



October 2026 Newsletter



Words From Our Chapter President

I hope everyone is ready for fall and for the weather to finally start cooling down a bit! First, a quick apology to everyone. We had to cancel September's luncheon due to an unexpected AC issue in the AACOG building. While we know that's never fun to hear, your comfort and safety come first. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we work through it.

On a brighter note, this Friday, Mario Hernandez, Sr. Legal Counsel with TWC, will be joining us virtually during the lunch hour to deliver a TWC Update. Whether you're grabbing lunch at your desk or stepping away for a quick break, this is a great low-effort way to knock out some CPE credit without leaving the office.

If there's a colleague, friend, or contact who's been on the fence about getting involved with AGA, this is the perfect opportunity to loop them in. Virtual meetings make it easy for newcomers to see what our chapter is all about, no pressure, no commute, just great content.

A few more dates to keep on your radar: in November, Gilbert Barrera from Texas A&M San Antonio will be presenting on Forensic Accounting, and we'll wrap up the year in December with our Annual Toy Drive & Luncheon.

As always, this chapter runs on the energy and involvement of members like you. Thanks for sticking with us through the scheduling hiccup in September, and I hope to "see" many of you on the call this Friday!

Julio Elizondo
President, AGA San Antonio Chapter

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Upcoming Presenters:

October '26
Mario Hernandez
Sr. Legal Counsel
TWC



November '26
Gilbert Barrera
Texas A&M
San Antonio



December 2026
Annual Toy Drive &
Luncheon
San Antonio Food Bank
Volunteer Day

January '27
Dr. Stacy Y.
Evans
Director
OLLU



Next Meeting: October 2, 2026

Featuring Mario Hernandez, Senior Legal Counsel to Chairman Joe Esparza, Texas Workforce Commission Presenting on Employment Law Update 2026



Mario Hernandez serves as senior legal counsel to the Commissioner Representing Employers at the Texas Workforce Commission. He is responsible for advising the Commissioner on final-level unemployment claims, speaking at Texas Workforce Commission business conferences across the state, and writing articles for Texas Business Today, the newsletter produced by the office of the Commissioner Representing Employers.

In addition, he answers the office's employer hotline to provide information to employers in Texas on labor law matters and provides legislative analysis to the Commissioner on Texas House and Senate bills.

Mr. Hernandez is from Harlingen, Texas, and received his undergraduate degree from the University of Texas at Austin. He received his law degree at St. Mary's University in San Antonio, Texas.

Monthly Meetings

Future Meetings

In-Person (+ Virtual) CPE Meetings

Usually 1st Fridays , **12 Noon**
Meet & Greet ,Light Lunch, (\$15);

12:30 - 1:30 pm
Presentation for 1 CPE (Free)

Join us monthly for an educational presentation for 1 CPE. The presentation is FREE with an in person lunch cost of only \$15 (optional).

Presenters receive a complimentary lunch.

Presentations are usually held every 1st Friday. There will be a lunch meet & greet with the presenter prior to the presentation. You may also join us virtually. Virtual attendees will need to answer questions throughout the presentation in order to receive the CPE credit.

2026 New Member Spotlight

We would like to take the time to make a special recognition to our **20,000th** CGFM Member Nationally who joined our AGA San Antonio group in September:

Hector Castellanos of Cibolo, TX
Senior Analyst, EY

He will be receiving a complementary membership through 3/31/27 from AGA National.

New Members who also joined in 2026:

SEPTEMBER

Martha Aguilar, TWC

AUGUST

Maleah Olivarez, UIW

Lourdes Elizondo, UTRGV

Bryan Roldan, UTRGV

JUNE

Robert Gamboa, AACOG

APRIL

Laurent Lant, US ARMY

Chris Muga, INL

Joel Thomas, Dept. of VA

FEBRUARY

Yajaira Jordan, AACOG

D'Andre Boston, AACOG

JANUARY

Luis Salinas, City of Brownsville

Jhoan Torres, AACOG

Haleigh Heins, AACOG

We welcome you all and can't wait to meet you in person if we haven't already!

Trainings, Events & Webinars

Teams After-Action/ Planning Meetings

Usually 3rd Tuesdays

11 am Central

Tuesday, 10/20/26, 11 am

Tuesday, 11/17/26, 11 am

December 2026

Holiday Break,

No Meeting

Tuesday, 1/19/27, 11 am

Tuesday, 2/16/27, 11 am

Tuesday, 3/16/27, 11 am

Tuesday, 4/20/27, 11 am

Tuesday, 5/18/27, 11 am

Tuesday, 6/15/27, 11 am

Webinars

<https://www.agacgfm.org/events-training/trainings/webinars/>

Live Virtual Events

\$160 for Members

Congressional Budget Process

Thursday, October 1, 2026, 10:30am-2:30pm ET

FREE for Members

AGA 101

Thursday, October 8, 2026, 2-2:30pm ET

\$59 for Members

Uniform Guidance & Grant Accounting

Wednesday, October 14, 2026, 2-3:50pm ET

\$160 for Members

Budget Formulation

Tuesday, October 20, 2026, 10:30am-2:30pm ET

Chapter Events

Area chapter events are listed at the following link. You can Earn CPEs, expand your network, and make a difference in your local government financial management community.

<https://www.agacgfm.org/events-training/national-events/chapter-events/>

Membership

AGA San Antonio Chapter has maintained a strong core membership.

Our membership is now at 51!

We thank all current members, new members, and those who have participated (potential future members) for your commitment and participation.

Scholarship Opportunities

The **Early Career Training Scholarship** gives rising professionals the opportunity to grow their careers, expand their networks, and gain valuable training alongside 2,000+ government financial management experts at **AGA's Professional Development Training (PDT)**—AGA's flagship annual event. This year's scholarship application is closed but be on the lookout for next year's scholarship opportunity for PDT 2027. Join our board for this 2026-2027 year to increase your eligibility.

The **National Collegiate Leadership Scholarship** offers exceptional students the chance to attend **National Leadership Training (NLT)**, where they can connect with senior leaders in government financial management and explore careers in public service. Take a look at our previous recipients and get more info here: <https://www.agacgfm.org/award-scholarship/national-collegiate-leadership-scholarship/>

Be on the lookout for applications to be accepted soon and encourage your friends & colleagues to join as a student member for free today!

"Education is the key that unlocks the golden door to freedom." George Washington Carver



Strategies for Success for CGFM Candidates:

<https://www.agacgfm.org/webinar/strategies-for-success-for-cgfm-candidates/>
October 29, 2026 2-2:30pm ET

CGFM Courses:

<https://www.agacgfm.org/events-training/trainings/cgfm-courses/>

- AGA members **save \$75** per virtual CGFM course when they register
- Group, On-Demand, and Live Virtual options available for CGFM Course 1, 2, & 3
- CGFM **application fee** is \$90

Live Virtual:

Course 1: Governmental Environment; **Nov 5-6**, 10:30am-2:30pm ET, **\$325**

Course 2: Governmental Accounting, Financial Reporting & Budgeting; **Jan. 26-29** 10:30am-3:30pm ET, **\$725**

Course 3: Governmental Financial Management & Control; **Oct. 6-8**, 10:30am-3:30pm ET, **\$525**

On Demand:

- Available for Purchase at <https://cgfm.learnupon.com/store> at a lower cost than live virtual **\$189 - \$599**

National Training Events

NLT 2027

Feb. 17-18, 2027

Live & Virtual Event,
Washington, DC



Technology & Transformation Summit

March 30, 2027

Live & Virtual Event,
FREE for AGA Members



Performance Counts

May 4, 2027

Virtual Event, **FREE** for
Government Employees



<https://www.agacgfm.org/events-training/national-events/>

Julio C. Elizondo, Jr, MSF Chapter President	Mary Lou Saldivar, CGFM Past President / Webmaster / ACE Reporting	Alice S. Hufnagle CGFM-Retired, CPA-Retired, CFE-Retired Past President/ Asst. Webmaster/ Asst. ACE Reporting
Jean Morris, MPAcc Education Chair/President-Elect 	Gwendolyn R. Sewell, CGFM NCC Rep/Membership Chair	Your Name Here for the 2026-2027 Year
Haleigh Heins Treasurer	Rafael Perez, CGFM, CPA Member-at-Large, Past Treasurer	Your Name Here for the 2026-2027 Year

Check out **pictures** from prior training sessions, **upcoming announcements**, & the [CCR!](#)

Facebook:

<https://bit.ly/47YjOMd>



LinkedIn:

<https://bit.ly/4nQxSgw>



AGA San Antonio Website:

<https://bit.ly/3PIHgYH>

