



Deborah Loveless
Director, State Audit

Deborah Loveless, CPA, CGFM, CGMA, is the director of the Division of State Audit, which is part of the Tennessee Comptroller's Office. The Division of State Audit is responsible for conducting the financial and performance audits of all state departments, agencies, and institutions. Deborah has been with State Audit since 1979. For the first twelve years, she worked in the Financial and Compliance section and served as the audit manager for the state's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and Single Audit. In 1991, she assumed the duties of assistant director for the division's Performance Audit section, which performs audits under the state's Governmental Entity Review (Sunset) Law. She was appointed director of the division in January 2013.



Deborah received her bachelor's degree in public administration in 1975 and her MBA in 1979 both from the University of Tennessee-Knoxville. She is also a graduate of the Tennessee Government Executive Institute.

In addition to serving as vice-chair of the National State Auditors Association's Peer Review Committee and being a member of the Performance Audit Committee, she currently serves as a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountant's Committee on Government Performance and Accountability and also serves on the Institute's Task Force for developing Performance Audit Standards. In January 2016, she was appointed by U.S. Comptroller General Gene Dodaro to serve a four-year term on the GAO's Yellow Book Advisory Council.

She is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the Tennessee Society of Certified Public Accountants, the American Society for Public Administration (ASPA), and the Association of Government Accountants (AGA). She has held positions as both director and treasurer for the Tennessee Chapter of ASPA. In her more than thirty years as a member of AGA, she has held numerous appointed or elected offices at the chapter, regional, and national level, and on July 1, 2016, will begin serving a three-year term on the National Executive Committee as senior vice president.

Deborah is known for being an excellent planner and list maker, and she enjoys cross-stitching in her spare time. Deborah and her husband, Mike, have one son, Matt (daughter-in-law, Kristi, and two grandchildren).
