# 2023 Board of Directors

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### Kirsten Lennon

Education Committee Chair Financial Services Director City of Cottonwood klennon@cottonwoodaz.gov

### **Jerry Hart**

Membership Committee Chair Retired City of Tempe jerryhart1@cox.net

# GFOAZ Informational Brochure

# Membership Categories and Dues

### Active

Open to all public employees, elected and appointed officials having responsibility for, or engaged in, the function of governmental finance in any public jurisdiction of the State of Arizona. \$70/year

### Commercial

Open to all persons not currently employed by a governmental agency whose livelihood is derived primarily from commercial or professional activities related to municipal finance. \$125/year

### Associate

Open to any person not eligible for active or commercial membership but who is interested in the principals and practices of governmental finance. \$40/year

### Student

Open to any student who is currently attending an accredited undergraduate or graduate program on full-time basis for the purpose of entering the profession of public finance and is not qualified for active membership. \$20/year

### Retired

Open to any individual who was previously an active member of GFOAz, has qualified for benefits under a bona fide retirement plan and is not currently eligible for an active membership. Retired membership is also open to any individual who was not previously a member of GFOAz, but who now resides in Arizona and has had a career substantially in the field of local government finance, having held position(s) during their employment with local government(s) either in Arizona or in other states or countries that would be comparable to positions held by current active members; and now has qualified for benefits under a bona fide retirement plan, and is not currently eligible for an active membership. \$20/year











**Promoting Excellence in Government Finance** www.gfoaz.org



### **About GFOAz**

The Government Finance Officers Association of Arizona (GFOAz) is a non-profit professional organization that serves the government finance profession in Arizona. GFOAz was founded in 1965 and serves as the state chapter of the national Government Finance Officers Association. Boasting a membership of nearly 400 government finance professionals, GFOAz encourages membership from state, county, and city governments, tribal agencies, school districts, colleges, universities, special districts, and private firms.

**Purpose** 

The purpose of GFOAz is to improve the practice of governmental finance in the state of Arizona as developed and recommended by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada as well as other recognized authorities.

GFOAz provides a system of networking, training and information sharing opportunities. These opportunities help those individuals responsible for municipal and other local government fiscal policy and management develop knowledge, enhance skills and improve performance.

**Membership Eligibility** 

Any duly acting finance, accounting, budget, audit, or administrative related employee, whether elected or appointed, in a public jurisdiction of the State of Arizona or any person who is interested in the principles and practices of government finance, and who subscribes to the purposes of the GFOAz.

**Membership Benefits** 

GFOAz is a vital, statewide government finance officers' organization, which maintains a close relationship with our national organization, the Government Finance Officers Association.

# **Annual Conferences**

GFOAz Conferences brings together members and other public finance specialists to improve and develop technical and managerial skills, as well as to explore current government finance issues. The conferences feature workshops and sessions with knowledgeable speakers, the GFOAz annual business meeting, opportunities to exchange information with your peers, and great social and recreational events.

**Professional Development** 

GFOAz hosts quarterly trainings on a variety of topics that are of interest to members, and also partners with other organizations to offer additional professional development opportunities to members throughout the year. For GFOAz members with continuing education requirements, Continuing Professional Education (CPE) credits are available at all GFOAz trainings. GFOAz offers some of the lowest cost-per-CPE trainings in the state. One-day trainings typically offer 4-6 credits, while the Annual Winter and Summer Conferences offer 10-13 CPE credits for active, associate, commercial and student members.

**Communication and Networking** 

GFOAz publishes an annual online directory. Membership in GFOAz provides the opportunity to exchange information and ideas with other government finance professionals from around the state of Arizona and with members in the finance and banking industry.

# **Scholarship Opportunities**

**GFOAz Winter Conference - 2 scholarships** 

**GFOAz Summer Conference - 2 scholarships** 

GFOA Annual Conference - 1 scholarship

GFOA CPFO Enrollment Scholarship - 2 scholarships

# **Student Internship/Scholarship Program**

The GFOAz Scholarship and Internship Program was created in 2015 and honors Arizona students who aspire to a career in public finance. Two GFOAz scholarships/internships will be awarded to an incoming junior or senior enrolled at Arizona State University, Grand Canyon University, Northern Arizona University or the University of Arizona. The GFOAz scholar will have the opportunity to interview participating cities, towns and counties and select their preferred internship location. Arizona cities, towns and counties with a population of less than 300,000 may apply to participate in the internship program. Participating or host entities are expected to provide the student intern with a broad range of experience in the finance department.

The GFOAz Scholarship/Internship Program includes a cash award and a summer internship at an Arizona city, town or county. The scholarship will be awarded to one student at the GFOAz Winter Conference in Flagstaff, Arizona in February.

# **Member Communications**

Members receive frequent communications regarding professional development, current events, changes in public finance, career opportunities and information about GFOAz events.

**Employment Opportunities** 

GFOAz is pleased to post job openings on the GFOAz website as a free service to the members.

# **Resource Pool**

The GFOAz is creating a resource pool for members to use when they have a question or issue in a specific area. If you are interested in being a resource for your colleagues by sharing your knowledge, please contact GFOAz for additional information.

# Links

Members may use the GFOAz website to access information from professional organizations, federal, state, county, local cities, towns, and governmental agencies.

# **GFOAz Staff**

René Guillen and Stephanie Lieb

# **Government Finance Officers Association of Arizona**

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