



Volume 2, Issue 2

October 2022

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## Exciting Transformations

Katie Armstrong, Assistant Director of Administration  
Division of Local Government Audit

Happy Fall CCFOs! Fall has officially arrived, and for me it represents a time of transformation.

The temperatures drop to a more pleasant level, the trees and foliage change to a myriad of beautiful colors, clothes transition to the warm and comfy, and the holidays are just around the corner. This is my favorite time of year!

For many of you, a transformation of a different kind has recently occurred. Since our last newsletter, there are 128 new CCFOs! Wow! The transformation you all have made as government finance officers, both professionally and personally, is a great accomplishment. It was not an easy feat to complete this program and you should be proud.

On June 22, 2022, a graduation ceremony was held at the Tennessee State Library and Archives to celebrate the new graduates. Our speakers reflected not only on what had already been accomplished by those who completed the program, but also on what you can accomplish in the future by putting the certification to work. Dr. Macel Ely, the Director of Organizational Improvement for the University of Tennessee Institute for Public Service, served as the keynote speaker and challenged the graduates to pair their technical skills gained through the CCFO program with the leadership characteristics of trust, compassion, stability and hope to



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propel our local governments forward. I hope that our graduates, along with our more tenured CCFOs, take this message to heart and genuinely seek to improve the county governments of Tennessee.

One way you can achieve this is through continued education. Graduation is not the end of the CCFO journey, rather it is the beginning. Continued education allows us to grow in our knowledge, to network with fellow government accountability professionals, to stay abreast of current government topics of interest and to transform our work environments from good to great. I encourage each of you to seek out quality continuing professional education opportunities that are relevant to your job responsibilities and to go into each session seeking to come away with something that can be applied on the job.

Lastly, I would encourage you to recruit your co-workers into the CCFO program if you feel they could benefit from the certification. It takes a strong team to successfully administer the financial responsibilities of county governments and I believe the CCFO certification adds that strength. Share your program experience with others and continue to transform your team and make your local government work better. Until next time...happy fall y'all!

*Katie Armstrong*



# HAPPY FALL STUDENTS AND GRADUATES



## CPE

Continuing Professional Education

Earn CPE deadline is December 31st!

# 5 Ways To Password Hygiene



- Create sufficiently-complex passwords.
- Longer passwords are better.
- Never reuse a password.
- Activate two-factor authentication.
- Use a password manager.



Go to [tncot.cc/cyberaware](https://tncot.cc/cyberaware) to become more Cyber Aware.

# CERTIFIED COUNTY FINANCE OFFICER SPOTLIGHT: **Lesley Lyle**

*Finance Director  
Meigs County*



## **What interested you in the CCFO program?**

The opportunity to receive training specific to my position as a Finance Director.

## **How has becoming a CCFO impacted your position?**

I would say it has definitely given me a greater sense of confidence in my ability to serve the position well.

## **What would you say to anyone thinking about participating in the CCFO Program?**

The knowledge that you gain, both during the program and after with CPE, is such a great advantage to anyone working within county government, especially any financial position. The instructors are very knowledgeable and helpful. I have reached out to them with questions several times since taking the course and always received prompt, friendly, and informative responses. I highly recommend this program.



# THE COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE IS OFFERING FREE CPE

16 hours • 2 Locations Available • CMFO & CCFO Training Only



JACKSON, TN  
OCTOBER 20-21, 2022



NASHVILLE, TN  
OCTOBER 25-26, 2022  
(IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL OPTIONS)



**TOPICS INCLUDE:** *GASB UPDATES, CYBERSECURITY, AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT, OPEN RECORDS, COMMUNICATIONS AND SO MUCH MORE!*



[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

# Upcoming Training Classes/Conferences

## CPE Provider Training Opportunities

(The following list is not a preapproval or endorsement of the provider organizations, nor do we provide any assurance regarding classes offered by the organizations.)

ACFE (Association of Certified Fraud Examiners)  
<http://www.acfe.com/>

ACPEN (Accounting CPE Network)  
<http://www.acpen.com/>

AGA (Association of Government Accountants)  
(CGFM)  
<http://www.agacgfm.org/>

AICPA (American Institute of Certified Public Accountants) CPEExpress  
<https://www.aicpa.org/cpeandconferences/cpe-selfstudy.html>

Checkpoint Learning CPEasy  
<http://www.cpeasy.com/>

Continuing Academics CPETutor  
<http://www.cafacpe.com/default.aspx>

CTAS  
<http://www.ctas.tennessee.edu/content/training>

GFOA (Government Finance Officers Association)  
[http://www.gfoa.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=28&Itemid=49](http://www.gfoa.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=28&Itemid=49)

Local Government Corporation  
<https://www.localgovernmentcorporation.com/drupal7/>

NASACT (National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers, & Treasurers)  
<http://nasact.org/>

TGA (Tennessee Gas Association)  
<http://www.tngas.org/>

TCMA (Tennessee City Management Association)  
<http://www.tncma.org/>

TGFOA (Tennessee Government Finance Officers Association)  
<http://www.tngfoa.org>

TSCPA (Tennessee Society of Certified Public Accountants)  
<http://www.tscpa.com>

TVPPA (Tennessee Valley Public Power Association, Inc.)  
<http://www.tvppa.com/>

Tyler Technologies  
<http://www.tylertech.com/>

Western CPE  
<http://www.westerncpe.com/>



# CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES

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BEVERLY JOANN ADAMS  
ANDREA ADDIS  
HEATHER ALLEN  
CONNIE M. BARNHART  
GARY DEAN BEHLER  
GENA BOONE  
KEVIN L. BOWLING  
MELISSA BRANNON  
CINDY BREEDING  
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AMANDA LEA BRIDGEWATER  
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