



# AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MILITARY COMPTROLLERS

To Promote Education, Training and Professional Development in All Aspects of Military Comptrollership

July 2017

## Washington Chapter



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### President's Message

Krystyna Kolesar



I'm delighted and honored to step into the role as your Chapter President for our Washington DC 2017 – 2018 term year. As professionals in the defense sector – both public and private, we continue to operate in a changing and uncertain fiscal environment including Continuing Resolution, Sequestration, the Budget Control Act -- not to mention this year's full financial statement audit. As careerists in the field of financial management (FM) – both present and future, we are an agile and adaptive professional corps prepared and trained to serve our warfighters in the midst of this budget turmoil. Training and education will provide us a solid foundation as we sharpen our skillsets.

In my first newsletter, I want to share my **vision** for our Washington DC Chapter.

**Membership:** First and foremost, I would like our Chapter to serve our existing membership with the delivery of top-notch FM training and education along with career networking opportunities across the broad spectrum of our Department of Defense community. Currently, there are many aspects of our Chapter that serve us well, such as our highly successful Chapter-sponsored National Capital Region (NCR) Professional Development Institute (PDI). In other areas, I'm open to "test-drive" new methods and venues to offer our membership training opportunities for even greater flexibility as we all balance competing demands on our time. I want to energize our membership to become involved and help shape the Washington Chapter for a successful and relevant future. I would also like to launch Tiger Teams—small groups of volunteers who are willing to explore innovative ways to deliver training and exciting opportunities for fellowship in many ASMC-sponsored social and charitable activities.

In addition to our existing membership, I would like to continue our expansion. I was really surprised when I read our Chapter Constitution that defined our military comptrollership to include the "fields of financial and general management, accounting, finance, budgeting, programming, statistics, auditing, cost analysis, management analysis, and supporting activities in management, industrial engineering, automated data processing, operations research, systems analysis, and other such fields as the National Council may designate." Certainly a wide field for us to recruit new members to our Chapter!

**Communication:** Secondly, I would like to improve our communication channels to keep our membership informed and involved in so many of our worthwhile activities throughout the year that span training, networking, scholarship awards, community service, young careerist and charitable activities. We are well aware of the cyber challenges that we face in communicating with our members given hardened firewalls and increasing phishing incidents. We are looking at our options to determine what is possible to create more robust communication capabilities with our ASMC membership. Speak up and help us improve!

*(Continued next page)*

### Quick Links:

#### ASMC:

- [ASMC Local Chapter](#)
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- [CDFM Information](#)
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Date	Upcoming Events / Sponsor / Speaker / CPEs	Location
19 Jul 17	ASMC Golf Tournament	Ft. Belvoir Golf Club
19 July 17	Capital Area Food Bank Food Drive	Ft. Belvoir Golf Club
24 Aug 17	Monthly Meeting	Westin, Crystal City
15 Sep 17	2018 ASMC Member Scholarship Award Program Application Available	<a href="http://www.washington-asmc.org">www.washington-asmc.org</a>
16/17 Sep 17	Navy-Air Force Half Marathon & Navy 5 Miler Volunteer Support	Washington DC
21 Sep 17	Monthly Meeting	Westin, Crystal City
8 Mar 18	ASMC NCR PDI (Save the Date!)	Reagan Building, Washington DC

### President's Message

*Continued from page 1*



**Business Practices:** Third, I would like to institutionalize better business practices to ensure both visibility and continuity of our Chapter operations which will provide a long-term value to our Chapter. We will begin to document our most important business practices such as the Treasury and Webmaster functions so that we can ensure transparency to assist in our audits and to ensure continuity of operations for smooth transitions across the Executive Board. Opportunities always exist for leadership and support functions – we invite you to join our team!

Finally, I want to recognize and thank our phenomenal volunteers for they are the engine of our Chapter operations. Throughout the year, our committed ASMC volunteers donate generous amounts of time and energy. Without them, we could not accomplish what we do. Join me in recognizing our newest officers for 2017-2018: Robin Farley (President-Elect, Navy), Cynthia Crippen-Cooks (Executive Secretary, Army), Greg Little (DoD Vice President), Nicole McClenic (Army Vice President), Jane Roberts (Navy Vice President), Patricia “Pat” Corey (Air Force Assistant Secretary), and Stella Whitsell, (USCG Assistant Secretary). Our returning veteran Board officers are Steven Birk (Treasurer), Hairo Ortiz (Army Assistant Secretary), Veronica Trent-Walton (Navy Assistant Secretary), Jon Newell (USMC Vice President), Astrid Diaz (USMC Assistant Secretary), Ben Yarish (Air Force Vice President), LT Mark Sanchez (USCG Vice President), Deb Del Mar (Corporate / Retired Vice President), and Rita Finney (Corporate / Retired Assistant Secretary).

In conclusion, I encourage you to join with us to make the Washington Chapter a key component of your professional activities! We would love to hear your thoughts and ideas.

Best, Krystyna



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### May Meeting Recap



#### 18 May 2017 Meeting Synopsis – Mr. David Fisher

Mr. David Fisher, former BTA Director and IRS Chief Risk Officer, provided a riveting presentation of Enterprise Risk Management from his experience at the IRS. He provided many lessons learned that can be easily translated and incorporated at DoD.



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### Featured Article



**Scott W. Bauer** is the Deputy Director, Acquisition Career Management for the Office of the Secretary of Defense and the 4th Estate, and winner of the 2017 ASMC National Essay Contest.



***“If the President nominated you to serve as Comptroller/Chief Financial Officer for the Department of Defense, what would you target as your three most important financial management goals and why?”***

New York isn't the only city that never sleeps. It was nearly midnight when I was contacted by the Presidential transition team regarding my official nomination as Comptroller/Chief Financial Officer (CFO) for the Department of Defense (DoD). My mind raced to consider the challenges faced by the Comptroller's office. If I got the job, I was aware I would inherit the massive Financial Improvement and Audit Readiness (FIAR) initiative—the Moon shot for DoD Financial Management. I was familiar with this forward thinking and much needed endeavor to increase the accountability of the Federal government. It seemed clear that an exciting new chapter in DoD financial management had already begun. FIAR was nearing its goal of a validated full financial statement for all DoD organizations. To effect such sweeping reforms, we would need to attract and retain the best people and provide them with secure data within a fiscally stable environment. As such, it did not take long for me to conceive three financial management goals to help ensure the success of this important program: 1) brand the Department as an employer of choice for financial management, 2) increase cyber funding and oversight and 3) continue the crusade to end sequestration.

The first objective of my tenure would be to brand the Defense Department as an employer of choice for all things financial. The Department must become more competitive with the private sector to attract the Nation's best and brightest. The Services have done a good job showcasing the military opportunities in the armed forces through well-designed commercials and highly-professional recruiting but the public appears to have less knowledge of the civilian opportunities that directly support the warfighter. To stay relevant, DoD must recruit and retain personnel by offering innovative career development and leadership opportunities while also demonstrating the rewards of being a professional in defense financial management.

Higher salaries offered by the private sector often detract people from seeking government employment. As such, the DoD must continue to evolve its hiring incentives and offer new professional development opportunities to attract the best talent. Within the acquisition community, the establishment of the Defense Acquisition Workforce Development Fund (DAWDF) has been a huge success story for the Department. According to the Office of Human Capital Initiatives' (HCI) website, the DAWDF provides “funds...for the recruitment, training, and retention of DoD acquisition personnel” while ensuring the “Department's acquisition workforce has the capacity, in both personnel and skills, needed to properly perform its mission.” Through attrition and metrics data, the HCI office has shown a positive impact of the DAWDF within the financial management community. Consider that in the last fiscal year, DAWDF funded student loan repayments, rotational/career broadening assignments and leadership development opportunities for

***(continued next page)***



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### Featured Article

**Continued:** ...nearly 2,000 financial management personnel. However, the 2017 National Defense Authorization Act looks to significantly cut the DAWDF program. With a large percentage of the acquisition workforce eligible to retire within the next 10 years and an insufficient number of early career professionals to replace those retirement eligible personnel, a focus of my tenure would be to promote and protect the DAWDF program.

Being in uniform is not the only way to serve in the military. The Department of Defense is made up of over 700,000 civilian employees, many of whom support a finance mission. As CFO, my charter would involve educating the public to the differences between textbook and defense financial management. Finance within the Department is more than debits/credits and ledger balancing. Whether one is processing travel vouchers in the finance office, preparing budget justification documentation to defend against Congressional marks or auditing a program for fiscal compliance, DoD financial management is a force multiplier and enables combat capability with every transaction. From paying warfighters on time to procuring the latest precision guided munition in support of combat operations in Iraq and Syria, DoD financial managers are vital to the Department's success and should take pride in knowing they are making a tremendous impact.

My second objective as the newly appointed DoD CFO would be to ensure we are spending the right money for the right effect with regards to cyber operations. We live in a wired world. The Department relies on cyberspace for everything from financial transactions to watching "sleeper cells" over Northern Syria. Recent years have shown an increase of criminal activity leveraging computer technology. The stark truth is that significant financial investment will be required to ensure a secure data environment. In the frenetic tempo of the Congressional budget cycle, estimates must be accurate and analyses sound. Missing, altered or disturbed data could greatly compromise this process. Further, such intrusions destroy all notions of accountability as FIAR assumes data integrity. Sound progress has been made toward meeting full audit accountability and if we expect to meet the goal of full financial statement audit readiness by Fiscal Year 2018, we must protect our data.

Financial operations require the top cover of an integrated DoD cyber strategy. Such a strategy would envelop the entirety of the DoD mission. Increased funding and oversight would help build and maintain viable cyber options which would be used to shape the conflict environment and control conflict escalation. The funding would also support military contingencies and operations by providing combat forces with integrated cyber capabilities. As DoD Comptroller, my primary objective would be to ensure the Department achieves its principle obligation to provide and maintain security across the Nation. As such, my office would support cyber operations through the formulation, execution and Congressional defense of cyber funding.

The third and most important financial management goal under my watch would be to continue communicating the devastating effects of sequestration to Congress. In 2011, America's debt limit was increased. However, the law mandated discretionary spending be reduced by \$1.2 trillion over the next ten years. The mandated cuts, known as sequestration, were designed to affect both non-defense and defense spending. The Services and Defense Agencies

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### Featured Article

**Continued:** ... have been hard at work trying to make the right choices to maximize taxpayer dollars and ensure we meet our Nation's security requirements for today and tomorrow. To strike the delicate balance between resources and requirements, the Department is forced to make tough budgetary decisions annually, shaping the size of its forces and capabilities for years to come.

Most recently, the Department of Defense cut manpower and reduced fleet sizes. This was done to absorb billions of dollars in funding cuts while simultaneously maintaining the requisite capabilities to sustain current warfighting efforts and continue research and development into systems that would ensure our superiority in a future battlespace. Sequestration has led to a precarious balancing act between capacity, capability and readiness. However, this has become more difficult as our trade space has shrunk over time. The modest relief from the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015 was temporary, driving uncertainty as the Department plans for FY18 and beyond. We must continue to make strides to establish and foster relationships with those who hold the power of the purse. Through effective communication to Congress of the damaging effects of reduced budget top lines, I will continue to marshal an end to sequestration once and for all.

It is clear that the most imminent item on the Comptroller/CFO's plate is the FIAR initiative. Its success signals new vistas for financial management in the Department of Defense. To ensure success and adequately prepare for the future it represents, I proposed three important financial management goals: 1) brand the Department as an employer of choice for financial management, 2) increase cyber funding and oversight and 3) continue the crusade to end sequestration. The U.S. must have the best people the DoD can hire and we must retain them. Further, the DoD must be able to provide them with the data they need to do their jobs in a secure environment. Finally, our most precious asset, our people, need to work in a fiscally secure environment free of the tension of sequestration.

As I turned out the lights and hopped into bed, I realized this would be the first of many late nights. The Department of Defense never sleeps. They work tirelessly around the clock to provide the Nation with a blanket of protection and freedom. I rest assured knowing that my plan would set the stage for a more ready, capable and lethal DoD in the future.

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Mr. Bauer, a native of Dayton, Ohio, began his career in 2005 at Wright-Patterson AFB as a human resources trainee at the Aeronautical Systems Center. As Deputy DACM, Scott represents civilians assigned to the defense agencies and field activities outside the military departments – a community comprising more than 27,000 Defense Acquisition Workforce members. He is responsible for collaborating with the defense agencies on all facets of career development and management of the Defense Acquisition Workforce. Prior to his assignment at Fort Belvoir, he worked in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Financial Management and Comptroller, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Pentagon. As Chief of the Engine Room's Exercise Branch, he was responsible for planning, integrating and defending the Air Force's \$160 billion annual budget to Congress and the media.



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## May Community Service Event Recap



**Thank you to all of the ASMC Members who came out to Honor our Heroes!**



The ASMC Washington Chapter held a community service event to support the Honor Flight Network on 20 May 17. There were 28 members (w/family) who attended the event to welcome approximately ten Honor Flights from around the U.S. to the WWII Memorial in Washington DC. The many busloads of veterans served in WWII, the Korean War, and Vietnam, and it was a joy to shake their hands, hug them, and tell them how much their sacrifice meant to us! Many of these amazing men and women cried because of the overwhelming love and appreciation they received. The Honor Flight Network was created solely to honor America's veterans and transport these heroes (at no cost to them) from 127 cities around the US to Washington DC to visit their memorials. The Honor Flight Network is made-up of 100% volunteers who simply donate their time to greet them, rain or shine, as they arrive in Washington DC. We expect to hold these community service events with Honor Flight on a regular basis and hope you and your families will join us! Many thanks to those who joined our first event.

Additional info about the Honor Flight Network can be found at <https://www.honorflight.org/> and the DCA Honor Flight at <https://honorflightdca.com>. A short video about the Honor Flight Network is located at [https://youtu.be/\\_VoWKh\\_T6aA](https://youtu.be/_VoWKh_T6aA)



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### ASMC National News



## American Society of Military Comptrollers

To promote education, training and professional development in all aspects of military comptrollership.

[Click here to access the National ASMC home page](#)



ASMC National 2017 PDI took place May 31 – June 2, 2017 in San Diego, California. Presentation slides are available at <http://pdi2017.org/workshop-slides>.

ASMC

### Online Learning Center

Members earn continuing professional education credits by viewing and testing recorded educational sessions and the Armed Forces Comptroller.



## Upcoming Training Events

### CDFM Module 1 Onsite Refresher Course

**Begin Date:** August 21 2017

**End Date:** August 22 2017

**Location:** Tyson's Corner, VA

### CDFM Module 2 Onsite Refresher Course

**Begin Date:** August 23 2017

**End Date:** August 24 2017

**Location:** Tyson's Corner, VA

### CDFM Module 3 Live Online Refresher Course

**Begin Date:** August 28 2017

**End Date:** August 29 2017

**Location:** Tyson's Corner, VA

### Open Enrollment Enhanced Defense Financial Management Training Course (EDFMTC)

**Begin Date:** August 14 2017

**End Date:** August 18 2017

**Location:** Washington, DC (Graduate School USA)

Register at least three weeks before the first day of the class.

If you have any questions, please contact Amanda Alter at (202) 314-3346 or [amanda.alter@graduateschool.edu](mailto:amanda.alter@graduateschool.edu)

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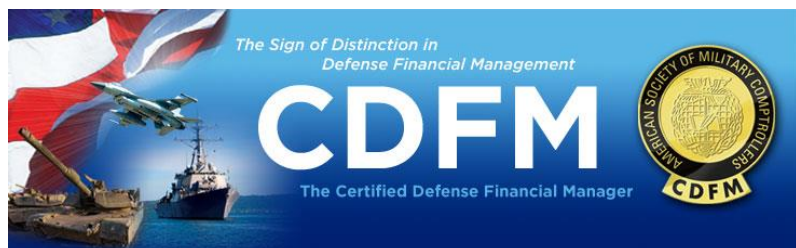


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ASMC offers the Certified Defense Financial Manager (CDFM) educational program and certification designation to those persons desiring to demonstrate proficiency in the core aspects of Defense Financial Management.

For more information, visit: <http://www.asmconline.org/certification/cdfm-information/>

Dionne Bailey  
Douglas Benskin  
Lily Burchill  
Stacy Carruth  
John Cewe  
Bong Chi (added Acq to CDFM)  
Gary Dettloff  
Sara Duffy  
Julie Headley  
Darius Hinton  
Jaclyn Huseman  
Christopher Kline  
Humphrey Mararo  
Darren Martin

## Congratulations!



Paul Melendez  
Kristi Morris (added Acq to CDFM)  
Tige Palmer  
James Richards  
Jon Rymer  
Melissa Singer  
Thomas Smith  
Robert Spracklin  
Brian Thorne  
Amy-Beth Topper  
Eric Travis (added Acq to CDFM)  
Tanya Willis  
Matthew Wilson  
Rebecca Yankovich

While most candidates in the CDFM program are civilian or military/reserve members of the Department of Defense, U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Army, U.S. Air Force, U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Corps or employees of defense contractors or suppliers, the CDFM program is open to all candidates who have a high school diploma (or equivalent) and meet the following work experience qualifications:

Have the required number of years of defense-related financial management experience outlined below:

- **Two (2) years if you hold an Associate's degree or higher;** or
- **Three (3) years if you do not have a degree.**

OR

Do not have defense-related financial management experience, but can meet the following criteria outlined below:

- **Four (4) years of Federal government-related financial management experience;** and
- **An Associate's degree or higher.**

**There are three steps involved with earning your CDFM:**

**1. Enroll in the CDFM Program.** Your enrollment is valid for two (2) years, during which time you must take, and successfully pass, the three CDFM module examinations.

**2. Submit Your Verification of Financial Management Experience Form.** This form, which must be signed by a supervisor who can verify your work experience, must be returned to ASMC after enrolling in the CDFM program. You do not have to submit this form prior to taking a CDFM examination, but it is required prior to the awarding of the CDFM designation.

**3. Purchase and Schedule the CDFM Examinations.** Be sure to carefully – and completely – read the criteria associated with each testing option for the CDFM examinations. Failure to do so can result in the purchase of the wrong CDFM examination and/or the inability to test at your preferred location



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### Chapter Officers



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202-433-3499

**Secretary** Ms. Cynthia Crippen-Cooks  
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**DoD Vice President** Mr. Gregory Little, [gregory.b.little2.civ@mail.mil](mailto:gregory.b.little2.civ@mail.mil) 703-614-7496  
**DoD Assistant Secretary** vacant

**Army Vice President** Ms. Nicole McClenic, [Nicole.m.mcclenic.civ@mail.mil](mailto:Nicole.m.mcclenic.civ@mail.mil), 703-692-5811  
**Army Assistant Secretary** Mr. Hairo Ortiz, [hairo.r.ortiz.civ@mail.mil](mailto:hairo.r.ortiz.civ@mail.mil) 703-692-7868

**Navy Vice President** Ms. Jane Roberts, [jane.roberts@navy.mil](mailto:jane.roberts@navy.mil), 703-571-1902  
**Navy Assistant Secretary** Ms. Veronica Trent-Walton [veronica.trent@navy.mil](mailto:veronica.trent@navy.mil) 703-695-2913

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**Marine Corps Assistant Secretary** Mr. Astrid Diaz, [astrid.diaz@usmc.mil](mailto:astrid.diaz@usmc.mil) 703-614-3435

**Air Force Vice President** Mr. Benjamin J Yarish, [benjamin.j.yarish.civ@mail.mil](mailto:benjamin.j.yarish.civ@mail.mil) 703-695-4442  
**Air Force Assistant Secretary** Ms. Pat Corey, [patricia.a.corey5.civ@mail.mil](mailto:patricia.a.corey5.civ@mail.mil), 703-614-7941

**Coast Guard Vice President** LT Mark Sanchez, CDMF-A [mark.m.sanchez@uscg.mil](mailto:mark.m.sanchez@uscg.mil) 202-475-5450  
**Coast Guard Assistant Secretary** Ms. Stella Whitsell, [stella.b.whitsell@uscg.mil](mailto:stella.b.whitsell@uscg.mil),

**Corporate/Retiree Vice President** Ms. Deb Del Mar, [debra.delmar@vanguard-llc.com](mailto:debra.delmar@vanguard-llc.com) 703-593-6667  
**Corporate/Retiree Secretary** Ms. Rita Finney, [rfinney@savantage.net](mailto:rfinney@savantage.net) 301-938-8198



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### Committee Chairs

#### Training and Education

**Chair: Terry Placek and Millie Thompson**

Dick Reed	CDFM	<a href="mailto:orangedad44@gmail.com">orangedad44@gmail.com</a>	
Wendy Pouliot	Awards/Essay Chair	<a href="mailto:wendy.pouliot.civ@mail.mil">wendy.pouliot.civ@mail.mil</a>	703-697-0156
Janice Hill	Scholarship	<a href="mailto:Janice.hill@usmc.mil">Janice.hill@usmc.mil</a>	571-256-8810
Milford E. Thompson	Luncheon	<a href="mailto:milford.thompson@navy.mil">milford.thompson@navy.mil</a>	202-685-1524
Terry Placek	Training & Education	<a href="mailto:terryplacek@yahoo.com">terryplacek@yahoo.com</a>	703-599-4514

#### PDI

**Chair: Deb Delmar**

Deb Delmar	NCR PDI & PDI Silent Auction	<a href="mailto:debra.delmar@vanguard-llc.com">debra.delmar@vanguard-llc.com</a>	703-593-6667
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#### Outreach and Publicity

**Chair: Wayne Whiten and Jeff Norris**

Veniceza "Vee" Critton	Competition	<a href="mailto:veniceza.g.critton.civ@mail.mil">veniceza.g.critton.civ@mail.mil</a>	703-695-6458
Jeff Norris	Community Service	<a href="mailto:jnorris@kpmg.com">jnorris@kpmg.com</a>	202-533-4024
Dan Olden	Membership	<a href="mailto:dolden@kpmg.com">dolden@kpmg.com</a>	202-533-5183
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