

# Diane Gillian Lantz, CPA

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## **PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY**

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Versatile finance professional with executive administration and management experience; outstanding leadership skills with proven results in identifying and achieving strategic initiatives, bringing multi-faceted projects to closure and negotiating consensus between opposing views on complex issues; expertise in local government finance; excellent interpersonal and organizational skills; professional presence with strong public speaking, presentation, and writing skills.

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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### **Executive Director, Illinois Government Finance Officers Association (IGFOA) 2015-2024**

Supervised and actively participated in daily operations such as customer service, financial oversight (including monthly detailed analysis, investment of excess cash and preparing annual budget), website development and maintenance, writing and editing newsletter content, building and maintaining relationships with volunteers, sponsors and other professional organizations with similar missions; supported IGFOA Executive Board with strategic planning then created and implemented programs, policies and procedures to successfully achieve leadership strategic initiatives and vision. Examples of specific accomplishments noted below.

- Increased net assets from \$302,541.84 (2015) to \$682,411.8 (2024).
- Increased cash & investments from \$479,688.86 (2015) to 880,530.11 (2024).
- Increased IGFOA sponsors from 55 (2015) to 70 (2024).
- Thrived during COVID with roundtables, webinars, and stable membership and sponsor renewals.
- Partnered with the State of Illinois Office of the Comptroller to establish the *Decide Decode Deliver* initiative to educate underserved communities on government finance best practices and provide free financial expertise.
- Built relationships and collaborated with complimentary organizations including the Illinois City/County Management Association, Illinois Association of Municipal Management Assistants, Illinois Municipal League, The Legacy Project, Women in Public Finance, Illinois CPA Society, Government Finance Officers Association, Northern Illinois University – Department of Public Administration, and the Illinois Department of Insurance.
- Established the Ruth Limpers Scholarship Fund to honor long-time IGFOA employee after her medical battle and untimely passing from ALS.

### **Accounting Services Consultant, Sikich, LLP**

**2012 – 2015**

For Illinois local government Downstate Pension Funds, perform accounting function for investments, quarterly compilation of financial reports, and annual reporting to the State of Illinois Department of Insurance; assist local governments with accounting and finance tasks including bank reconciliations, account analysis, year-end adjusting journal entries, annual audit preparation, and complying with the State of Illinois office of the Comptroller's reporting requirements.

### **Professional Financial and Accounting Services**

**1997 – 2011**

Self-employed finance professional providing administrative, financial, and accounting services as requested by clients.

- **Illinois Metropolitan Investment Fund (IMET), Interim Executive Director** –served as Executive Director twice until full-time replacements hired. Structured administrative function and attended annual GFOA conference in San Francisco as IMET representative, including planning and hosting hospitality suite and members dinner. Successfully resolved conflicts in transitioning IMET funds to a new fund accountant, PMA Financial Network.
- **Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County, Financial Consultant** – responsible for the accounting and financial reporting of the trust accounts associated with multiple long-term debt issues; prepared monthly bank reconciliations and reports for Executive Director; completed documentation for annual financial audit; converted general ledger to Peachtree software. Created custom reports and completed special projects as requested.

- **Northwest Municipal Conference, Finance Officer** – prepared and presented monthly financial reports to the Executive Director and Executive Board. Completed journal entries, bank reconciliations, and documentation for annual financial audit. Converted general ledger to Peachtree software. Maintained and updated general ledger.
- **Illinois Government Finance Officers Association (IGFOA)**, - designed, coordinated writing efforts, and edited the Illinois Financial Management Handbook; assisted the Executive Director with publishing and marketing.

**Assistant Finance Director, Village of Elk Grove, Illinois**

**1992 – 1996**

Efficiently managed the daily accounting and financial operations of the Village. Supervised Finance Department staff of 19 performing the functions of accounting and financial reporting, annual audit, payroll, accounts receivable, purchasing, front counter/customer service, accounts payable, utility billing, and data processing. Responsible for Village debt administration, banking services, and preparing Finance Department budget. Successfully implemented direct deposit of payroll, automated bank payments for utility billing, new telephone system, and conversion to in-house centralized computer services previously outsourced. Successfully investigated and resolved major operational issues with the integrated HTE system.

**Additional Work Experience:**

**Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA), Chicago, Illinois - Assistant Director Technical Services,**

Organized and directed technical sessions at national GFOA conferences. Researched, wrote, and published articles on emerging governmental accounting and financial reporting issues as well as implementation guidance for new pronouncements of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. Served as Presenter at GFOA training seminars, which included developing and updating course materials. Analyzed and evaluated the comprehensive annual financial reports for state and local governments for compliance with the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting (COA) Program. Acted as liaison between Technical Services and the participants in the COA Program, the Special Review Committee, and the Special Review Executive Committee by resolving issues and concerns.

**State of Ohio - Office of Budget and Management Columbus, Ohio - Financial Reporting Manager and Governmental Systems Accountant**

Supervised professional staff of seven. Directed key efforts to prepare State of Ohio's first comprehensive annual financial report in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP.) Planned and implemented efforts to identify information requirements, develop processes, and document procedures for converting all State agencies from cash to GAAP basis of accounting. Provided accounting and technical support to State Accounting and State Budget Analysts.

Investigated and resolved accounting-related system processing issues during implementation of statewide Central Accounting System (CAS). Assisted with designing, testing, and implementing the CAS system accounting model and fiscal year-end close process. Coordinated the writing and publishing of manual procedures for key state accounting processes, such as accounts payable processing and payment. Assisted with writing Request for Proposals for services necessary for State conversion to financial reporting in conformity with GAAP.

**EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS**

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*Bachelor of Science in Business*, Miami University, Oxford Ohio; Major: Accountancy  
*Certified Public Accountant*, State of Ohio and State of Illinois

**PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

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American Institute of Certified Public Accountants  
 Illinois Certified Public Accountant Society  
 Government Finance Officers Association of the US and Canada