



Developing Leaders in Public Procurement

Presenter



David Gragan is the interim chief procurement officer of the City of Palm Bay, Florida. As an experienced public sector leader with experience in the military, government, business, and non-profit settings, he has served as Chief Procurement Officer of the City of Washington DC, the states of Texas and Indiana, and the federal Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. David has worked in the private sector for Oracle, Accenture, and CGI supporting state and local governments in procurement modernization. He has served on many governing boards, chairing those of the National Association of State Procurement Officials (NASPO) and the Universal Public Procurement Certification Council. David is a Fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration and of the National Contract Management Association. He is a graduate of the University of Southern California and of the United States Air Force Academy, and was a commissioned officer in the United States Marine Corps.



Summary:

This session is designed to be a panel discussion with audience participation to catalogue steps we can all take to ensure procurement leaders of today are focused on developing our leaders of tomorrow. We know that most people do not want to speak in public, and that our profession is filled with some of the hardest working and most underappreciated public servants in government. Given those facts, our talent development framework should recognize that we need both heads down practitioners doing the excellent work we are known for, and vocal advocates for this profession. New ideas are emerging to bring credit and recognition to procurement as a critical linchpin in government operations. We will focus on tomorrow's leadership and advocacy, as well as how we get there from here, taking advantage of the new age of procurement that is emerging in some of our most forward-thinking governments.