



SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

2026 Municipal Debt Essentials

September 15–17, 2026 | San Jose, CA



COLIN BETTIS

County Debt Officer
County of Sacramento

Colin Bettis has worked in public finance since 2012. As the County's Debt Officer, he is responsible for planning, organizing and implementing the activities of the centralized debt management program for the County of Sacramento, as well as coordinating the presentation of the Capital

Improvement Plan. Prior to joining Sacramento County as the County Debt Officer in May 2019, he was a Senior Debt Analyst with the City of Sacramento where he had been a member of the City Treasurer's Office for over seven years. Mr. Bettis received his bachelor's in business administration from Northern Arizona University and his master's degree in accountancy from California State University, Sacramento.



DAVID BRODSKY

Managing Director
KNN Public Finance, LLC

David Brodsky is a Managing Director at KNN Public Finance and a registered municipal advisor. Over the past 28 years, he has served as financial advisor to numerous cities in California, ranging in size from Bishop, with a population of 3,800, to the City of Los Angeles, with a

population of 3.9 million, as well as various counties, special districts, state agencies, and educational districts throughout California. Prior to joining KNN in 1998, Mr. Brodsky was a Vice President and Senior Credit Officer with Moody's Ratings in San Francisco and was a member of Moody's national rating committee.

Mr. Brodsky began his career with the City of Los Angeles, where for twelve years he was responsible for financial planning, debt issuance, and bond administration for general government departments. Among his achievements were creating the City's leasing corporation, the Municipal Improvements Corporation of Los Angeles.

Mr. Brodsky is a graduate of the University of California, Santa Cruz, with a degree in modern society and social thought and is the author of a book on Los Angeles, *L.A. Freeway: An Appreciative Essay*, published by UC Press.



GRANT CARSON

Debt Capital Markets Specialist
City and County of San Francisco

Grant Carson is a Debt Capital Markets Specialist in the City and County of San Francisco's Controller's Office of Public Finance. Before joining the City in 2022, Mr. Carson worked as a municipal advisor, supporting debt issuances for school districts, community colleges, cities, counties, and state agencies across California. In his current role, Mr. Carson oversees the City's Certificates of Participation program and leads pricing on general government debt issuances. He also spearheaded the formation of the City's first three Enhanced Infrastructure Financing Districts (EIFDs).



GLENN CASTERLINE

Senior Managing Director
BLX Group LLC

Glenn Casterline serves as Senior Managing Director and Principal for BLX's Los Angeles office. With over 30 years of public finance experience, Mr. Casterline applies his expertise to BLX's municipal advisory, interest rate swap advisory, and arbitrage rebate compliance services. He serves as manager for many of BLX's largest arbitrage compliance engagements including City of Long Beach, County of Riverside, and City and County of Denver including Denver International Airport, and the State of Wisconsin. Mr. Casterline has also served as financial advisor in connection with debt financings for the California Science Center, Performing Arts Center of Los Angeles County, Colburn School of the Performing Arts, City of Vernon, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Mr. Casterline is a graduate of California State University, Fullerton and is a registered Municipal Advisor representative holding the Series 54 and 50 registrations.



HELEN CREGGER

Associate Managing Director
Moody's Ratings

Helen Cregger is a vice president/senior credit officer in Moody's San Francisco office. She covers local government credits primarily in California including enterprise systems, cities, counties, and school districts. In addition to her analytical work, Ms. Cregger leads environmental, social, and governance (ESG) scoring efforts for municipal utilities within the U.S. and heads up Moody's municipal utility task force, supporting research and internal training for these credits. Ms. Cregger serves as a rating committee member on credits nationally for sectors including local government, charter schools, community college, and healthcare districts.

Prior to rejoining Moody's, Ms. Cregger was an investment banker for Piper Sandler & Co. Among other issuers, she worked with a number of municipal utilities including those serving Denver, Aurora, Colorado Springs and Pueblo, and the State of Colorado on its BEST K12 Capital Construction Program. Prior to her initial tenure at Moody's, Ms. Cregger was an analyst for the U.S. General Accountability Office in the International Trade, Finance and Competitiveness Division.

Ms. Cregger holds a Master of Public Administration from the School of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University and a Bachelor of Arts in Latin American Studies from Northwestern University.



DEREK HANSEL

Chief Financial Officer

Metropolitan Transportation Commission

Derek Hansel is the Chief Financial Officer of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and the Bay Area Toll Authority (BATA), which has financial responsibility for the seven state-owned bridges in the San Francisco Bay Area. BATA has a total of \$10 billion of debt, with a combination of senior and subordinate liens, taxable and tax-exempt debt, and a substantial variable rate program. Prior to joining MTC/BATA, Mr. Hansel has served as Chief Financial Officer of the San Mateo County Transit District and Caltrain, and as Assistant Director of Finance at the City of San Jose. Mr. Hansel has over 30 years of experience in the public finance industry, having served as an issuer, investment banker, and municipal advisor.



CRAIG HILL

Managing Principal

NHA Advisors, LLC

Craig Hill has been a public finance professional since 1989 and is a founding principal of NHA Advisors, LLC. He has worked with California public agencies including cities, special districts and counties for over 30 years. In addition to providing traditional financial advisory expertise, Mr. Hill's works closely with agencies to develop financial policies and capital project funding strategies. His experience includes supporting the funding of public safety, water, sewer, marinas, airports, recreation facilities and other capital projects.

Mr. Hill's technical experience includes managing the issuance of water, sewer, solid waste and other revenue bonds, general obligation bonds, certificates of participation, lease revenue bonds, tax and revenue anticipation notes, land-secured special tax and assessment bonds, bond anticipation notes, and tax allocation bonds. Mr. Hill has extensive experience in financing renewable energy and energy efficiency projects including power purchase agreements, solar arrays, storage and distribution.



Mr. Hill is a regular speaker on public finance, fiscal sustainability, renewable and energy efficiency project finance and public policy matters to professional associations including the League of California Cities, the California Society of Municipal Finance Officers, California Debt and Investment Advisory Commission, Municipal Management Association of Northern California (MMANC), the Milken Institute and Carbon War Room.

Prior to founding NHA Advisors, Mr. Hill began his public finance career as a financial analyst for the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) to evaluate the financial and economic feasibility of the Rancho Seco Nuclear Power Plant Plan. In addition to working for the SMUD, Mr. Hill worked for the State of California (Office of Energy Assessments) to develop financing programs for statewide facility upgrades mandated by the governor.

In addition to working as a municipal advisor, Mr. Hill currently serves on the Board of the HdL Companies, the Board of the Marin County Public Financing Authority, as Treasurer of the West Point Inn Association in Marin County and Treasurer of the NorCal Lacrosse Foundation. He previously served as a member of the Novato Park & Recreation Commission, Novato Investment Committee, and Novato Budget Committee. He has also served on the board of directors for the Novato Youth Soccer Association and as President of the Novato Lacrosse Club. Mr. Hill has four grown kids and is enjoying post-parenting with his wife and their Airstream trailer.



DARREN HODGE

Managing Director

PFM Financial Advisors LLC

Darren Hodge joined PFM in 2015 and serves as a municipal advisor to municipal entities in the Western United States focusing on public utility, state and local governments, and transportation finance. Mr. Hodge's experience includes assisting his clients in the development and execution of long-term financial plans, as well as assisting his clients in accessing both the private and public capital markets involving fixed and floating rate securities, interim financing products, and derivatives, among others.

Over his career, Mr. Hodge has worked in a variety of sectors including mass transit, public power, state and local governments, water and wastewater, and more. Mr. Hodge is also familiar with federal loan and grant programs, having assisted his clients in securing low-cost financing through programs such as TIFIA and WIFIA. Mr. Hodge has also helped clients develop cost-effective interim financing solutions from commercial paper and lines of credit to bank bridge financings and Bond Anticipation Notes.

Before joining PFM, Mr. Hodge spent over a decade as an investment banker, completing over \$30 billion of transactions including public utility revenue bonds, sales tax revenue bonds, general obligation bonds, certificates of participations, tax and revenue anticipation notes, and variable rate bonds.



JACQUELYNNE (JACQUI) JENNINGS

Counsel

ArentFox Schiff LLP

Jacqui Jennings is a partner at ArentFox Schiff LLP. She concentrates her practice in finance and corporate transactions with an emphasis on public finance. Ms. Jennings has more than 25 years of experience representing governmental agencies, nonprofit corporations, underwriters, and others as bond counsel, disclosure counsel, underwriter's counsel, and issuer's counsel in connection with a broad range of tax-exempt and taxable financings, including fixed and variable-rate, tax-exempt and taxable, refunding and restructuring, insured, letter of credit, and liquidity supported bonds, as well as re-offering and re-marketing, senior/subordinate/capital appreciation, direct purchase, and bank-qualified transactions.

Ms. Jennings is a member of the National Association of Bond Lawyers and is a frequent speaker on municipal disclosure issues for CDIAC and other organizations. She is a former chair of the CDIAC Debt Technical Advisory Committee, a former member of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee of Merritt Community Capital Corporation, a nonprofit tax syndicator, and a former member of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee of Central City Hospitality House. Ms. Jennings currently serves on the Board of Trustees for De Marillac Academy. Ms. Jennings is a graduate of the University of California, Berkeley, and received her law degree from the University of California, Los Angeles School of Law.



DENNIS KAUFFMAN

Assistant City Manager/Chief Financial Officer

City of Roseville

Dennis Kauffman is the Chief Financial Officer for the City of Roseville and a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) with 23 years of experience in local government financial management. Prior to his position with the City of Roseville, Mr. Kauffman served in the City of Sacramento's Finance Department for over 16 years as finance operations manager and accounting manager. Prior to joining the City of Sacramento, Mr. Kauffman worked for a local CPA firm for five years specializing in audits of school districts and other local governments.

Mr. Kauffman is active on committees for the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA), the California Society of Municipal Finance Officers, the California Municipal Treasurers Association, the California Society of Certified Public Accountants and the League of California Cities. He holds a bachelor's degree in business administration, with concentrations in accounting and finance, and a master's degree in public policy and administration from California State University, Sacramento. In addition to his CPA license, Mr. Kauffman has earned recognition from GFOA as a Certified Public Finance

Officer and from the Association of Government Accountants as a Certified Government Finance Manager.



KAREN RIBBLE

Senior Director
Fitch Ratings

Karen Ribble, Senior Director and analytical leader in Fitch's US Public Finance local government team. She contributes to research, helped develop Fitch's local government rating model and the associated rating criteria. She covers high profile local tax-supported issuers. Prior to Fitch, she worked for the City and County of San Francisco, issuing the city's general government bonds. She earned a BA in international political economy from the University of California, Berkeley. She is a past Chair of the California Society of Municipal Analysts and served as a board member of the National Federation of Municipal Analysts.



MATT RUDROFF, CFA, CPA

Director
PFM Financial Advisors LLC

Matt Rudroff joined PFM in 2016. He works in the Charlotte office as part of PFM's Pricing Group, which provides support to PFM's clients nationwide regarding pricing of competitive, negotiated and privately placed deals. In addition to pricing support, PFM's Pricing Group continually monitors and analyzes the municipal market to offer PFM's clients reliable and accurate market information.

Prior to PFM, Mr. Rudroff served as a vice president within the Municipal Products Group of Wells Fargo Securities for 4 years. He worked within business management supporting both public finance and the municipal trading, sales and syndicate. Prior to this, Mr. Rudroff worked within public accounting at PricewaterhouseCoopers focusing on investment banking and alternative assets, Morgan Stanley Global Wealth Management within the audit division, and a small broker dealer focusing on financial risk management, valuation, and pricing.



HARJOT SANGHA

Assistant City Administrator
City of Gilroy

Harjot Sangha currently serves as the Assistant City Administrator for the City of Gilroy, overseeing the Administration Department, which includes communications and engagement, emergency operations center, recreation, and general administration. Prior to that, he served as the Director of Finance/Treasurer for the City of Gilroy, overseeing the Department's various functions,

including debt and investment, treasury and revenue management, utility billing, purchasing, payroll, budget, accounting, and financial reporting. He possesses a bachelor's degree in business administration with a concentration in accounting from San Francisco State University. Mr. Sangha has worked in the municipal public sector all his career and has over 14 years of municipal finance experience, having served in various finance, accounting, and management positions. He serves on the Board of the Association of Government Accountants – Silicon Valley Chapter and is an active member of the Government Finance Officers Association and the California Society of Municipal Finance Officers.



MELISSA SHICK

Managing Director
KNN Public Finance, LLC

Melissa Shick serves as a municipal advisor at KNN Public Finance. She joined KNN in 2016 and has over 20 years of combined public sector, public finance investment banking, and municipal advisory experience. Ms. Shick began her career in public finance serving as a fiscal policy analyst for

Alameda County, California. After several years in public service, in 2007, Ms. Shick started a career in public finance investment banking where she served as a banker in the Public Finance Departments of J.P. Morgan and RBC Capital Markets. Legal Foundations and Strategic Structuring of Lease Financing Page 4 of 4 In her role at KNN, Ms. Shick advises a diverse mix of public agencies including city and county local governments and a number of utility, transportation, and other special district clients. She is experienced in structuring and leading financing for various credit types, including general obligation, lease revenue, water and utility revenue, and special tax revenue bonds. Ms. Shick has a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Washington and a master's degree in public policy from the University of Chicago. She holds a Series 50 license.



NIKOLAI SKLAROFF

Capital Finance Director, Commissioner
San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, CDIAC

Nikolai J. Sklaroff serves as Capital Finance Director of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC). He is also a Commissioner on the California Debt and Investment Advisory Commission (CDIAC) and he is member of the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Debt

Committee.

As the SFPUC's Capital Finance Director, he leads a team responsible for developing, implementing and administering the SFPUC Capital Financing activities across the agency's four highly-rated entities comprised of Water, Wastewater and Power enterprises as well as a clean energy Community Choice Aggregator (CCA). The SFPUC has more than \$10.3 billion of outstanding debt (including revenue bonds and state and federal loans, excluding nearly \$900 million as yet undrawn loan balances) and the



daily operations of the SFPUC's more than \$2.45 billion interim funding program including three Commercial Paper Programs. His team is responsible for the structuring of debt issuance for the SFPUC's \$11.2 billion-dollar 10 year capital program across four rated entities and the SFPUC remains one of the nation's largest municipal labeled Green Bond issuers and the first U.S. municipal issuer to list on the London Stock Exchange to access international buyers.

Mr. Sklaroff was appointed as a state Commissioner to the California Debt and Investment Advisory Commission (CDIAC) by California State Treasurer Fiona Ma in December 2022. CDIAC was created by the California Legislature to assist state and local agencies with the issuance, monitoring, and management of public debt and the investment of public funds through its research and technical assistance programs and acts as the State's clearinghouse for public debt issuance information. The Commission is chaired by the State Treasurer, and its members include the State Governor, State Controller, two Assembly members, two State Senators, a County representative and Mr. Sklaroff representing California's cities.

Mr. Sklaroff has spent more than three decades in the public finance industry and most recently served as the Deputy Director of Finance responsible for the Debt & Treasury Management division in the City of San José. In that role he oversaw teams managing the City's debt portfolio across all enterprises, management of the City's investment portfolio and the City's banking operations. Mr. Sklaroff spent 22 years as a senior public finance investment banker in San Francisco with Citigroup Global Markets, J. P. Morgan Securities - as national Head of Cultural Institutions investment banking - and Wells Fargo Securities. Prior to becoming an investment banker, Mr. Sklaroff was a senior Moody's Investors Service rating agency analyst and member of Moody's rating committee. Mr. Sklaroff began his career as a financial advisor with Public Financial Management, Inc. (now known as PFM Financial Advisors LLC) in his hometown of Philadelphia, where he received his degrees from the Wharton School and the College of Arts and Sciences of the University of Pennsylvania, prior to moving to England (to live in a castle) to pursue his graduate degree at Durham University. He pursued further graduate studies at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs prior to being relocated to San Francisco by Moody's.

A frequent speaker at industry conferences and author on public finance topics, Nikolai has also served on multiple boards of directors and advisory committees including the Boards of Directors of the Western Museums Association and the Association for Governmental Leasing and Finance (AGL&F).



MONIQUE SPYKE

Managing Director

PFMAM, a division of U.S. Bancorp Asset Management, Inc.

Monique Spyke is the Managing Director at PFM Asset Management, a division of U.S. Bancorp Asset Management, Inc. As Senior Leader, she is responsible for overseeing the growth and operations of the firm's California practice. With over 20 years of experience, she excels in

developing innovative investment strategies and building strong client relationships. Her work focuses on supporting municipalities, non-profits, hospitals, and educational institutions, managing billions of dollars in assets under advisement with precision and care. Ms. Spyke's approachable leadership style and dedication to her clients have earned her recognition as a trusted advisor and mentor in the investment management field.



JOHN STANLEY

Partner

Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP

John F. Stanley focuses his practice on the tax aspects of public finance, helping state and local governments and other qualifying entities borrow money on a tax-exempt basis.

In his municipal finance practice, Mr. Stanley has served as bond counsel, special tax counsel and underwriter's counsel for a variety of transactions, including particularly governmental, airport, and public power financings. Mr. Stanley has represented issuers and borrowers before the Internal Revenue Service in connection with audits, private letter rulings, and requests pursuant to the voluntary closing agreement program (VCAP).

Mr. Stanley has worked with issuers to establish post-issuance compliance programs tailored to their specific financings, and also has significant experience with tax-exempt commercial paper programs for both governmental and exempt facilities. Mr. Stanley is a regular speaker at various conferences focused on public finance and tax, including conferences organized by the National Association of Bond Lawyers, the American Bar Association Tax Section, and the California Bond Buyer Conference. Mr. Stanley is serving as Chair of the National Association of Bond Lawyers' "The Institute" conference in 2024.



JACK TSANG

Director

BofA Securities, Inc.

Jack Tsang is a Director with BofA's public finance group and has over 20 years of experience covering municipal issuers on the West Coast. Over the course of his career, he has worked on senior-managed transactions totaling over \$26 billion and implemented a variety of municipal structures

including fixed and variable rate demand bonds, short-term cash flow borrowings, put structures, commercial paper programs, and more. Mr. Tsang holds a B.S. from the University of California, Riverside in Business Administration. He is registered with FIRNA and has his Series 7 and 63 licenses.



ANNA VAN DEGNA

Public Finance Director
City and County of San Francisco

Anna Van Degna serves as the Public Finance Director for the City & County of San Francisco. In her role, she oversees the issuance of all new debt secured by property taxes and general fund sources, initiates the City's debt policies and procedures and provides technical expertise for the preparation and monitoring of the City's Ten-Year Capital Plan.

Previously, Ms. Van Degna was a Managing Director at Stifel where she structured over 250 municipal bond transactions for California cities, counties, and special districts. Prior to joining Stifel in 2002, she worked in the investment banking division of Morgan Stanley. Ms. Van Degna has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Hospitality Administration from Cornell University.



SIMON WIRECKI

Managing Director, Head of Western Region
Jefferies

Simon Wirecki is the Western Regional Head for Municipal Finance at Jefferies. Mr. Wirecki has almost 20 years of public finance experience and previously served as a senior banker at Bank of America and Goldman Sachs. Over the course of his career, Mr. Wirecki has lead-managed over \$50 billion in financings for issuers across California, Colorado, Hawaii, Oregon, Nevada and Washington. His experience includes assisting clients in executing a range of financing products and structures – fixed rate bonds, floating rate notes, variable rate demand structures, securitizations, and capital appreciation bonds. Mr. Wirecki has also led the execution of a numerous tender offers for issuers across the country. Mr. Wirecki has worked across a wide variety of sectors and his clients have included numerous large state and local governments, higher education institutions, housing issuers, public utilities, 501(c)3 organizations, and securitization SPVs.
