



GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION
NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Michael A. Bryant Becomes GFOA President

(Chicago, Illinois—July 12, 2021) **Michael A. Bryant, deputy county manager, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina**, was elected as president of the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) on July 12, 2021. The election was held at the association's annual business meeting during its 2021 Virtual Conference.

As deputy county manager, Michael provides executive oversight for the Finance Department, the Tax Office, Information Technology, Human Resources, and the Tax Assessor's Office. He is also responsible for leading the County's enterprise risk management strategy and for supervising financial planning and organizational compliance throughout the organization. Serving as president reflects the accomplishments of Mecklenburg County.

As governments now focus extra attention on the budget amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and resulting global recession, improving the quality of budgeting is important to not only long-term financial sustainability, but also trust in government. To meet these challenges, Michael was charged to lead GFOA's project on "Rethinking Local Government Budgeting for 2020 and Beyond." The project focuses on ensuring local governments are resilient and work to answer the question: Why is budgeting important beyond the Finance Office?

Bryant has been a GFOA member for fifteen years and has served on GFOA's Executive Board (2017 to 2021). He is an ex-officio member of GFOA's Committee on Economic Development and Capital Planning and a past member of GFOA's Governmental Budgeting and Fiscal Policy Committee. Bryant has attended GFOA's conferences for eleven years and has been a frequent conference speaker. In addition to being a GFOA regional training instructor, he authored the article, "Improving the Budget Process," which appeared in GFOA's *Government Finance Review* (2015). Bryant has been a reviewer for GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award (2010 to 2011), and a member of GFOA's Black Caucus. His government won the Award for Excellence for Financial Management in 2013 and again in 2020 for their Budget Public Engagement Initiative. The County has received GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for thirty-one years.

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GFOA Press Release – GFOA President

July 12, 2021

Bryant is a current member and past board member of the North Carolina Local Budget Association; past president and first vice president of the National Forum for Black Public Administrators Southern Piedmont Chapter; serves on the Board of Commissioners for Medic Emergency Medical Services; and is a member of ICMA. He serves on the Chancellor's Board of Visitors as well as lecturer at North Carolina Central University and Alumni chapter member. Bryant participated on the University of North Carolina–Charlotte MPA Advisory Board; past board member and mentor for Wayfinders; community volunteer for Habitat for Humanity; and Emergency Financial Assistance Committee member for the Crisis Assistance Ministry. He received the North Carolina Local Government Budget Association Lifetime Achievement award, the North Carolina Central University's "40 Under 40" award, and Community Buildings Initiative's "Leaders Under 40" award.

He will serve on GFOA's Executive Board for one year as president. His goals for GFOA are to focus on people, policy, and process to meet the needs of GFOA members by: 1) Promoting GFOA best practices; 2.) Encouraging governments to create a Continuity of Operations Plan; and 3.) Emphasizing public engagement and financial transparency.

For more information about GFOA's 2021 Virtual Conference, or on how to join GFOA, please visit gfoa.org, e-mail conference@gfoa.org, or call 312/977-9700.

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Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) advances excellence in government finance by providing best practices, professional development, resources, and practical research for more than 21,000+ members and the communities they serve.