

CITY FINANCIAL SERVICES

The Texas Municipal League's new City Financial Services Department is ready to help your city.

Whether your population is 500 or 500,000, you are still tasked with the preparation of the annual audit; budget creation, adoption, and maintenance; property tax calculation and adoption; financial and investment reporting; debt issuance and management; and maintaining financial systems, processes, and records. You are also responsible for maintaining adequate internal controls and safeguarding your city's assets with a shoestring budget. TML is here to help. We understand how hard it is to develop financial processes and maintain sufficient internal controls with limited resources.

FINANCIAL BOOT CAMP

TML will send a wrangler (a seasoned financial professional) to train your finance team. Boot Camp's fee-based engagements are one to three weeks with the option for periodic follow up visits or calls. The goal is to help your city strengthen its finance functions so that staff can become self-sufficient and increase trust with your citizens.

SERVICES PROVIDED DURING A BOOT CAMP

- Assess your current team and processes
- Make recommendations for improvement
- Work with current staff to become more proficient in their financial duties
- Assist in developing the processes and systems for accounting services within your city
- Assist in hiring and building your team
- Work on a variety of financial, accounting, and compliance projects
- Assist with the preparation of the ACFR or Annual Audit
- Support the implementation of upcoming GASB pronouncements
- Review and help with accounting processes such as: general ledger and financial statement preparation and presentation; and monthly and year-end closing assistance
- Account and bank reconciliations
- Assist with the development of policies and procedures including: accounting, auditing, and financial reporting; policies related to investments, fund balance, internal controls, capital; and assets, debt, cash management, and grants
- Work together in locating, procuring, and implementing the right technology for your city's financial needs
- Assist in managing, developing, and coaching finance staff

TO APPLY FOR THE TML FINANCIAL BOOT CAMP, FILL OUT THE APPLICATION FORM.

For more information, contact Martie Simpson, TML assistant director of city financial services, at msimpson@tml.org or 512-231-7400.

TML FINANCIAL BOOT CAMP CLIENTS

- City of Levelland (2024)
- Town of Ransom Canyon (2024)

GET TO KNOW YOUR BOOT CAMP WRANGLERS



Martie Simpson is the executive director of the Government Finance Officers Association of Texas (GFOAT) and the assistant director of city financial services for the Texas Municipal League. She started her municipal finance career with the City of Killeen in 1997 and left the city in 2014 as the executive director of finance. She then served as the finance director for the City of New Braunfels from 2014 to 2018 and has provided interim financial services for various cities since 2020. Martie is a Certified Public Accountant with a degree from Baylor University and past president for GFOAT.

Keith Dagen spent twenty-six years in municipal finance with the cities of Garland and Richardson. He worked in multiple roles, starting as a business systems analyst and progressing through supervisory roles such as chief accountant, treasurer and revenue manager, assistant director of finance and director of finance. Now retired from full-time employment, Keith enjoys teaching fundamentals of government finance to others, traveling across the United States with his wife, reading a variety of books and having a good glass of wine with friends. He is an active member of the Government Finance Officers Association of Texas and currently serves on the GFOAT Scholarship and Fellowship Foundation Board, having served previously as GFOAT's Texas Municipal Retirement System representative, secretary and president. Since 2010, Keith has been a featured speaker at GFOAT conferences and GFOAT's Governmental Accounting Academy.

