

*2009 AGA Denver Chapter*



*Twenty-Third Annual  
Professional Development Conference*

*Managing and Monitoring Public Funds  
In Today's Economy  
May 13 and 14, 2009*

*at  
DeVry University  
1870 W. 122nd  
Westminster Colorado 80234*

## 2009 AGA Denver Chapter

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### *Itinerary* *Wednesday May 13, 2009*

- 7:00—7:55      *Registration—Continental Breakfast*
- 7:55—8:00      **“WELCOME”**  
*Doug Griffin AGA Denver Chapter President*
- 8:00—8:55      *Jeffery S. Hart, CGFM, CFE , Manager, Office of Inspector General  
(OIG) U.S. Environmental Protection Agency,  
Past National President AGA*  
**“Providing Accountability and Transparency of Recovery Act Economic Stimulus Funds”**
- 8:55—9:00      **BREAK**
- 9:00—9:55      *Jeremy Eggers, Assistant Regional Director, Media Relations, USDOL*  
**“Guidance for Government Employees in Dealing with the Media”**
- 9:55 -10:00      **BREAK**
- 10:00-10:55      *Brian Maass, Investigative Reporter, Channel 4 News*  
**“Verifying and Pursuing Investigative Leads”**
- 10:55—11:00      **BREAK**
- 11:00—1:55      *Debra Cooper-Clark, AGA Denver Chapter Vice President PDC*  
**L U N C H / Audio Visual Presentation “Ethics”**
- 1:55—2:00      **BREAK**
- 2:00—2:55      *Patrick Cogley, Regional Inspector General for Audit, HHS*  
**Combating Health-Care Fraud**
- 2:55 —3:00      **BREAK**
- 3:00—3:55      *Doug Griffin CPA. CFE, Supervisor Office of Labor-Management Standards*  
**“Interviewing Techniques for Auditors, Accountants, and Financial Professionals”**
- 3:55— 4:00      **BREAK**
- 4:00—4:55      *Doug Griffin CPA, CFE, Maximizing Effectiveness at Meetings  
(TOOLS for LEADERS and ATTENDEES)*
- 5:00—Until      **CLOSING REMARK**  
*Doug Griffin—AGA President 2009*
- 5:30—7:00      **NETWORKING**

## 2009 AGA Denver Chapter

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**Thursday May 14, 2009**

- 7:00—7:55            *Registration—Continental Breakfast*
- 7:55—8:00            **“WELCOME”**  
*Eric Johnson, President-Elect AGA Denver Chapter*
- 8:00—8:55    *Todd Gagon, HUD Office of Inspector General*  
**“Computer Assisted Audit and Accounting Tools”**
- 8:55—9:00            **BREAK**
- 9:00—9:55    *Steve Green, Professor of Accounting at the U. S. Air Force Academy*  
**“What Government Accountants Should Know About Forensic Accounting”**
- 9:55 -10:00            **BREAK**
- 10:00-10:55    *Bob Flores, CPA, Compliance and Audit Liaison Officer, Western Area Power*  
**“Recovery Act implementation, Western Area Power Administration  
Transmission Infrastructure Program”**
- 10:55—11:00            **BREAK**
- 11:00—11:55    *Jeff Romine, Strategic Advisor, City of Denver Economic Development*  
**“Governor’s Colorado Economic Recovery Accountability Board and Denver’s Planned Use  
of Stimulus Funds”**
- 11:55—1:00    *Jennifer Leone, AGA Denver Awards Chairperson*  
**AWARDS/LUNCHEON**
- 1:00—1:55    *Brett Hanselman, CPA , KPMG LLP.*  
**“Antifraud Waste and Abuse and ARRA: Prevention, Detection, Response”**
- 1:55— 2:00            **BREAK**
- 2:00—2:55            **PANEL**  
*CO State Auditor, Sally Symanski, Denver City Auditor Dennis Gallagher,  
CO State Senator, Moe Keller*  
**“Managing and Monitoring Am. Recovery and Reinvestment Act Funds”**
- 2:55—3:00            **BREAK**
- 3:00—3:55    *Karen Kataline, Gutschpah Communications*  
**“The Art of Communicating the Good, the Bad and the Ugly”**
- 4:00—4:15            **AGA Chapter President Evaluations and Closing**

AWARD CATEGORIES

- **COMMUNITY LEADER:**  
*This individual, group, or organization has demonstrated a deep understanding of the issues surrounding a community and is influential in his or her organization and/or in the greater community in working towards that community's betterment. Such work might revolve around culture, education, or volunteer activities.*
  
- **FILLING IN THE GAP:**  
*Some people are born as leaders and others have it thrust upon them. This individual has been called upon and demonstrated the ability to step into a position that has recently been vacated.*
  
- **GENERATION AWARD:**  
*This individual has shown a great affinity for getting the younger generation of people (ages 20-35) interested in the governmental work particularly in the field of accounting and finance.*
  
- **EYES TOWARD THE FUTURE:**  
*This individual or group has worked to identify and educate the accounting and governmental industry about emerging issues which have a profound effect on the work that we do.*
  
- **LEADERSHIP:**  
*This individual has demonstrated a deep understanding of the issues surrounding the governmental accounting community and is influential in his or her organization.*
  
- **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE:**  
*This individual or group has demonstrated exceptional meritorious service to the Government in the duty of great responsibility.*
  
- **MYSTERY AWARD:**

Recipients announced during ceremony

**SPEAKER BIO'S**

***AGA Denver Chapter President 2008/2009***

***Doug Griffin***

***Supervisory Investigator***

***Denver District Office***

***Office of Labor Management Standards***

***U.S. Department of Labor***

*Doug has been a manager in the Denver District Director for the Office of Labor Management Standards (OLMS), U.S. Department of Labor in September of 2003. Doug supervises audits and investigations of labor unions in Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, Utah and New Mexico. Doug worked for OLMS in the 1970s and 1980s, serving as an Investigator in Atlanta and San Francisco, and as the Supervisor of Investigations in the Chicago office. Doug is also chair of the OLMS National Compliance Assistance Workgroup.*

*Doug left government to direct financial investigations and security for an international commercial bank, which was eventually purchased by Bank of America. At Bank of America Doug was Director of Due-Diligence Investigations for Commercial Lending.*

*After leaving Bank of America, Doug relocated to Denver, Colorado where he worked as a manager in a small accounting firm that specialized in accounting for non-profits and in forensic accounting. He left public accounting to join a software company headquartered in Barcelona, Spain. Doug was director of financial services sales in the U.S. and developed analytical applications for internal auditors and financial analysis in large banks, communications companies and utilities.*

*Doug was a High School Teacher, both before and after serving as an officer in the Marine Corps. He is active in community and professional associations. He was elected to the Evanston Illinois School Board where he served as Vice-President and Chair of the Finance committee. Doug is head of finance for a Romanian education mission and is a member of the Evergreen Rotary Club. He is currently the President of the Denver Chapter of the Association of Government Accountants.*

*Doug has a Masters Degree in Education and an undergraduate degree in Economics from the University of Michigan. He is a CPA and CFE and teaches part-time for the Becker CPA Review Course, the nation's largest CPA exam preparation course.*

**Karen Kataline**

*Some specialize in the art of small talk, but Karen Kataline specializes in the art of "straight talk." As a motivational speaker, professional entertainer and assertiveness trainer, Karen has trained business professionals, college students and health professionals in public speaking, interpersonal communication and customer service. She received her MSW from Columbia University in 1983, but was a troublemaker long before that. Karen has coined and trademarked the word GUTSPA! --not to be confused with Chutzpah, which she's going to tell you much more about today.*

**Jeremy L. Eggers**

*Jeremy L. Eggers is the U.S. Department of Labor's deputy regional director for public affairs for regions 7 and 8, leading all aspects of public affairs activities for more than 20 departmental agencies in a 10-state area. Eggers enlisted in the Air Force as an airman basic in 1992. After basic military training, he attended technical school at the Defense Information School, Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind., as a student in the Basic Journalist Course. Upon completion of the journalist course, Eggers was assigned to F.E. Warren AFB, Wyo., where he served as base newspaper editor and later as a media and community relations specialist. During his time in Wyoming, Eggers earned numerous command newspaper awards and was also named the Air Force's Outstanding Public Affairs Airman of the Year in 1993.*

*While at F.E. Warren, Eggers applied for and was accepted into the Air Force's Leader's Encouraging Airman Development program, a new program specifically designed to identify airman for officer training at the U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colo. In July 1995, Eggers entered the U.S. Air Force Academy's Preparatory School, a 10-month program designed to ready potential Academy cadets for the rigors of Academy life.*

*Following completion of the Preparatory School, in June 1996, Eggers entered the Air Force Academy as a member of the Class of 2000. While at the Academy, Eggers served in leadership positions to include cadet squadron first sergeant, squadron commander, and class president.*

*After graduation from the Academy, Eggers was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Air Force and assigned to Schriever Air Force Base, Colorado Springs, Colo., as the deputy chief of public affairs, leading public affairs activities for a number of space operations, to include the Global Positioning System. Eggers deployed to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, during this time working public affairs issues involving detainee operations. While at Schriever, he was named Air Force Space Command's outstanding company grade officer in Public Affairs for 2002.*

*In June 2003, Eggers volunteered for a tour of duty at Thule Air Base, Greenland, as the chief of public affairs, a position that hadn't existed since the end of the Cold War. While at Thule, Eggers worked contentious issues involving negotiations among the United States, Denmark, and Greenland regarding a U.S. proposal to upgrade the early-warning radar system at Thule for use in the national missile defense system. The yearlong process ended with the signing of a new defense agreement that allowed for the upgrade of the Thule radar.*

*As an Air Force captain, Eggers was assigned to the Defense Information School, Fort Meade, Md., in 2004 as an instructor in the public affairs leadership department. During that assignment, he deployed twice to Iraq where he led the development and launch of the Iraqi Ministry*

*of Defense's first-ever public affairs officer course. Eggers separated from the Air Force in 2007, becoming a full-time student at the University of Colorado-Denver's Graduate School of Public Affairs, graduating in 2009. He has served in his current capacity with the Labor Department since 2008.*

**SPEAKER BIO'S CONTINUE**

**Patrick Cogley**

*Patrick Cogley is the Regional Inspector General for the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Office of Inspector General (OIG), Office of Audit Services in Kansas City. In this position, he supervises a staff of more than 70 auditors including a field office in Denver. He joined the HHS OIG in 1997 in Dallas, Texas. Prior to working with HHS, Mr. Cogley was an auditor with the United States General Accounting Office. He began his federal auditing career in 1987. Mr. Cogley received his MBA from the University of Texas in 1993. He received his BS in Accounting from Indiana University in 1986.*

*Mr. Cogley passed the CPA examination in 1987 and he is a Certified Public Accountant in Illinois.*

*Mr. Cogley received the Bronze Medal for OAS' Outstanding Employee of the Year in 2001. He was also a recipient of the OIG's Cooperative Achievement Award in 2000. In addition,*

*Mr. Cogley has been recognized numerous times for exceptional achievement awards at HHS and GAO.*

**Dr. Steve G. Green**

*Steve G. Green (Lt Col, USAF ret) is a Professor of Accounting at United States Air Force Academy. His research interests focus on cost analysis, government financial management, fraud examination and forensic accounting, managerial and financial accounting, performance measurement, and education. He has an extensive record of professional publications and presentations and has provided consulting services to many different Department of Defense agencies and various not-for-profit organizations. He is the Director of the USAFA Financial Management Center of Excellence at the Academy that directly supports SAF/FMC and the Air Force Cost Analysis Agency.*

*His operational Air Force career included several years of acquisition, cost analysis and business management experience on three different major space systems as well as several classified space systems. He has served almost 20 years on the faculty at USAFA teaching accounting, finance and international business. He also completed a special duty tour at the Defense Finance and Accounting Service. While on active duty, he was promoted below-the-zone to Major and Lt Colonel. He is a Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM), Certified Cost Estimator/Analyst (CCE/A) and an APDP Level III Program Manager. He has earned a Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) from United States International University, MS from University of Southern California, and a BS from the United States Air Force Academy.*

**SPEAKER BIO'S CONTINUE**

**Bob Flores CPA, MBA**

*Bob Flores began his Federal career as a Graduate Coop, Budget Analyst, with the Department of Commerce/NOAA. He was eventually converted to a Budget Analyst position. He then became the Budget Officer for the NOAA/MASC organization and was promoted to Chief of Finance. Mr. Flores worked for the Department of Commerce approximately 11 years. Mr. Flores now works for the Department of Energy, Western Area Power Administration (Western) as the Compliance & Audit Liaison Officer. He has been with Western for approximately 19 years. He is currently detailed to a team to implement Western's Recovery Act Program.*

*Mr. Flores credentials are as follows:*

*Undergraduate degrees in Psychology and Sociology, University of Colorado, Boulder  
Masters, Public Administration - Finance, University of Colorado, Boulder  
Masters, Business Administration - Finance, University of Colorado, Boulder  
Masters, Accounting - Taxation, University of Colorado, Boulder*

*Certified Public Accountant, Colorado  
Member AGA, AICPA*

**Jeffrey S. Hart CGFM, CFE**

*Jeff has served in positions of increasing responsibility at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Office of Inspector General (OIG) since he was appointed Manager of the Denver, Colorado office in 1991. He is currently responsible for OIG evaluations and performance audits nationwide concerning global climate change as well as EPA's stewardship, voluntary, and partnership programs.*

*Jeff was the 2006-2007 National President of the 14,000-member Association of Government Accountants (AGA), and is serving his third term as an Executive Committee member of the Mountain and Plains Intergovernmental Audit Forum. Mayor John Hickenlooper appointed Jeff as a member of Denver's new independent Audit Committee in January 2008. Jeff began his government career in 1977 with the U.S. Government Accountability Office. Jeff is a cum laude graduate of the University of Colorado at Denver, a Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) by examination, and a Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE). He grew up in Denver, and has served on a variety of community and nonprofit boards and committees. Jeff resides in Denver's Bonnie Brae neighborhood with Roxanna Hart, his wife of over 30 years. Jeff and his wife enjoy the company of their extended family, especially their nieces and nephews. They also enjoy spending time with family and friends in their second home in Breckenridge, Colorado where Jeff is a part-time ski instructor.*

**Todd Gagon**

*Todd Gagon, Senior Auditor, has a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting from Metropolitan State College of Denver. He is a Certified Fraud Examiner and an Audit Command Language (ACL) Certified Data Analyst. Mr. Gagon has nine years of Federal service, working in the Office of Inspector General, Office of Audit, of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Two of the eight years were spent as a part of the Financial Audits team in Headquarters. Mr. Gagon also has one year of accounting experience with the public accounting firm, PricewaterhouseCoopers. Mr. Gagon has served as the Computer Assisted Auditing Techniques (CAATS) representative for the Denver HUD OIG office over the past two years.*

**PANEL SPEAKER BIO'S**

**Sally Symanski, CPA, CGFM—Colorado State Auditor**

*The office of the state auditor, Sally is the Colorado State Auditor. Sally worked in the private sector prior to 1991 when she began her career in Colorado State Government at the Office of the State Auditor. In 2002 Sally became Deputy State Auditor and was responsible for overseeing all financial audits of state agencies, departments, and higher education institutions, as well as overseeing some performance audits. In 2006 Sally was appointed State Auditor by the Colorado General Assembly.*

*Board member of the Colorado Housing and Finance Authority, with memberships to include the Colorado Society of Certified Public Accountants, American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and the Association of Government Accountants. Educated at Antioch College, Yellow Springs, Ohio, Sally received a bachelors degree in Economics, and has a Master of Science degree in Accounting and Information Systems from the University of Colorado at Boulder. She is a Certified Public Accountant and a Certified Government Financial Manager.*

**Dennis J. Gallagher—Denver City Auditor**

*In his second term as Denver City Auditor, Dennis Gallagher will share with us today the "Fight for Reform and Independence in the Auditor's Office."*

*Dennis was first elected to the Colorado House of Representative in 1970 to two terms, followed by 20 years in the State Senate serving for 16 years on the Colorado State Legislative Audit Committee. In 1982, he sponsored the 'Gallagher Amendment' to our state constitution to stabilizing residential property's share of the statewide property tax base. He served two terms on the Denver City Council before being elected City Auditor in 2003 and re-elected in 2007.*

*Born in Denver, the son of Denver natives, Ellen Flaherty Gallagher and Bill Gallagher, a Denver Firefighter.*

*Dennis attended Holy Family Grade and High School graduating from Regis College with a BA in English Literature and minors in Latin and Greek. Gallagher received his MA from the Catholic University of America, Washington D.C. He majored in Speech Communication. He has been teaching speech, persuasion and media for 42 years. He is now Professor Emeritus at Regis, retired since July of 2003.*

*Dennis streamlined the Auditor's Office from five departments to three. Dennis supported Denver's charter change to remove payroll and accounting from the Auditor's Office to the administration. He supported charter reform for an independent audit committee which he now chairs. He supported charter reform to allow the Auditor's Office to do performance audits and he will oversee seven audit teams so dedicated.*

**U S Senator Moe Keller**

*Moe Keller has 6 years Wheat Ridge City Council, 8 years Colorado House, of Representatives, 5 years Colorado Senate member of the Joint Budget Committee, and named legislature of the year.*

*Senator Keller has been a teacher and interpreter of the deaf for over 25 years in the Jefferson County Public School and Denver Public School Districts.*

*Senator Keller has been a member and awarded over 23 organizations. To highlight a few: Colorado Association of Libraries Legislative Award for Support of the Talking Library (2007) Senior Resource Center's Elected Official of the Year (2007) Colorado Child card Association (2006) West Chamber of Commerce (2006) "Conservationist of the Year" - Jefferson Conservation District and the Upper South Platte Watershed Association (2006)*

**Spring 2009 Executive Board**

*President Doug Griffin [dgriffin@ix.netcom.com](mailto:dgriffin@ix.netcom.com)*

*President-Elect Eric Johnson [eric.johnson@state.co.us](mailto:eric.johnson@state.co.us)*

*Vice President, PDC Debra Cooper-Clark [debraclark73@hotmail.com](mailto:debraclark73@hotmail.com)*

*Vice President, Programs Gwenn Zacchini [gwenna.zacchini@dfas.mil](mailto:gwenna.zacchini@dfas.mil)*

*Vice President, Communications Sally Symanski [Sally.symanski@state.co.us](mailto:Sally.symanski@state.co.us)*

*Secretary Gail Bruce [Gbruce@wapa.gov](mailto:Gbruce@wapa.gov)*

*Treasurer Jeremy Cockrum [cockrumj@gao.gov](mailto:cockrumj@gao.gov)*

*Past President Karla Gomez-Meyer [karla.gomez-meyer@denvergov.org](mailto:karla.gomez-meyer@denvergov.org)*

**Spring 2009 Directors**

*Awards, Jennifer Leone [leonej@gao.gov](mailto:leonej@gao.gov)*

*CGFM Liaison, David O'Farrell [ofarrelld@bouldercolorado.gov](mailto:ofarrelld@bouldercolorado.gov)*

*Community Service, Cheri Frazell [Cheri\\_Frazell@fws.gov](mailto:Cheri_Frazell@fws.gov)*

*Early Careers Program, Jeremy Cockrum [cockrumj@gao.gov](mailto:cockrumj@gao.gov)*

*Emerging Issues, James Herbic [James.Herbic@dodig.mil](mailto:James.Herbic@dodig.mil)*

*Employment, Kari Grimshaw [Kari\\_Grimshaw@fws.gov](mailto:Kari_Grimshaw@fws.gov)*

*Membership, Michelle Dimodica [Michelle.Dimodica@cliftoncpa.com](mailto:Michelle.Dimodica@cliftoncpa.com)*

*Publicity, LaVerle Kepler [jlkdenver@msn.com](mailto:jlkdenver@msn.com)*

*Recognition, Gail Bruce [Gbruce@wapa.gov](mailto:Gbruce@wapa.gov)*

*Scholarships, Debra Haynes [Debra.Haynes@denvergov.org](mailto:Debra.Haynes@denvergov.org)*

*Webmaster, Karl Greve [kgreve@copera.org](mailto:kgreve@copera.org)*

**Many Thanks**

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***AGA Chapter President—Doug Griffin***

***AGA Communications—Sally Symanski***

***AGA Chapter Secretary - Gail Bruce***

***AGA Chapter Treasurer—Jeremy Cockrum***

***Additional Board Members***

***AGA Regional Education Director—Debra Cooper-Clark***

***AGA Regional Vice President & Chapter Past President—Karla Gomez-Meyer***

***AGA Regional Vice President Elect—Glen Struempfler***

***AGA Past National President—Jeff Hart***

***If you would like to obtain a copy of available, PowerPoint presentations, please visit AGA DENVER CHAPTER WEBSITE at: <http://www.denveraga.org/>***