



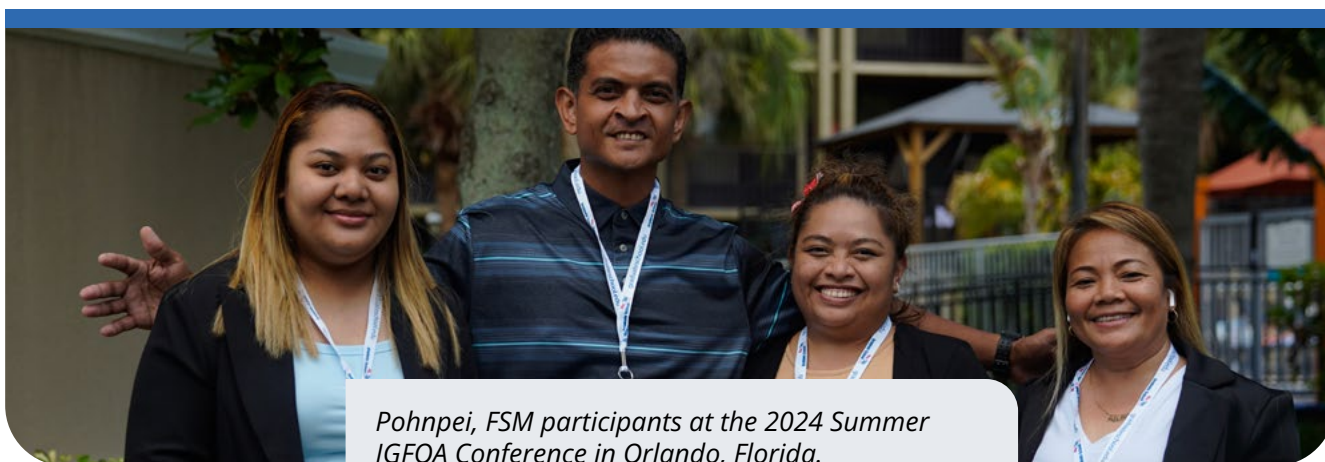
**IGFOA**



## ***GFOA & IGFOA Meeting Agenda***

Grand Hyatt Washington  
June 27 - July 2, 2025, Washington, DC





*Pohnpei, FSM participants at the 2024 Summer IGFOA Conference in Orlando, Florida.*

## GOALS

*The goals of the 2025 GFOA and IGFOA conferences are to:*

Present the current status of single audits across insular governments, with a focus on progress since the December IGFOA Winter Meeting and the March virtual meeting.

Equip IGFOA participants to engage effectively in GFOA Conference sessions by identifying relevant topics, organizing attendance, and capturing key insights.

Review and update IGFOA performance measures to ensure they are current, well-documented, and used to support financial oversight.

Facilitate engagement between IGFOA participants and GFOA leadership, including briefings on emerging federal issues.

Discuss major takeaways from GFOA Conference sessions and assess their relevance to U.S.-affiliated insular governments.

Identify key outcomes from the week and develop follow-up action plans to support implementation within each insular government.

## THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 2025

***Most insular government participants arrive in Washington, DC.***









Grand Hyatt Washington

- 1000 H St NW, Washington, DC 20001
- Tel: (202) 582-1234
- <https://www.hyatt.com/grand-hyatt/en-US/wasgh-grand-hyatt-washington>



# FRIDAY, JUNE 27, 2025

## Meetings with Department of the Interior and Tour of the White House

|            |   |  |
|------------|---|--|
|            |    | <b>Breakfast on Own</b>  |
| 8:00 a.m.  |   | Meet in the lobby of the Grand Hyatt for transportation to US Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street NW, Washington, DC 20240   |
| 8:45 a.m.  |    | <b>Arrival of IGFOA participants</b><br>OIA staff will escort participants to the North Penthouse.   |
| 9:00 a.m.  |    | <b>Opening and Welcoming Remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Deputy Assistant Secretary Angel Demapan or Director John Brewer, welcome everyone and introduce Mr. William Hague, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Insular and International Affairs for top line message delivery on admin priorities.</li><li>Mr. William Hague, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Insular and International Affairs.</li></ul>  |
| 9:15 a.m.  |    | <b>Regional Updates on Financial Management and Single Audits</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Each jurisdiction provides a brief update (2–3 minutes), highlighting: (a) one recent success related to financial operations or audit readiness; and (b) one current challenge impacting finance operations or audit timeliness.</li><li>Representatives: Ed Birn, Guam Finance Director; Tracy Norita, CNMI Finance Secretary; Julio Rhymer, USVI OMB Director; Kaleb Udui, Palau Finance Minister (nominee); Akenese Lealamanua, AS Treasury Senior Accountant; Sihna Lawrence, Pohnpei Finance Director; Jasmine Myazoe, RMI Chief Internal Auditor.</li></ul> |
| 9:45 a.m.  |  | <b>Discussion with OIA Leadership</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Remarks from OIA leadership</li><li>Discussion of shared priorities and opportunities for support</li></ul>  |
| 9:55 a.m.  |  | <b>Next Steps and Closing Remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Summary of key takeaways, closing remarks and adjournment</li></ul>  |
| 10:00 a.m. |  | <b>Adjourn</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>OIA staff (TBD) will escort the visiting delegation to the visitor's entrance for a 10:30 a.m. White House tour.</li></ul>  |
| 10:30 a.m. |  | <b>Begin White House Tour</b> <p>The new leadership at the U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs—including Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary William Hague and Deputy Assistant Secretary Angel Demapan—have arranged a special White House tour for IGFOA participants.</p> <p><b>To participate, attendees must:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>Have registered with Ciara Santiago, who submitted required biodata for security clearance; and</li><li>Present an official government-issued ID (REAL ID-compliant driver's license or passport) for entry.</li></ol>   |

**Note:** The group will depart directly from the Department of the Interior to the White House immediately following the morning meeting.

**Dress Code:**

1. Please dress appropriately. Business casual or professional attire. Avoid flip flops, ripped clothing, tank tops, or revealing clothes.
2. Bags, purses, and hats are not permitted inside the White House
3. There will be a lot of walking, so it is recommended to wear comfortable shoes.



*Jamie Gaston (U.S. Virgin Islands) and Gerald Zackios (RMI) attend the 2024 Winter IGFOA Conference in Honolulu, HI.*

## SATURDAY, JUNE 28, 2025



### ➔ **Metro Directions: Grand Hyatt Washington to Graduate School USA**

Our Saturday and Wednesday afternoon meetings will be held at Graduate School USA, located in the Capital Gallery Building at 600 Maryland Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20024. The building is easily accessible via Metro, just three stops from the Grand Hyatt Washington, which has direct lobby access to Metro Center station.

#### **From the Grand Hyatt Lobby to Graduate School USA via Metro:**

- **Enter Metro Center station** through the Grand Hyatt lobby.
- **Board any Orange, Blue, or Silver Line** train heading south toward L'Enfant Plaza:
  - Orange Line – toward New Carrollton
  - Blue Line – toward Largo Town Center
  - Silver Line – toward Downtown Largo
- **Ride three stops:** Federal Triangle, Smithsonian, and L'Enfant Plaza (disembark here).
- Inside L'Enfant Plaza, **follow signs to the 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Maryland Avenue SW exit**.
- Upon exiting, you will see the Capital Gallery Building immediately adjacent to the station. Graduate School USA is located inside at 600 Maryland Avenue SW.

This route takes approximately 6 minutes of travel time and requires no transfers.

 **Venue: Graduate School USA**, Capital Gallery Building, 600 Maryland Ave SW, Washington, DC 20024



Breakfast on Own; Lunch will be Provided

8:30 a.m.










Meet in lobby of Grand Hyatt to take metro to Graduate School USA

|            |   |  |
|------------|---|--|
| 9:00 a.m.  |    | <b>Opening of IGFOA Meeting in the Multi-Purpose Room</b><br><b>Welcoming Remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Insular Government IGFOA Representative</li> <li>• Jason Aubuchon, Director, Graduate School USA</li> </ul>   |
| 9:30 a.m.  |    | <b>IGFOA Agenda Review and Participant Introductions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Debbie Milks, CPA and Jason Aubuchon</li> </ul>  |
| 10:00 a.m. |    | <b>Insular Government Updates</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Insular government representatives will present updates on their current audit status, including timelines, challenges, and lessons learned from recent audits. Presenters will also discuss their progress on action plans created during the winter meeting and share their most significant recent accomplishments and challenges in financial management.</li> <li>• Presentations (7-10 minutes) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Republic of Palau</li> <li> Republic of the Marshall Islands</li> <li> Chuuk</li> <li> Pohnpei</li> <li> Yap</li> <li> Guam</li> <li> American Samoa</li> <li> CNMI</li> <li> US Virgin Islands</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
| 10:45 a.m. |    | <b>Break</b>   |
| 11:00 a.m. |    | <b>Insular Government Updates (Continued)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentations (7-10 minutes) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Guam</li> <li>» American Samoa</li> <li>» CNMI</li> <li>» US Virgin Islands</li> </ul> </li> </ul>  |
| 12:00 p.m. |  | <b>Group Photo</b>   |
| 12:10 p.m. |  | <b>Lunch</b><br>Lunch will be hosted at the Graduate School USA  |
| 1:00 p.m.  |  | <b>Interior Update on Insular Government Single Audits</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eunbin Morrison, Audit Liaison, Office of Insular Affairs</li> </ul>   |
| 1:10 p.m.  |  | <b>GFOA Conference Planning</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GFOA Session Recommendations</li> <li>• GFOA Session Assignments</li> <li>• Action Planning Templates</li> <li>• Debbie Milks, CPA</li> </ul>   |
|            |  | <b>GFOA Conference Registration (on Own)</b><br><i>Following the IGFOA, we recommend participants complete conference registration for GFOA on Saturday afternoon or Sunday morning, as registration gets quite busy on Monday morning. A group of us will be going to the Convention Center after our IGFOA meeting. Conference registration is open until 4:00 p.m.</i>  |
|            |  | <b>Dinner on Own</b>   |


- ➔ **Metro Directions from GSUSA to the Convention Center**
- **Exit the Capital Gallery Building** at 600 Maryland Avenue SW and **enter the L'Enfant Plaza Metro Station** via the 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Maryland Avenue SW entrance.
  - **At L'Enfant Plaza, board a northbound** train on either the **Green Line** (toward Greenbelt) or the **Yellow Line** (toward Mount Vernon Square).
  - **Travel three stops** and exit at Mount Vernon Square/7<sup>th</sup> Street–Convention Center station.
- ➔ **Metro Directions: Graduate School USA to Grand Hyatt Washington**
- **Exit the Capital Gallery Building** (600 Maryland Avenue SW) and **enter the L'Enfant Plaza Metro Station** via the 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Maryland Avenue SW entrance.
  - Board any **Orange, Blue, or Silver Line** train heading north toward Metro Center:
    - Orange Line – toward Vienna
    - Blue Line – toward Franconia–Springfield
    - Silver Line – toward Ashburn
  - **Ride three stops:** Smithsonian, Federal Triangle, and Metro Center (disembark here).
  - Follow signs within Metro Center station to the **11<sup>th</sup> and G Street NW exit**, which connects directly to the Grand Hyatt lobby.

## SUNDAY, JUNE 29, 2025

 **Venue: Walter E. Washington Convention Center, 801 Allen Y. Lew Place NW, Washington, DC 20001**

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
|                     |  Breakfast on Own   |
| 7:45 a.m.           |  <b>Sunday Morning Yoga</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• GFOA will be hosting a Sunday Morning Yoga session at the Conference Center. GFOA conference participants are invited to sign up and join their peers for a complimentary yoga class. This is a wonderful opportunity to relax, rejuvenate, and connect with fellow attendees before diving into the day's events. Whether you're a seasoned yogi or a beginner, this class is designed to accommodate all levels and provide a peaceful start to your day.</li></ul> |
| 12:00 p.m.          |  Lunch on Own   |
| 1:00 p.m.           |  <b>GFOA Conference Concurrent Sessions Begin</b> <p>GFOA Conference Sunday Keynote Speaker: Judy Smith</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Judy Smith</b> is the founder and CEO of Smith &amp; Company, a leading strategic advisory firm focused on crisis management. For more than 25 years, Judy has counseled presidents, world leaders, and other politicians, advised Fortune 50 CEOs through complex challenges, and helped manage the reputations of some of the world's highest-profile individuals.</li></ul>     |
| 2:40 p.m.–4:40 p.m. |  GFOA regular sessions begin at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center.   |
|                     |  Dinner on Own  |

# MONDAY, JUNE 30, 2025


 **Venue:** Walter E. Washington Convention Center, 801 Allen Y. Lew Place NW, Washington, DC 20001




|  |  |
|--|--|
|  |  Breakfast on Own   |
| 8:00 a.m.  |  <b>GFOA Conference Concurrent Sessions (Continued)</b>           |
| 8:30 a.m.  |  <b>GFOA Conference Keynote Speaker: Mitch Albom</b>              |
| <div>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mitch Albom</b> is an internationally renowned, bestselling author, journalist, and philanthropist. His books, which include the #1 bestselling memoir of all time, <i>Tuesdays with Morrie</i>, have collectively sold more than 40 million copies in 48 languages worldwide. With over 20 years on ESPN, and through his work at the Detroit Free Press and as a panelist on The Sports Reporters podcast, Albom has been named the #1 Sports Columnist in the Nation by the Associated Press Sports Editors (APSE) 13 times..</li> </ul> </div> |  |
| 10:30 a.m.   |  <b>GFOA Conference Concurrent Sessions (Continued)</b>           |
| 12:10 p.m.   |  <b>GFOA Serving lunch for all delegates at Convention Center</b> |
| 1:30 p.m.  |  <b>GFOA Conference Concurrent Sessions (Continued)</b>           |
| 4:50 p.m.  |  <b>GFOA Conference Concurrent Session End</b>                    |
|  |  Dinner on Own.  |



*Participants from the U.S. Virgin Islands, including Finance Commissioner Kevin McKurdy and Office of Management and Budget Director Jennifer O'Neal, attend the 2024 Summer IGFOA Conference in Orlando, Florida.*







## TUESDAY, JULY 1, 2025

 **Venue: Walter E. Washington Convention Center, 801 Allen Y. Lew Place NW, Washington, DC 20001**

|           |   |  |
|-----------|---|--|
|           |  | Breakfast on Own                                       |
| 8:30 a.m. |  | <b>GFOA Conference Concurrent Sessions (Continued)</b> |
|           |  | <b>GFOA Conference Keynote Speaker: Dan Heath</b>      |



- **Dan Heath** is the co-author (or author) of multiple #1 New York Times bestselling books: *Switch*, *Made to Stick*, *Decisive*, *The Power of Moments*, and *Upstream*. His more recent, *Reset: How to Change What's Not Working*, published in January 2025, is a guide to looking at systems, processes, organizations, and our daily lives by identifying leverage points and concentrating resources to achieve goals.




|            |   |   |
|------------|---|---|
| 10:30 a.m. |    | <b>GFOA Conference Concurrent Sessions (Continued)</b>                      |
| 12:00 p.m. |    | <b>GFOA Serving lunch for all delegates Convention Center</b>               |
| 1:30 p.m.  |    | <b>GFOA Conference Concurrent Sessions (Continued)</b>                      |
| 4:50 p.m.  |    | <b>GFOA Conference Concurrent Session End</b>                               |
|            |   | Dinner on Own   |
| 7:00 p.m.  |  | <b>GFOA Closing Event - The Anthem, 901 Wharf Street SW, Washington, DC</b> |



- **Night Ranger** (\$50 per person)  
Having sold over 17 Million albums worldwide, performed on over 4000 stages, and captivated a radio audience exceeding one billion, Night Ranger has epitomized and transcended the arena rock sound and style well beyond that era. Their legendary hits include "Sister Christian," "Don't Tell Me You Love Me," "When You Close Your Eyes," and "(You Can Still) Rock in America." Don't miss this night to remember!


## WEDNESDAY, JULY 2, 2025 (MORNING)

 **Venue: Walter E. Washington Convention Center, 801 Allen Y. Lew Place NW, Washington, DC 20001**

|            |   |   |
|------------|---|---|
|            |  | Breakfast on Own                                |
| 8:00 a.m.  |  | GFOA Conference Concurrent Sessions (Continued) |
| 12:10 p.m. |  | GFOA Conference Ends                            |

# WEDNESDAY, JULY 2, 2025

## (AFTERNOON)

 **Venue:** Graduate School USA, Capital Gallery Building, 600 Maryland Ave SW, Washington, DC 20024

|            |   |  |
|------------|---|--|
| 12:30 p.m. |    | Hosted Lunch for IGFOA Participants at Graduate School USA   |
| 1:30 p.m.  |    | <b>Continuation of IGFOA Meeting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>IGFOA Agenda Review and Introductions for Newly Arriving Participants</li></ul>   |
| 1:45 p.m.  |    | <b>Connecting with GFOA: Emily Brock</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Emily Brock, Director of GFOA's Federal Liaison Center, will update IGFOA on the status of US federal funds, including the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) closeout, Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) update, and application processes for each.</li></ul>   |
| 2:30 p.m.  |    | Break  |
| 2:45 p.m.  |    | <b>GFOA Conference Highlights: Participant Session Reports by Category</b> <p>Moderators: Debbie Milks, CPA; Frank Crawford, CPA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>What were the most important ideas, concepts, issues, or practices you heard about during the GFOA Conference?</li><li>How do they apply to you and your government?</li></ul>  |
| 4:15 p.m.  |  | <b>Government Action Plan Presentations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Each insular government will present a brief action plan identifying at least three specific items they intend to implement following the GFOA and IGFOA conferences. These may include new practices, policy adjustments, training initiatives, or areas for internal review. The purpose of this session is to promote accountability, encourage knowledge transfer, and support the practical application of insights gained during the week.</li></ul> |
| 4:45 p.m.  |  | <b>Conference Wrap-Up</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Conference Evaluations</li><li>Looking Ahead to Next Steps for IGFOA</li></ul>   |
| 5:00 p.m.  |  | Adjourn IGFOA Conference   |

# PARTICIPANT LIST

## American Samoa



**Akenese Lealamanua**, Treasury Senior Accountant, *Department of Treasury*  
**Amelia Moea'i**, Treasury Senior Accountant, *Department of Treasury*

## CNMI



**Jerry Deleon Guerrero**, Senior Financial Analyst, *CNMI Department of Finance*  
**Julie Loong**, Budget Analyst, *Office of Management and Budget*  
**Natalia M. Sablan**, Internal Auditor, *CNMI Department of Finance*  
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**Ryan Camacho**, Senior Financial Analyst, *CNMI Department of Finance*  
**Thomasa DLG. Naraja**, Senior Financial Analyst, *CNMI Department of Finance*  
**Tracy Norita**, Secretary of Finance, *CNMI Department of Finance*

## FSM – Pohnpei State



**Adelman Joseph**, Chief of Tax and Revenue, *Department of Treasury and Administration*  
**Anthony Loyola Dainard**, Budget Officer, *Department of Treasury and Administration*  
**Kelly Keller**, Financial Advisor, *Department of Treasury and Administration*  
**Mary L. Iehsi**, Accountant III, *Department of Treasury and Administration*  
**Meryda Inos**, Chief of Personnel, *Department of Treasury and Administration*  
**Moses Hespak, Jr.**, Acting Chief of Finance, *Department of Treasury and Administration*  
**Reginalt S. Joseph**, Reconciliation Manager, *Department of Treasury and Administration*  
**Richardo Sepin**, Travel Manager, *Department of Treasury and Administration*  
**Shirley Ann Ligoehr**, External Assistance Coordinator, *Office of the Governor - ODA Unit*  
**Sihna Lawrence**, Director, *Department of Treasury and Administration*  
**Serleen Hadley-Walliby**, TITL, *Department of Treasury and Administration*

## FSM – Chuuk State



**Dayna Bokuku**, Accountant, *Department of Administrative Services*  
**Jonas Paul**, Director, *Department of Finance and Administration*  
**Linda Maipi-Emuch**, Chief of Budget, *Department of Administrative Services - Budget Division*

## FSM – Yap State



**Irene Laabrug**, Acting Director, *Office of Administrative Services*  
**Patricia Ruecho**, Chief, Real Procurement & Property Management, *Office of the Administrative Services*

## Guam



**Alexa Navarro**, Accountant III, *Guam Department of Administration*  
**Edward Birn**, Director, *Guam Department of Administration*  
**Krystyna Ilagan**, General Accounting Supervisor, *Guam Department of Administration*  
**Mary Grace Edrosa**, General Accounting Supervisor, *Guam Department of Administration*

## Palau



**Darla Babauta**, Chief, *Division of Finance & Accounting, Ministry of Finance*

**Kaleb Udui, Jr.**, Minister, *Ministry of Finance*  
**Roleen Ronny**, Microeconomist, *Ministry of Finance*

## Marshall Islands



**Jasmine Myazoe**, Chief Internal Auditor, *Ministry of Finance*  
**Kazumi Kaneko-Leban**, Senior Procurement Officer, *Ministry of Finance*  
**Mickson David**, Deputy Chief Accountant, *Ministry of Finance*

## US Virgin Islands



**Arthur Williams, Jr.**, Data Analyst, *Office of Management and Budget*  
**Brenda Carty**, Director of the Treasury, *Department of Finance*  
**Clarina Modeste Elliott**, Assistant Commissioner, *Department of Finance*  
**Colvin Durante**, Associate Director of Budget Operations/Performance Unit, *Office of Management and Budget*  
**Julio Rhymer, Sr.**, Director, *Office of Management and Budget*  
**Nazareen Stephen**, Capital Assets Coordinator, *Department of Finance*

## GSUSA



**Jason Aubuchon**, Senior Director, *GSUSA*  
**Ciara Santiago**, Program Specialist, *GSUSA*  
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## GSUSA Resource Consultants

**Emily Brock**, Director, *GFOA Federal Liaison Center (Washington, DC)*  
**Frank Crawford**, CPA, Consultant, *GSUSA (Oklahoma City, OK)*  
**Deborah Milks**, CPA, Consultant, *GSUSA (Lawrence, KS)*



Yap, FSM  
representative  
Gertrude Gootinan  
at the 2024 Winter  
IGFOA Conference in  
Honolulu, HI.

## CONTACT INFORMATION



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*U.S Virgin Islands Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Julio Rhymer, Sr, at the 2024 Winter IGFOA Conference in Honolulu, HI.*

