's Office

Nathan Otto is a Senior Performance Auditor with the City of San Diego. He has worked on a wide range of projects, including as the lead for a series of audits relating to the City's Human Capital Management, which is the subject of discussion for this session. And once he saw a blimp.

Laura Reyes-Cortez, Senior Performance Auditor, City of San Diego Auditor's Office

Laura Reyes-Cortez joined San Diego's Office of the City Auditor as a Performance IT Auditor in July 2016. Her projects have spanned a variety of topics, such as human capital management, development impact fees, urban forestry maintenance, City IT resources, and fraud hotline investigations. Previously she worked for the California Department of Finance as a Financial and Performance Evaluator conducting performance audits of bond-funded projects, such as construction of public schools and high-priority transportation corridor improvements.

Laura is a member of the IIA and ALGA; she is COBIT 5 Foundation certified. Laura holds a Master's degree in Accountancy from San Diego State University and a Bachelor's degree in French from California State University, Sacramento.

Becky Kennedy, Adjunct Faculty Program Manager, U.S. Government Accountability Office

Becky Kennedy has over 35 years of experience teaching within the public, private and non-profit sectors. In the public sector, Becky's federal career included working at the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) serving as Manager of the Adjunct Faculty Program, Master Trainer, Subject Matter Expert, Mentor, Facilitator, Coach and Senior Auditor. In addition to developing and delivering a wide range of training, Becky also managed audits at GAO that focused on both domestic and international programs. Becky also developed and delivered training to staff within various Offices of Inspector General, the Defense Intelligence Agency, IBM, and Lockheed Martin and has served as private coach and consultant to senior managers. Becky frequently spoke at professional conferences on issues impacting government auditors and accountability professionals, and has



Collaboration and Innovation: **Auditors Driving Positive Change**

Speaker Biographies (In Presentation Order)

provided leadership training to high school students. Becky has a Bachelor of Business Administration from the University of Michigan, Dearborn and has numerous certifications including “The Art of Practice of Leadership Development” from Harvard University and “Master Trainer” from the Association of Talent Development. Becky is happily married and has two grown sons.

Elaine Howle, California State Auditor, California State Auditor’s Office

For over 19 years, California State Auditor Elaine M. Howle has served the State of California by providing accurate, unbiased, and timely assessments of state and local government entities. Ms. Howle has nearly 36 years of auditing, management, and leadership experience with the California State Auditor's office and its predecessor office. Under her leadership, the work from her office serves an important role in the State's system of checks and balances by examining the fiscal health and performance of state and local entities to ensure that government provides the essential services to the public in the most efficient and effective manner.

A trusted voice, Ms. Howle is frequently called upon to provide testimony in legislative hearings and brief members on the results of her office's work. Her performance audits provide information to improve public accountability and facilitate decision making by parties with responsibility for overseeing or initiating corrective action. Her office conducts the annual financial audit of California's large, complex financial system and provides an opinion on the financial statements. Ms. Howle's office also audits annually the State's compliance with federal regulations governing the administration of billions of dollars in federal funds California receives each year. Moreover, her office investigates allegations received and reports substantiated claims of fraud and abuse in state government. Further, her office audits and reports on state and local government agencies that it has identified as being at high risk for waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement or that have major challenges related to efficiency or effectiveness.

Recognized nationally as a leader in her profession, Ms. Howle has received various awards including the National State Auditors Association's William R. Snodgrass Distinguished Leadership Award. Additionally, the Institute of Internal Auditors' American Center for Government Auditing honored Ms. Howle as among 2014's 15 Most Influential Professionals in Government Auditing and she was also named Public Official of the Year by Governing Magazine in November 2012. Further, Ms. Howle received the national David M. Walker Excellence in Government Performance and Accountability Award in June 2012. She is currently the treasurer for the National State Auditors, Comptrollers and Treasurers. Additionally, she previously served as the president of the National State Auditors Association in 2013 after having served on the executive committee for 5 years. Further, in 2003 she was asked by the U.S. Comptroller General to serve on his Domestic Accountability Working Group—on which she currently serves. She is also member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Association of Government Accountants.

Ms. Howle is a certified public accountant and a certified government financial manager. She earned a bachelor's degree in sports management from the University of Massachusetts and a master's of business administration from California State University, Sacramento.



Collaboration and Innovation: **Auditors Driving Positive Change**

Speaker Biographies (In Presentation Order)

Michael Tilden, Deputy State Auditor, California State Auditor's Office

Mike is a Deputy State Auditor for the California State Auditor. In his position he oversees the independent financial statement audit for California—the fifth largest economy of the world. Additionally, Mike is responsible for the statewide Single Audit, performance audits, and Local Government High Risk Program. He has been with the California State Auditor's Office since 1994, and maintains a CPA license. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in accounting and finance from California State University, Sacramento. Mike has served in various supervisory, management, and executive roles on financial, performance, and high-risk audits.

Michael Nash, Senior Consultant, Sjoberg Evashenk Consulting, Inc.

Michael Nash is a Senior Auditor & Consultant with Sjoberg Evashenk Consulting. Since joining Sjoberg Evashenk, Michael has worked on several performance audits of and consulting engagements on billion-dollar capital improvement programs for schools, highways and roads, and transit systems, which has led him to develop a framework for identifying, mitigating, and communicating risks inherent in the forecasting of long-term revenues and expenditures. In addition, Michael has worked on a variety of engagements involving contract compliance, program performance, and management and oversight of federal grants. Prior to joining Sjoberg Evashenk, Michael earned a bachelor's degree in Political Science from the University of Montana, a master's degree in Public Policy (MPP) from Oregon State University, and completed additional post-graduate work at the University of California, Davis, while working as a teaching and research assistant. During this time, he completed several research projects, including an analysis of safety training programs offered to commercial fishermen in Oregon.

Jorge Oseguera, City Auditor, City of Sacramento California

Mr. Oseguera has been auditing local government for almost 20 years. Mr. Oseguera currently serves as the City Auditor of Sacramento, California. During his tenure as the Sacramento City Auditor, his office has issued over 30 audit reports, made almost 500 recommendations and has identified over \$50 million in potential benefit and savings for the City of Sacramento. His office was also responsible for establishing and managing the City's first whistleblower hotline which has received over 1,000 tips. The Association of Local Government Auditors has recognized the high quality of Mr. Oseguera's work by awarding him with several Knighton Awards. Prior to working for the City of Sacramento, Mr. Oseguera worked for 9 years with the San Jose City Auditor's Office. Mr. Oseguera holds a Master of Public Administration degree from Syracuse University and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science/Public Administration from California State University Stanislaus.

Scott Frank, Director of Performance and IT Audit, Office of the Washington State Auditor

Scott has served as the Director of Performance and IT Audit for the Office of the Washington State Auditor since 2018. In that capacity, he directs the Office's performance audit program which was established through a 2005 citizens' ballot initiative. He also oversees the Office's consolidated IT audit function, which includes computer-assisted audit techniques (CAATs), systems audits, cybersecurity audits, and forensic investigations. Prior to coming to Washington, Scott worked for the



Collaboration and Innovation: **Auditors Driving Positive Change**

Speaker Biographies (In Presentation Order)

Kansas Legislative Division of Post Audit for nearly 20 years, including serving as the State's fifth Legislative Post Auditor from 2010 to 2018. He has served on the executive committees for a number of national and regional audit organizations, including the National State Auditors Association, the Mid-America Intergovernmental Audit Forum, and the Pacific Northwest Intergovernmental Audit Forum. Scott holds a B.S. in management information systems from Kansas State University, an M.S. in business administration from the University of Kansas, and an M.A. in economics from the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

Peg Bodin, Assistant Director of IT Audit, Office of the Washington State Auditor

Peg Bodin is the Assistant Director of Team IT Audit for the Office of the Washington State Auditor. Peg is primarily responsible for overseeing the team that performs data analysis, systems reviews, cybersecurity performance audits, security attestation audits, and forensics for state and local government. Peg has been with the office since 1987 and was a member of the team that designed and created a data analytics Financial Analysis Program which currently supports over 800 local government audits. Peg is a 1982 graduate of Western Washington University with a Bachelor's degree in Accounting and Computer Science. She is also a Certified Information Systems Auditor.

Kirstin Austin, Chief Learning Officer, U.S. Government Accountability Office

Kirstin Austin is the Chief Learning Officer at the U.S. Government Accountability Office. She has a diverse background consisting of more than 25 years of experience in learning, development, organizational design, and employee engagement across the private, non-profit, and public sectors.

Prior to joining GAO, Ms. Austin served as the Deputy Chief Learning and Engagement Officer at the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), where she drove initiatives that promoted effective learning, development, and employee engagement programs across DHS components. She led crosscomponent collaboration with representatives from eleven distinct components and developed the first-ever department-wide Workforce Development Plan. As a result of Ms. Austin's efforts, she was awarded the Cross-Management Collaboration Award as part of the DHS Management Directorate Awards for Excellence (2017) and the Technical Excellence Award (2018).

Prior to DHS, Ms. Austin served in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, Personnel and Readiness, in two different roles—most recently in Readiness and Force Management, Total Force Planning and Requirements, as the Associate Director, Total Force Management. She also served in Personnel and Readiness, Civilian Personnel Policy, as the Director, Talent and Organization Development. Ms. Austin was awarded The Office of the Secretary of Defense Medal for Exceptional Civilian Service in November 2014.

Prior to working in the federal government, Ms. Austin was a senior consultant at the Center for Organizational Excellence, leading engagement teams addressing human capital-related performance improvements efforts across the federal government. She also started and managed her own



Collaboration and Innovation: **Auditors Driving Positive Change**

Speaker Biographies (In Presentation Order)

consulting organization for 15 years designing and developing training programs aligned with mission strategy for a number of clients, including Exxon Mobile, Pitney Bowes, and the City of Baltimore.

Ms. Austin has a master's degree in human resources development from the George Washington University and a bachelor's degree in literature from American University. She completed the Excellence in Government Fellows Program at the Partnership for Public Service.

Steven Munoz, Senior Investigator/Auditor, Office of the Controller, City and County of San Francisco California

Steven has been with the City and County of San Francisco's Controller's Office since July 2015, first as an Intern, then as a Staff Investigator, and currently as a Senior Investigator/Auditor with the City's Whistleblower Program. Over the last 4 years, Steven has been involved in resolving over 460 whistleblower complaints, coordinating and hosting the Whistleblower Program's award-winning webinar series, and various performance and compliance audit engagements. Steven is a Certified Fraud Examiner and has a BA in Political Science and minor in Women's Studies from UC Davis. Steven's leadership philosophy embodies service through integrity, teamwork, respect, and inclusion.

Lacy Vong, Assistant Director/Field Office Manager, U.S. Government Accountability Office

Lacy Vong is passionate about public service and figuring out how to deliver services in more efficient and effective ways, which is why she has worked for the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) for nearly 15 years. In her current role as the Oakland Field Office Manager, she oversees and manages the internal operations of the office. In addition to the management of the office, she has national responsibilities as an Assistant Director in Field Operations, which provides her opportunities to practice continuous process improvement, challenging norms, and finding ways to make life easier for GAO employees across the country allowing them to focus on GAO's mission. Prior to her current role, she was a senior policy analyst who worked on issues ranging from transportation to retirement. She holds a Master of Science in Public Policy & Management degree from Carnegie Mellon University.

Melanie Chesney, Deputy Auditor General, Arizona Auditor General

Melanie M. Chesney is the Deputy Auditor General for the Arizona Auditor General's Office and is also currently the interim director for the Office's Accounting Services Division. Ms. Chesney assists the Auditor General in managing the Office's day-to-day operations. Her other primary responsibilities include report messaging and review, legislative and media relations, internal communications, leadership coaching and mentoring, and development and implementation of new functions assigned the Office by the Legislature.

Ms. Chesney has been with the AZ Auditor General's Office for over 25 years and previously served as director of the Performance Audit Division. Ms. Chesney is a long-time member of the Western



Collaboration and Innovation: **Auditors Driving Positive Change**

Speaker Biographies (In Presentation Order)

Intergovernmental Audit Forum's executive committee and is currently the chair. She also chaired one of the sub-committees that assisted with writing the National Intergovernmental Audit Forum's current strategic plan. Ms. Chesney has a Master's Degree in Justice Studies from Arizona State University and a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology and Social Change and Development from the University of Wisconsin — Green Bay.

Mark de la Rosa, Acting Chief Audit Executive, Office of the Controller, City and County of San Francisco California

Mark de la Rosa has served as the City and County of San Francisco's acting director of audits, under the leadership of City Controller Ben Rosenfield, since July 2019. In his current role, Mark leads a dynamic team of auditors, investigators, and analysts in conducting performance and compliance audits of city departments, systems, and functions; investigating complaints of fraud, waste, or abuse of city resources; and providing actionable audit recommendations to city leaders to promote and enhance effectiveness, efficiency, and accountability over the City's \$12.3 billion annual budget. Mark has over 18 years of experience in auditing, budget, and policy analysis, including previously serving as San Francisco's deputy director of audits, principal analyst for the San Francisco Board of Supervisors' Budget and Legislative Analyst's Office, analyst for the U.S. Government Accountability Office, and budget analyst for the State of Illinois Office of Management and Budget. Mark earned a Master of Public Policy degree from the Goldman School at the University of California, Berkeley, and a bachelor's degree in Sociology and Urban Studies from Northwestern University.

Margarita Fernández, Chief, Public Affairs and Quality Assurance, California State Auditor's Office

Margarita Fernández is the Chief of Public Affairs and Quality Assurance and is a member of the executive management team for the California State Auditor's Office. In her position, Ms. Fernández is responsible for the public relations of the office and is the press contact. She manages and oversees the development of external communication including the office's Website, promotional material, press information, and presentations. Further, Ms. Fernandez is responsible for internal quality control program of the office and developing audit policies and procedures. Moreover, she is the liaison to national professional organizations, including the National State Auditors Association (NSAA); the National State Auditors, Comptrollers, and Treasurers; and the intergovernmental audit forums. She serves as one of the state representatives on the Western Intergovernmental Audit Forum and is on various national committees with the NSAA. She has a Bachelor's in Accounting, is a Certified Public Accountant and a Certified Government Financial Manager.