

Dedicated to Excellence in Municipal Financial Management

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CALIFORNIA SOCIETY OF MUNICIPAL FINANCE OFFICERS

## President's Message

Anita Lawrence, Finance Director, City of Camarillo

We do not yet have a state budget. The last action on the budget was taken on Wednesday, July 21, when a budget measure failed to achieve the 2/3 vote needed for passage, going down 24 to 11, with 4 abstentions from the vote. This budget bill was not one that was favorable to local government and was therefore not supported by the League of California Cities.

One of the main points preventing resolution of the state budget impasse continues to be the local government issue: the LOCAL coalition, Governor Schwarzenegger and some legislators (principally the Republicans, but some Democrats as well) want passage of a constitutional amendment that would protect local budgets from future state raids.

Democratic leaders want to preserve the state's authority to move money from local government in times of state fiscal need. There are also a number of Democratic legislators who appear willing to agree to constitutional protections for current local revenues, but who want to preserve the state's ability to reallocate the future growth in those revenues.

Local governments oppose state reallocation of their future revenues because of issues of fairness (taking money from one jurisdiction and giving it to another based on state priorities), but also because it would undermine their ability to predict a revenue stream for budgeting and bonding purposes.

City officials and their LOCAL coalition partners are urged to continue to talk to their legislators about the importance of passing a constitutional amendment that will end the practice of state raids on local funds.

We need to thank those legislators who are standing with us, and in particular, thank Governor Schwarzenegger. He has also proven to be a strong ally, exercising his energy and leadership on behalf of the millions of Californians who depend upon access to police, fire, recreation, public health and other vitally important local services. We need to thank him, early and often.

As president of CSMFO, I have sent a letter to the Governor thanking him for his support. I have also sent letters to leaders in the Assembly and the Senate encouraging them to adopt a budget that includes a local government protection element. Some more recent excerpts from articles appearing in local papers comes from northern California, from Arne Croce, the City Manager of San Mateo, and Mary Bradley, Finance Director for the City of Sunnyvale. These excerpts are from the League of California Cities' Website.

## Separation serves state best, by Arne Croce, City Manager, San Mateo, Published Friday, July 23, 2004, in the San Mateo County Times

One of the arguments used against the restoration of local taxes is that local govern ment seeks priority over other important state obligations - health care, education or social services. This is simply not true. Local government is not a state obligation like education. What local government seeks is a restoration of the separation be tween state revenue sources and local revenue sources that served California well for more than 80 years.

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Take advantage of our monthly publication by sharing with us your ideas. CSMFO is always seeking input from all members on topics in any department section.

Don't forget to visit the website at www.csmfo.org for the latest news or call us at 916/658-8210!

The MININEWS is your newsletter!

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## California Society of Municipal Finance Officers

#### Officers and Directors

President, Anita Lawrence, Camarillo President-Elect Janet Salvetti, Stockton Past President Zane Johnston, Tracy Secretary/Treasurer

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#### Technology

Julia James, Malibu John Adams, West Hollywood Josh Betta, South Pasadena

#### Scholarship Program

Candis Hong, Thousand Oaks Steve Conway, Los Gatos

## SB90 State Mandated Costs Don't Get Left Behind...

## Jason M. Reefer, Sr. Consultant, Maximus

To file or not to file, that is the question most often heard around the water cooler these days regarding State Mandated Cost claims and most recently a message board survey topic. Given the current status of most city budgets, the decision to file for SB90 costs is a difficult one. IN the long run however, it is clear that as long as it is part of the State Constitution under Article 6, Section 13B, the State Mandate program will continue. Should the Governor's Constitutional initiative pass, it will result in the funding for repayment beginning FY 06-07. Not filing SB90 claims would simply allow the State to pass mandated programs without considering the consequences and force local agencies to bear the burden of providing new or higher level of services without eventual reimbursement.

Should your agency decide to file State Mandated Claims in-house, rather than using a consultant, there are resources available to assist you in the process. The California Cities SB 90 Service provides members with some of the tools necessary to secure reimbursement for programs mandated by the State of California. The California Cities SB 90 Service is staffed by MAXIMUS and is endorsed by the League of California Cities as a source of support for cities filing their own SB 90 claims. The SB 90 Service will be conducting workshops to assist service members with the latest State Mandated Cost issues and provide members an opportunity to sharpen their SB 90 skills. The 2004 Fall Workshop for the North will be held in Sacramento, September 16th. The Southern workshop will be held September 21st in Ontario. The Fall Workshop will provide a series of sessions for both those new to the SB 90 arena as well as the veterans. Topics will include everything from the current status of the State budget and legislative actions to newly issued claims and a review of annual claims to be filed by January 15th, 2005.

The California Cities SB 90 Service is offering a discounted Fall Workshop registration fee of \$75.00 to the CSMFO membership. For more information on how to become a member of The California Cities SB 90 service or to attend the workshop, please contact the SB 90 Service at (916) 485-8519.

# UC Riverside Extension Fall Quarter Classes



For information contact University of California, Riverside Extension at (951) 827-4111 or check out our web site: www.UCRExtension.net

September 14-November 16, 2004

Accounting for Governmental and Nonprofit Organizations I, Riverside, California, Tuesdays, 6-9:30 pm, Fee: \$475.

September 16-December 2, 2004

Accounting for Governmental and Nonprofit Organizations II, Riverside, California, Thursdays, 6-9:30 pm, Fee: \$475.

## **Chapter Meeting Notices**

#### **Channel Counties**

Christy Pinuelas, City of Camarillo

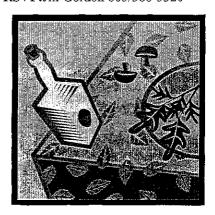
Date: Wednesday, August 18, 2004

Time 11:45am-2:00pm

Place: Camarillo Police Department Spkr: Craig Hoshijima, PFM Topic: Local Financial Strategies to Address State Revenue Shifts

Cost: \$20 (pay at door)

RSVP:Jill Gordon 805/388-5320





## **Orange County**

Kathy Rafferty, City of Irvine

**Date:** August 12, 2004

Time 11:30am

Place: The Turnip Rose

Spkr: Michael Moreland, Moreland &

Associates, Inc.

Topic: Fraud Aareness & SAS no. 99

Cost: \$26 buffet

**RSVP:**Betty Atwell, 949/724-6025

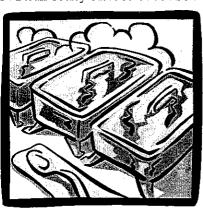
## San Diego County

Maria Kachadoorian, City of Chula Vista

Date: September 9, 2004
Time 11:30am-1:00pm
Place: Handlery Hotel
San Diego, CA

Spkr: Raul Amezcua, E.J. DeLa Rosa Topic: Pension Obligation Bonds Cost: \$25/govt. \$30/commercial

RSVP:Jan Seeley 619/585-5700 x3311



## **CSMFO Chapter Chairs**

Chapter Assistant - Tawni Escudero, League of California Cities 916/658-8210 or tescudero@cacities.org

<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Chairperson</u>	<u>Telephone</u>	Email Address
Central Coast	Lynda Snodgrass	805/473-5432	lsnodgrass@arroyogrande.org
Central Los Angeles	Susan Bergeron-Vance	562/868-0511	susanbergeronvance@santafesprings.org
Central Los Angeles	Rod Hill	562/464-3340	rhill@whitterch.org
Central Valley	Greg Baird	209/577-5458	gbaird@modestogov.com
Channel Counties	Christy Pinuelas	805/388-5358	cpinuelas@ci.camarillo.ca.us
Coachella Valley	Jerry Carter	760/ 342-6560	jcarter@indio.org
Desert Mountain	Kevin Smith	760/240-7000	ksmith@applevalley.org
East Bay (S.F.)	Mary Dodge	925/671-3182	maryd@ci.concord.ca.us
Imperial County	Vacant		
Inland Empire	Tina Kundig	909/798-7543	tkundig@cityofredlands.org
Monterey Bay	Marc Pimentel	831/646-3947	pimentel@ci.monterey.ca.us
North Coast	Bill Mushallo	707/543-3092	bmushallo@ci.santa-rosa.ca.us
Northeast Counties	Steve Strong	530/225-4087	sstrong@ci.redding.ca.us
Northwest Counties	Carolynn Thomas	707441-4114	cjthomas@ci.eureka.ca.gov
Orange County	Kathy Rafferty	949/724-6027	krafferty@ci.irvine.ca.us
Peninsula	Thomas Fil	650/595-7435	tfil@ci.belmont.ca.us
Sacramento Valley	Susan Mahoney	916/725-2448	smahoney@ci.citrus-heights.ca.us
San Diego County	Maria Kachadoorian	619/476-5376	mkachadoorian@ci.chula-vista.ca.us
San Gabriel Valley	Josh Betta	626/403-7250	jbetta@ci.south-pasadena.ca.us
San Gabriel Valley	Tracey Hause	626/574-5400	thause@ci.arcadia.ca.us
South Bay	Jag Pathirana	310/970-7927	jpathirana@earthlink.net
South San Joaquin	Judy Bier	559/896-7516	judyb@cityofselma.com



## Risk and Control in Local Governments:

## What Governments Should Learn from the Corporate Accounting Scandals

Kevin Harper, CPA

### WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR

As corporate accounting scandals such as Enron, Worldcom and Tyco rocked the U.S. economy over the last few years, it may have been easy for local government officials to smugly note that these scandals were caused by the pressure on corporations to maximize shareholder returns.

Despite the differences between publicly held corporations and local governments, there are also many similarities. Both publicly held corporations and local governments are complex, multi-activity, accountable to non-management stakeholders, regulated, watched closely by the media, and managed by a governing board. Accordingly, there are many lessons local governments can learn from the emerging "best practices" being implemented by corporations as a result of the recent corporate scandals.

Most of the improvements in financial procedures that publicly held corporations are implementing are required by the Sarbannes Oxley Act (Sarbox), enacted by Congress after the corporate scandals. One of the main requirements of Sarbox is that management must assess the effectiveness of the corporation's internal controls and report on it in the annual financial report. The outside auditors must evaluate the internal controls. There was widespread concern related to this requirement to assess internal controls as corporate boards of directors and senior management realized that they did not have a good understanding of their internal controls, and did not have a standard method to implement, assess and revise controls.

#### AN OVERVIEW OF RISK AND CONTROL

How does your government establish internal controls and assess their effectiveness? Even though Sarbox is not applicable to local governments, it is critical that this question can be answered by the elected board and senior management. The first step is to understand the relationship between objectives, risks and controls. That relationship is summarized as:

## RISK(objective) - CONTROL = EXPOSURE







Governments set objectives. For each objective there are risks. The risks to which a government is exposed changes as its objectives change. If your objective is to climb Mount Everest you will face risks related to weather, equipment failure, physical health/conditioning and food supplies. But if your objective is to scuba dive, you will face risks related to oxygen supply, shark attack and air pressure. Similarly, if the government sets an objective to provide day care services, its risks will be far different than if its objective is to improve the condition of city streets.

Governments put controls in place to maximize the probability of meeting their objectives. Using this definition, in the context of a government, "controls" is another word for "procedures". Therefore everything that every employee does every day meets the definition of a control. For example, if your objective is to drive to work on time, one of your risks might be oversleeping. Some of the controls you might put in place are using the snooze button on your alarm clock, using two alarm clocks, asking your spouse to awaken you, having a contingency plan to skip breakfast to make up time, etc.

In the formula above, risk minus control equals exposure. So if the government implements too few controls related to a risk, it remains exposed to the risk. If the only control you use to assure not oversleeping is to use two alarm clocks, you must assess the risk of sleeping through both, and then add more controls if necessary. Alternatively, if a government implements so many controls or such stringent controls beyond those needed to reduce the exposure to an acceptable level, then it hinders its efficiency (i.e. creates "red tape") For example, a government that issues both a cash register receipt and a manual receipt upon collection of a fee may have more controls than is efficient.

#### WHAT LOCAL GOVERNMENTS SHOULD DO

Similarly to publicly held corporations, local governments should perform risk and control assessments so that the elected

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## President's Message cont.

(continued from pg 1)

The continued use of cities and counties as automatic teller machines by the state does more than erode property-based services. It masks the true financial condition of the state and diminishes the accountability of both state and local elected officials. State lawmakers avoid tough decisions by grabbing funds earmarked for local services; local officials have a ready scapegoat for their financial problems. Voters can hold all elected officials accountable when they know what functions they are responsible for and what revenue has been dedicated for those responsibilities...

.... Those who oppose restoring the separation of revenue need to get over the notion that the public is best served by having all revenue controlled at the state level. Restoration of the separation of revenue best serves California residents and the economy. Doing so will get us beyond this dark period of government in California and allow state and local governments to each play their role in serving the current and future residents of our state.

Unlike state, cities cut their budgets

But Legislators Continue To Take Local Funds

By Mary J. Bradley, Director of Finance, City of Sunnyvale and Member of the League's Board of Directors, Published Thursday, July 22, 2004 in the San Jose Mercury News

In her July 20 commentary, State Board of Equalization member Carole Migden argues that local governments need to do a better job of controlling spending, and that they could learn a thing or two from the state about how to do it. As a city finance director, I must point out that Migden is simply wrong on the facts.

Over the past decade, state government was growing while local governments (and especially cities) were doing more with less. According to the state's non-partisan Legislative Analyst, from 1993 to 2001, state spending more than doubled. Further, according to the California Employment Development Department, the number of state employees per California resident increased by 4.3 percent from 1990 to 2002 while the number of California city employees per city resident decreased by 7.4 percent. Over the 20 years following Proposition 13, city and county revenues declined 9 percent and 15 percent respectively.

Even as we dealt with tight city budgets, the record shows that cities are in fact net donors to the state of California....

Migden's statement that the state has not enacted a general tax increase since the mid-'90s is laughable. Why would the state need to raise its own revenues when it can take ours?

.....The city of Sunnyvale has long practiced responsible budgeting and makes financial decisions over a 20-year planning period. In fact, our financial systems are nationally recognized. These systems allow us to plan for inevitable economic downturns to minimize service impacts to our citizens. Nevertheless, we have recently been forced to make service reductions because of the continual erosion of our revenues by the state.

During this latest state budget debate, we are asking that the state be required to live within its means, just as we have done for years. Californians everywhere would be better off if the state could learn this lesson from their local government partners.

According to Chris McKenzie, Executive Director of the League of California Cities, the letters, faxes and emails have really helped. The number of communications alone has been unprecedented. We can't give up the fight now. Keep those cards and letters coming.

For those of you that are out speaking to various groups within your communities, there are many tools to help you do that. The League's Website, www.cacities.org is a good place to start. You can also find a campaign kit on www.protectlocalservices.com. You could even ask the CSMFO members if they have PowerPoint Presentations that might help you. I have said it before and I'll say it again, we may not have another opportunity in our lifetimes like the one we have now to step up to the plate and help protect our local governments.

Editor's Note: As the MiniNews goes to press issues blocking passage of the state budget appear to be nearing resolution. Refer to the above website for more information.

## Risk and Control in Local Governments

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board and senior management can assure the taxpayers that internal controls are adequate. Regardless of the risk and control assessment method employed, the risks related to each of the government's major objectives should be identified and prioritized. Then each risk should be compared to the related controls that are already in place to determine whether the resulting exposure is acceptable. These steps can be accomplished in brainstorming sessions among the government's most knowledgeable employee experts.

The government should document its objectives, risks and controls in a logical framework, such as:

## Risk Framework



Each risk should then be prioritized based on the group's expectations of its relative probability of occurrence and severity as shown in Table 1.

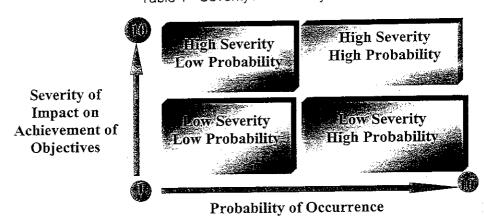
After comparing each risk to its related controls, the government must conclude whether the resulting risk exposure is at an unacceptable level. If so, the government can:

- Avoid change its objective so it is not exposed to this risk
- Control enhance controls so the resulting exposure is managed to an acceptable level
- Transfer transfer the risk to another party through contract, ordinance or insurance
- Accept revise its tolerance for risk and conclude that the resulting exposure is acceptable

In conclusion, for a government to be able to conclude on the adequacy of its internal controls, it must:

- 1. Identify the risks related to each of its major objectives
- 2. Prioritize each of the risks based on probability and severity
- 3. Identify the related controls that are already in place related to each risk
- 4. Assess the adequacy of the controls
- 5. Accept, avoid, control or transfer the risk
- 6. Put a process in place to continually monitor the effectiveness of controls and to identify new risks as they emerge.

Table 1 - Severity / Probability Chart



## A Letter From Iraq

Charlie Francis



Figure 1 - Charlie Francis, Senior Local Government Finance Specialist. Picture taken on day Saddam was captured! Email cfranc01@lgp-iraq.org

The news from Iraq is very good! I have worked and traveled all over Iraq during the last 9 months, launching local government development initiatives. I'm sure, contrary to the impressions in the daily media, that the bottom line is this: there is so much investment pouring into Iraq, along with the changeover to an Iraqi government, that there is no longer any stopping a future free Iraq! Oh yes, the extremists will set off more bombs and kill more innocent people for a while, but their cause is finished and they probably know it. The despotic regimes in Saudi Arabia, Syria and Iran must be trembling in fear of that freedom.

Figure 2 - Hundreds of militiamen loyal to rebel cleric Moqtada al-Sadr are rearming in their sanctuary in the Shiite holy city of



Najaf in possible preparation for a new offensive. As many as 80 Iranian agents are working with an estimated 500 Sadr militiamen, known as the Mahdi Army, providing training and nine 57- mm Russian antiaircraft guns to add to stocks of mortars, antitank weapons, and other armaments, according to Iraqi and US intelligence reports. "They are preparing for something, gathering weapons; people are coming in buses from other parts of Iraq," says Michael al-Zurufi, the Iraqi security adviser of Najaf

Province. "The most important are the Iranians. The Iranian people are trying to reorganize Sadr's militia so they can fight again."

Oh, and for the war on terror? Well, for Al Quaeda, their end-game is simple: complete control of the oil rich kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and the establishment of a pan-Islamic, transnational empire. The war now is a guerilla conflict with militant attacks focused on Westerners here and in Saudi Arabia. The next phase, however, will see a shift. The militants will reorient the conflict to directly targeting Iraqi and Saudi authorities. They will also move to establish themselves as a legitimate and viable political alternative (witness Al-Sadr, the guy who the US Army said they would hunt down and either kill or capture. He is now being considered as a viable candidate in the new Iraqi government!)



Figure 3 – Car bomb explosions are common experiences throughout our day! I check my vehicle at least 92 times before driving!!!!

We have had several major setbacks here in Mosul. The other day, the Mosul governor was assassinated while accompanied by four cars of security guards! Four! Yet, the enemy was still able to toss two

grenades and fill his vehicle with enough rounds from Kalishnokovs to finish him off with only two of his security guards also being killed. (Do you think the other security guards knew what was coming?) A week earlier, two of the professors at the University that were working with our program were assassinated in their homes. Nothing of value was taken. They had been targeted for working with Americans!

Clearly, people collaborating with Americans are constant targets, yet these brave women and men, only getting paid several hundred dollars per month, are risking their lives for Iraq's freedom! This terrorism frightens our local staff, yet – perhaps beyond our current American culture's ken – they keep working, long hours, in secret locations, in order to continue the democratic dialogue that will create a true democracy in an Islamic country and forever change the geo-political landscape of the middle-east!

We are proving, by our work here in Iraq, that we are winning this war! Liberty, freedom and pursuit of happiness are worth fighting for! We have trained hundreds of local government officials in strategically planned service delivery, performance based budgeting, service costing, capital improvement planning and fiscal decentralization. We have conducted local elections, and although their roles and responsibilities are still not clearly defined, we have elected city councils, appointed city managers and local staff in every village and city in Iraq. Democracy is blossoming, and people are enjoying the benefits of self-government! Yet, there is still so much left to do in improving management, economic development and service delivery.

Thank you all for your emails encouraging me! I am proud to serve our country, Iraq, and the world by bringing freedom to a part of the world that would never have had the chance to experience living without fear of government reprisal. If it wasn't for the bravery of our women and men in the armed services, the liberation of one of the most oppressive nations on the planet, the gang rapes, torture chambers, mass murders and terrorism fomentation would still be inculcated in the daily lives of these human beings who are also endowed with our same inalienable rights. Maas-salama!

Editorial comment: This is the second article provided by a former city official CSMFO member, currently working in Iraq. The author provides a unique insight into what is happening in this troubled area. Any editiorial comments are those of the author and do not represent a position by CSMFO.

## **Up the Ladder**

DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL SER-VICES - City of Arroyo Grande, CA. Located on the beautiful central coast, the City of Arroyo Grande, CA (pop. 16,582) is seeking an experienced professional with outstanding management, technical and interpersonal skills to manage the City's Financial Services Department. Arroyo Grande offers a friendly small town atmosphere, outstanding climate, beautiful environment and excellent recreation and entertainment opportunities. A bachelor's degree in a related field is required along with five years of financial management or governmental accounting experience and three years of management responsibility. Salary for the position is \$6,590 - \$8,013 per month plus PERS 2% at 55, and a competitive benefits package. For more information, call 805-473-5410 or visit www.arroyogrande.org. Filing date: Monday, August 23, 2004.

FINANCIAL ANALYST - City of Calabasas, CA. Salary \$4,490-\$5,619/mo. Performs professional accounting duties in the preparation and maintenance of the City's payroll and financial accounting records; conducts complex financial analyses that assist in the development of operational and capital budgets, overhead rates, and headcount studies; prepares summary level and detailed financial performance reports; performs analyses of potential funding sources, evaluates and estimates potential revenue streams and impacts on City operations; performs complex analyses and coordinates City review and action on new debt issuances and the refinancing of existing debt. Training and experience equivalent to completion of a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with major course work in business administration, finance, or related field. MBA or CPA is desirable and eight years of progressively responsible experience performing complex financial analyses, preferably in a governmental agency. APPLY BY: August 6, 2004. CITY APPLICATION REQUIRED. For complete job flyer and to download an application, visit us on the web at www.cityofcalabasas.com. Application may also be obtained at 818 878-4225 or hrdept@ci.calabasas.ca.us.

ACCOUNTING TECHNICIAN II – City of Calimesa, CA (Salary Range \$2,815 -\$3,593/month). This position will provide a variety of support functions with accounts payable, payroll, general ledger, accounts receivable and month/year end reports. Requirements: Knowledge of computers and variety of software programs including Excel. Two years experience, preferably in a public sector Finance Division. AA Degree in accounting, finance or related field is desirable. Resume and City application required. Applications will be accepted until Friday, August 13th, 12:00 p.m. For application packet, contact City of Calimesa, 908 Park Ave, Calimesa, CA 92320. (909) 795-

ACCOUNTANT - City of Coachella, CA. Pop. 27,655 - (Salary: \$3,097 - \$3,767/Mo., plus excellent benefits). Under direction, to perform advanced level accounting and fiscal duties involving the reporting of financial transactions and maintenance of financial records for City operations, programs and services with emphasis on grants and capital improvement projects. Knowledgeable in modern accounting principles, practices and methods and their application to MUNICIPAL operations. Two years increasingly responsible professional accounting or auditing experience in a municipality. Graduation from an accredited four-year college or university with a degree in Accounting, Business Administration or a closely related field is desirable. Apply by: August 20, 2004. Apply at: City of Coachella, 1515 Sixth Street, Coachella, CA 92236; or call (760) 398-3502. Job description and application available on web site www.Coachella.org

DEPUTY CITY TREASURER - City of Culver City, CA - Salary: \$76,696 - \$96,617/annual, 4% salary increase effective 10/4/04 plus 2.5%@55 PERS retirement and excellent benefits. The City of Culver City is seeking an experienced and innovative manager to become its new Deputy City Treasurer. The Deputy City Treasurer is responsible for assisting the elected City Treasurer in making cash management and investment decisions; supervising three managers; over

seeing the accounting functions; including that for cash and investments, and producing the annual financial report; administering all major revenue programs; and assisting the City Treasurer with new initiatives and department wide projects. Requirements include a bachelor's degree in Accounting, Business or Public Administration and four years of professional level accounting/finance experience, preferably in the public sector including two years supervisory experience. Final Filing Deadline is Thursday August 5, 2004 at 5:30 p.m. Interested individuals must submit a completed City application; visit: City of Culver City, Personnel Dept. 9770 Culver Boulevard, Culver City, CA 90232; call, the City's 24 Hr. Hotline (310) 253-5651; or access: www.culvercity.org. EOE

ACCOUNTANT - City of Healdsburg. Salary: up to \$6,368 per month, DOQ, plus excellent benefit package including City paid PERS and 9/80 work schedule. The City of Healdsburg is seeking a highly skilled finance professional for a full-time position in the City's Finance Department. The successful candidate will perform professional accounting work related to the preparation and maintenance of the City's annual budget documents, comprehensive annual financial reports, municipal accounting records and budgetary policies and procedures. Candidates must be knowledgeable in the principles of governmental accounting, finance and budgeting and the principles and practices of supervision and office management. Position requires a four-year degree in accounting, finance, business administration or closely related field and at least two years of professional accounting experience in a public agency setting. Sufficient professional accounting support work may be substituted for the education on a year for year basis to a maximum of two years; however, a minimum of 30 units in accounting, auditing, financial analysis or similar coursework is required. Resume and City application required. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. For application packet contact the City of Healdsburg, Personnel Office, 401 Grove

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## Up the Ladder

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Street, Healdsburg, CA 95448. Phone (707) 431-3322. Find us on the Web at www.ci.healdsburg.ca.us.

FISCAL OFFICER – City of Indio, CA. Salary: \$5,572-\$7,467/mo. Contact: Human Resources. Phone: (760)342-6540. Website: www.Indio.org. Deadline: August 13, 2004. Under general direction, assist the Finance Director in managing the day-to-day operations of the Finance Department. Requirements: A bachelors degree with major course work in accounting/finance is required: 4 or more years experience in govt accounting, with at least two years of supervisory experience; or any equivalent combination of training and experience. For additional information, please visit our website.

ACCOUNTING MANAGER - City of La Quinta, CA Located in the So. Ca. Coachella Valley. (\$5346-6499/mo.) plus generous benefit package including CalPERS 2.5% @ 55 retirement benefit. Under general direction of the Finance Director, the Accounting Manager is responsible for the daily operations of the City Finance Department. Requirements: Bachelors degree from an accredited college with major course work in accounting or related & 4 years of experience in municipal government accounting with at least one year of supervisory experience; or any equivalent combination of training and experience which provides the required skills, knowledge and abilities. MIS exp. desirable. CLOSING DATE: August 9, 2004, CITY APPLICATION REQUIRED- No Facsimiles. City of La Quinta P.O. Box 1504 (78-495 Calle Tampico), La Quinta, CA 92253-1504: Phone (760) 777-7092, www. Laquinta.org

CITY TREASURER – City of Long Beach, CA. Located on the Pacific Ocean between Los Angeles and Orange County, this internationally recognized, diverse community (population 487,000) is initiating a nationwide search for a new City Treasurer. Long Beach, the 5th largest City of California, is a full-service city with a work force of 6,000 and an annual budget

of \$1.6 billion. The City also operates the largest container port in the U.S., a fullservice airport, an active redevelopment agency, water and gas utilities, and a public health department. The City Treasurer reports to the Director of Financial Management. The ideal candidate will have a strong overall understanding of municipal finance and debt management, complemented by expertise in all aspects of treasury operations. A management style that reflects innovation, resourcefulness and a team orientation will be considered favorably. A Bachelor's degree in a relevant field is required. The City of Long Beach offers a competitive salary structure as well as an attractive benefits package. Submit resume, cover letter with current salary, and a list of five work-related references by Monday, August 30, 2004 to: Teri Black Brann, CPS EXECUTIVE SEARCH, formerly Shannon Executive Search, 241 Lathrop Way, Sacramento, CA 95815, Tel 310.377.2612 Los Angeles, Sacramento, Fax 916.263.1401 916.561.7205, Email:resumes@cps.ca.gov, Website: www.cps.ca.gov/search

ASSISTANT CHIEF, BUSINESS SER-VICES - Orange County Fire Authority. Headquartered in Irvine, the OCFA is a JPA formed in 1995 that serves over 1.3 million citizens in 22 cities and unincorporated areas of Orange County. Reporting to the Deputy Chief, the Assistant Chief will oversee a talented staff of 65 in Finance, Treasury and Financial Planning, Purchasing and Materials Management, and Systems Development and Support. OCFA has an operating budget of \$178.8 million, excluding CIP and other funds that total \$31.8 million, and investment portfolio averaging up to \$130M. Proven management and leadership experience as well as a strong customer service and team orientation are required. A Bachelor's degree in public or business administration, or a related field is required; a Master's degree is desirable. Salary range is \$145,841 to \$156,780 DOQ. To apply for this outstanding career opportunity, please send your resume and cover letter to: Peckham & McKenney, 6700 Freeport Boulevard, Suite 203A,

Sacramento, CA 95822, apply@peckhamandmckenney.com, (916) 391-2255 Fax. Call Bobbi Peckham or Phil McKenney at (866) 912-1919 to request a detailed brochure. Filing Deadline: August 20, 2004

ACCOUNTANT – City of Patterson, CA. Salary: \$3,120 to \$3,792 per month plus excellent benefit package. Provide professional and technical assistance in the administration and implementation of the City of Patterson's financial, auditing, and purchasing functions. Requires a B.A. with a major in accounting or closely related field. Municipal finance experience is preferred. A complete job description and application can be obtained by calling (209) 892-2041, ext. 103. Applications must be received in our office by 5:00 pm, August 13, 2004. Deliver completed applications to: The City of Patterson, Attention Suzanne Dean; 33 S. Del Puerto Ave. or P.O. Box 667 Patterson, CA 95363 EOE

PESA (Public Employment Services Authority) is an interim executive staffing JPA serving the needs of public agencies experiencing temporary vacancies in key leadership positions. If you are a former Finance Director, Manager, or Senior Professional looking to balance continued public service involvement with professional flexibility, apply to become a PESA Select Executive. For more information and to complete the online questionnaire, visit www.pesa.ca.gov or call PESA toll free at 866-674-5984.

FINANCE DIRECTOR – City of Prosser, WA (pop. 4,940) Salary: \$57,948 to \$70,440 plus excellent benefits. Prosser, the county seat, is located at the western corner of Benton County just 50 miles from Yakima and 35 miles from the Tri-Cities along Interstate 82. Its population is just under 5,000 This scenic area is bordered on the north by the Rattlesnake Hills and on the south by the Horse Heaven Hills with the Yakima River running through. Prosser boasts 300 sunny days

(continued on pg 10)

## Up the Ladder

(cont'd from pg 9)

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annually, lending to a wide range of outdoor activities such as hunting, fishing, camping, hiking, boating, and golf. The City has a total budget of \$6.6 million of which \$3.2 million is general fund and a \$3.4 million capital fund. Prosser has 44 employees. The Finance Director reports to the City Administrator. The ideal candidate will possess a minimum of 4 to 6 years of experience in a comparable public sector agency, with at least three years in a senior management role, such as finance director or assistant finance director. Candidates may possess any combination of relevant education and experience that demonstrates their ability to perform the essential duties and responsibilities. All qualified candidates are strongly encouraged to apply by August 23, 2004. Please send a letter of interest and resume to Greg Prothman: Prothman Company, 126 NW Canal St., Suite 210 ♦ Seattle, WA 98107 ◆ 206 368 0050 ◆ 206 368 0060 fax ◆ humanresources@prothman.com ◆

**DIRECTOR OF FINANCE** - The City of Santa Clara, CA is actively seeking an expc'd Dir. of Fin. Sal. control point is approximately \$175,546. Appt. generally made at 85% of control pt. \$149,208. Santa Clara promotes a high quality of life and a strong econ. climate for a pop. of 107,204. A full svc. city has an ann. bud. approx. \$447 million & 1014 positions & Fin. Dept. approx. \$12.3 million & 55 positions. Ideal candidate will possess a BA in acctg. or fin. & 8 yrs of mgmt. exp in bdgt. admin. & fiscal ops. in a pub agcy or the equiv. MA in Bus. or Pub. Adm. or CPA highly desirable. Res. packets must be rec'd no later than the pref'd filing date of 5 p.m., 9/30/2004. Res. packets must inc. a "Ltr. of Int. & Intent", sal. & major benefit history, and a detailed resume -faxed to (408/247-5627), emailed to humanresources@ci.santa-clara.ca.us, or mailed to: City of Santa Clara, HR Depart., 1500 Warburton Avenue, Santa Clara, CA 95050. For job broch. call 408/615-2080. EOE.

ACCOUNTING SERVICES MAN-AGER - San Francisco City and County Public Utilities Commission. Salary: \$83,044-\$128,804. Requires ed. & exp. equiv. To bachelor degree in related field & 10 yrs exp. in finance or budget services for lrg. & or complex dept. or org. incl. Financial rept., budget prep., financing & or financial analysis- incl. 7+ yrs. supv. mgmt, & admin. exp. Provisional position. File Immediately. May close at any time. View announcement. At http://www.sfgov.org/site/jobs\_index.asp. For application go to http://www.sfgov.org/site/jobs\_index.asp. For application go to http://www.sfgov.org/site/fobs\_index.asp. For application go to http://www.sfgov.org/site/fobs\_index.asp?id=567 then click application forms. For information call (415) 554-1660.

#### ACCOUNTING/FINANCE SPECIAL-

IST (General Accounting) – City of West Hollywood, CA. Salary Range: \$3,421 -\$4,140 mo. Closing Date: August 19, 2004 at 5:00PM. Seeking a detail oriented team player to join our fast paced Finance & Technology Services Department. Performs heavy accounts payable duties and requires strong reconciliation skills. Applicant should be a customer service oriented with attention to detail. Duties include receiving, verifying and processing payment requests, maintaining and filing 1099's, answering and reconciling vendor accounts, and ensuring compliance with City codes, ordinances and policies related to divisional operations. Strong computer skills a must and governmental experience preferred. Resumes only not accepted! For detailed application and supplemental materials, visit the City Webpage: www.weho.org or call the job hotline at (323) 848-6309.

## **HELP WANTED?**

Email your classified job ad to Tawni Escudero at tescudero@cacities.org (rich text or plain text format only). The charge to advertise is \$8.00 per 40-character line, this price also includes a listing on our website at www.csmfo.org in the Job Listings section. Please also include billing information, or indicate if you wish to pay via credit card. Ads must be received by the 25th of each month for the next month's insertion.

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(continued on pg 11)

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## Annual Weekend Training Workshop

The 2004 Annual Weekend Training Workshop will be held on November 12-14 in Sacramento, CA. Another exciting workshop has been planned, and spaces are limited. Specific workshop information and registration forms will be available on-line August 16. Registration forms will also be available in the September issue of CSMFO Mini-News. Advance reservation requests will be accepted thru August 16 simply by contacting Mark Uribe at (714) 379-9222.

## First Budget Award Submission!

Congratulations to the City of Roseville, they were the first to get their budget mailed in with all the paperwork in order!

The early bird deadline is approaching quickly, so don't miss the opportunity! Budget applications are available on our website at www.csmfo.org.

## Mark Your Calendars

#### **Intermediate Governmental Accounting**

August 12, 2004 Napa, California

#### **GFOA Training Sessions**

September 27, 2004 San Francisco, California visit www.gfoa.org for more information

## **CSMFO** Weekend Training

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