

## **Bruce A. Causseaux**

Mr. Causseaux is the Senior Contracting and Procurement Fraud Specialist in the Forensic Audits & Special Investigations Team in the U.S. Government Accountability Office. He began his career with the Department of the Navy in 1977 as an internal auditor following his graduation from Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting. Over the next 29 years, he was involved in a wide array of audit assignments at many Naval and Marine Corps commands in the United States and overseas. Those efforts included examinations of appropriation and financial management processes, systems acquisition programs, major procurements, contracting operations, ordnance inventory management, logistics planning and execution, information technology, requirements determination, internal control processes, and special intelligence programs. During his tenure with the Naval Audit Service, Mr. Causseaux served in various management and leadership roles including Auditor-in-Charge, Resource Manager, Headquarters Branch Head, Regional Associate Director, and Audit Director.

While with the Navy, Mr. Causseaux spearheaded the Department's audit efforts on matters related to the detection and deterrence of procurement fraud. He served on the senior staff of the Office of General Counsel's Acquisition Integrity Office, and was the agency focal point for coordination with the Naval Criminal Investigative Service. In addition, he represented the Auditor General of the Navy on the Department of Defense's Procurement Fraud Working Group and Steering Committee, as well as the Naval Sea Systems Command's Procurement Fraud and Deliberate Malpractice Working Group. Mr. Causseaux served as the Naval Audit Service's focal point for technical advice and consultation on audit and policy initiatives involving potential procurement fraud, waste, and abuse. Those efforts included developing and presenting numerous executive level briefings and presentations.

In November 2006, Mr. Causseaux was selected for a Senior Level position as the Contract and Procurement Fraud Specialist for the U.S. Government Accountability Office's Forensic Audits and Special Investigations Unit. He is primarily responsible for developing a strategy of specific, targeted forensic audits and/or investigations into contract and procurement related fraud, waste, and abuse in the federal government.

Mr. Causseaux is a Certified Fraud Examiner; Certified Defense Acquisition Auditor, Level III; and, a Certified Government Financial Manager. He has received a number of commendations over his career including the Department of the Navy's Meritorious Civilian Service Award. He has completed the Leadership for a Democratic Society Program at the Federal Executive Institute in Charlottesville, Virginia and the Executive Acquisition Management Program at the Defense Acquisition University, as well as numerous other technical, managerial, and executive development programs.

## **Jeanette Meixner Franzel**

Jeanette Meixner Franzel is Director, Financial Management and Assurance, at the U.S. Government Accountability Office. Ms. Franzel has responsibility for GAO's work in the area of Corporate Governance, the Accounting and Auditing Profession, and Government Auditing Standards. She is also responsible for overseeing GAO's financial statement audits of government corporations, legislative branch entities, and other independent executive branch entities including the SEC. In addition, Ms. Franzel oversees GAO's financial-related audits of the D.C. government; GAO's oversight of OIG issues on a government-wide basis; and GAO's desk reviews for the annual financial audits of approximately 80 federally chartered, not-for profit organizations. Prior to joining GAO, Ms. Franzel worked in public accounting, providing auditing and accounting services to not-for-profit clients and clients that received government funding.

Ms. Franzel is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA), Certified Management Accountant (CMA), and a Certified Government Financial Manager (CFCM). She has a Master's Degree in Business Administration and a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting and Spanish. Prior to her career in accounting and auditing, Ms. Franzel taught elementary school and high school in the U.S. and South America. Ms. Franzel is a 2004 recipient of the Arthur S. Flemming Award for outstanding federal service and has received numerous GAO awards.

## **Elaine M. Howle**

Elaine M. Howle is California's independent State Auditor who serves the State of California by providing accurate, unbiased, and timely assessments of financial and operation aspects of state and local government entities. Ms. Howle has more than 20 years of auditing, management, and leadership experience with the Bureau of State Audits (bureau) and its predecessor office, the Office of the Auditor General. She began her career in state government in 1983, joining the Office of the Auditor General, the predecessor agency to the State Auditor's Office, as an entry-level auditor conducting performance audits on a variety of state and local governments. She was made a supervising auditor in 1987 and a principal auditor in 1994. Ms. Howle became Deputy State Auditor in 1999 before being appointed California's first female State Auditor in 2000.

As California's State Auditor, Ms. Howle oversees the operations of the nonpartisan State Auditor's Office made up of a diverse staff of talented professionals. The work from her office serves an important role in the State's system of checks and balances by examining the fiscal health and performance of state and local entities to ensure that government provides the essential services to the public in the most efficient and effective manner. Her performance audits provide information to improve public accountability and facilitate decision making by parties with responsibility for overseeing or initiating corrective action. Her office conducts the annual financial audit of California's large, complex financial system and provides an opinion on the financial statements. Ms. Howle's office also audits annually the State's compliance with federal regulations governing the administration of billions of dollars in federal funds California receives each year. Moreover, her office investigates allegations received and reports substantiated claims of fraud and abuse in state government. Further, legislation authorizes her office to identify, audit, and report on state agencies that her office identifies as being at high risk for waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement, or that have major challenges related to efficiency of effectiveness.

Ms. Howle has a strong national presence and is actively involved in various national organizations devoted to government accounting. Ms. Howle is a certified public accountant and a certified government financial manager. She serves on the Performance Audit Committee, Single Audit Committee, Human Resources Committee, and Auditor Training Committee of the National State Auditors Association, and she is a member of the General Accountability Office, Domestic Accountability Working Group. Ms. Howle is also involved in the National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers, and Treasurers; the Association of Government Accountants; and the National Legislative Program Evaluation Society.

Ms. Howle has a bachelor's degree in sport's management from the University of Massachusetts and a master's of business administration from California State University, Sacramento.

## **Senator Claire McCaskill**

Claire McCaskill is a 4th-generation Missourian who has spent her entire life in the Show-Me State. Born in Rolla and raised in Lebanon and Columbia, Claire has never forgotten her roots. Claire's first home was Houston, Missouri, where her father William worked at the McCaskill feed mill. Later, the family moved to Lebanon, hometown of Claire's mother, Betty Anne.

Claire attended Hickman High School in Columbia, while her father served as a state insurance commissioner and her mother became Columbia's first woman city council member. At Hickman High School, Claire graduated near the top of her class and was a member of the cheerleading squad, served as president of the Pep Club and was elected homecoming queen. She also worked in a fabric store and sewed her own clothes along with dancing and singing in school plays.

The day after graduation, Claire left town for a job bussing tables at Lodge of the Four Seasons at Lake of the Ozarks. Waitressing for six years helped Claire work her way through college and law school at the University of Missouri in Columbia.

Claire clerked for the Missouri Court of Appeals in Kansas City and then got a job as an assistant prosecutor in Kansas City handling arson cases. In 1982, McCaskill won a seat in the State Legislature. She juggled the responsibilities of both mother and legislator and was the first woman to ever give birth while actively serving in the Missouri Legislature.

Claire broke new ground again in 1993 when she became the first female Jackson County Prosecutor, a position she held until she was sworn in as Missouri Auditor in 1999.

As State Auditor, Claire has been credited for revolutionizing the office and making it into a true watchdog for taxpayers and citizens. In 2004, Claire took on her own party establishment and became the first person to ever defeat a sitting Missouri governor in a primary election.

After seven years as a single mom, Claire married Joseph Shepard, a St. Louis businessman in April 2002. Together they have seven children: Benjamin, 30, Carl, 28, Marilyn, 26, Michael, 23, Austin, 18, Maddie, 16 and Lily, 14.

Claire is a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Jefferson City and St. Gerard Majella Catholic Church in St. Louis.

## **George A. Rippey, CPA, CGFM**

As Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Audit at the U.S. Department of Education, George Rippey assists the Assistant Inspector General for Audit in leading the office of Audit Services, which currently includes approximately 120 professional staff. Prior to being selected to this position, George spent 18 years in various positions within ED-OIG, starting as a staff auditor in the Philadelphia regional office in 1981. In 1985, George moved to Washington to become a principal advisor to the Inspector General and the Assistant Inspector General for Audit on technical auditing and accounting matters. In 1990, this position evolved to become Director of the Technical and Nonfederal Audit Staff, where he served as the National Single Audit Coordinator for the OIG and the principal professional staff advisor with regard to the nonfederal audit responsibilities of the Audit Committee of the President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency.

From 1999 to 2002, George was a Senior Policy Analyst in the Office of Federal Financial Management of the United States Office of Management and Budget (OMB) where he was responsible for the government-wide policy for audits of financial statements of Federal agencies under the Chief Financial Officers Act and for audits of approximately 30,000 states, local governments and not-for-profit organizations under the Single Audit Act. Prior to joining OMB, Mr. Rippey spent two years with the U.S. Government Accountability Office (formerly the General Accounting Office (GAO)), where he was responsible for GAO's activities related to the implementation of the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996.

Mr. Rippey received a BBA in accounting from Temple University and is a Certified Public Accountant and a Certified Government Financial Manager. He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) and is currently serving on the AICPA's Auditing Standards Board. He previously served on the AICPA's Government Accounting and Auditing Committee, Single Audit Working Group and the Technical Standards Subcommittee of the Professional Ethics Executive Committee. Mr. Rippey is also a member of the Maryland Association of Certified Public Accountants and the Association of Government Accountants.

## **The Honorable David M. Walker**

David M. Walker was appointed as the seventh Comptroller General of the United States and began his 15 year term in October 1998. As Comptroller General of the United States, Mr. Walker serves as head of the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO), a legislative branch agency whose mission is to improve the performance and assure the accountability of the federal government for the benefit of the American people.

Mr. Walker has over 20 years of private sector experience and over 13 years of public service experience. His most recent private sector experience was as a Partner and Global Managing Director of the Human Capital Services Practice for Arthur Andersen LLP. His prior private sector experience was with Price Waterhouse, Coopers & Lybrand and Source Services Corporation.

Mr. Walker received Presidential appointments from former Presidents Ronald Reagan, George Herbert Walker Bush, and Bill Clinton, each time being unanimously confirmed by the U.S. Senate. His previous Presidential appointments included serving as a Public Trustee for Social Security and Medicare, and as Assistant Secretary of Labor for Pension, Health and other Employee Benefit Programs.

Mr. Walker is a Certified Public Accountant. He holds a Bachelor's degree from Jacksonville University, a SMG Certificate in Public Administration from the JFK School of Government at Harvard University, and Honorary Doctorates from Bryant College, Lincoln Memorial University, and Jacksonville University.

He is a member of many professional and other organizations, including the Sons of the American Revolution. He holds numerous domestic and international leadership positions in the accountability profession, public policy and administration academies and various other organizations. He is a frequent speaker and author, and has received a number of domestic and international leadership awards.

His wife Mary is a DAR member and they have two children and three grandchildren.

## **Leslie E. Ward**

Leslie Ward has served as City Auditor for the City of Atlanta since October 2001. She is Atlanta's first independent city auditor, reporting to an audit committee that includes 3 citizen members, as well as representatives of the Mayor and the City Council. She and her staff are charged with auditing the performance and finances of city programs, activities, and contractors.

Ms. Ward serves on the Government Relations Committee of the Institute of Internal Auditors, the executive committee of the Southeastern Intergovernmental Audit Forum, and the US Comptroller General's domestic working group. She was president of the National Association of Local Government Auditors in 1996-97 and served on the Advisory Council on Government Auditing Standards from 1999 through 2001.

Ms. Ward was Deputy City Auditor for Kansas City, Missouri from 1991 to 2001. She joined the office in 1988 and had a primary role in expansion of the office's performance audit capabilities. She also has worked as a performance auditor for the Tennessee Division of State Audit and as a research analyst for the Vanderbilt Institute of Public Policy Studies.

Ms. Ward attended the University of Maryland and received bachelor's and master's degrees in political science from Tennessee State University and Vanderbilt University, respectively. In 1999 she received an MBA from the University of Missouri-Kansas City. She is a Certified Internal Auditor and a Certified Government Audit Professional (CGAP). She received the 2004 CGAP Highest Achievement Award from the Institute of Internal Auditors.

## Jacquelyn L. Williams-Bridgers

Jacquie Williams-Bridgers is Managing Director of the International Affairs and Trade (IAT) team for the U.S. Government Accountability Office. Under Jacquie's leadership, IAT supports the U.S. Congress in its oversight of U.S. foreign affairs programs and activities, including public diplomacy, development assistance, international security, and nuclear non-proliferation. IAT also evaluates how well U.S. interests are served by U.S. trade policy and agreements, and assesses the U.S. role in multilateral organizations and international financial institutions. Prior to her appointment to IAT in January 2004, Jacquie led GAO's Strategic Planning and External Liaison unit where she advanced GAO's strategic focus through development of partnerships and capacity building initiatives with public and private sector accountability organizations around the world. She began her professional career in GAO in 1978, working over a sixteen-year period on audits, program evaluations and policy analyses of housing, community development, disaster assistance, small business and transportation issues.

In 1995, Jacquie was appointed by the President of the United States and confirmed by the U.S. Senate as Inspector General of the U.S. Department of State, the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, and later the U.S. Information Agency and the Broadcasting Board of Governors. As Inspector General, Jacquie led the program evaluation, audit and criminal investigation organizations responsible for oversight of U.S. foreign policy implementation, U.S. embassy operations, embassy security, U.S. intelligence overseas, and international broadcasting including Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty and the Voice of America.

Jacquie has advised governments around the globe on methods to ensure integrity and transparency in operations. Following her appointment as Inspector General she joined PricewaterhouseCoopers, where she initiated a practice area to provide assistance to governments on anti-corruption matters. She later established a consulting practice, JāDa International, LLC, to advance governmental integrity globally through professional services to organizations and foreign governments.