



TML Newly Elected City Officials' Workshop

You've got questions... we've got answers.

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Speaker Bios



Mary Lynne Stratta, TRMC, MMC

City Secretary/Communications-Legislative Director

Mary Lynne Stratta was appointed City Secretary of the City of Bryan, Texas, by the Bryan City Council in 1990, and has over 40 years of experience in local government administration. She is a graduate of the Texas Municipal Clerks Certification Program, administered through the University of North Texas, holding the designation of Texas Registered Municipal Clerk. Mrs. Stratta was awarded the Certified Municipal Clerk designation by the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC) in 1996 and was certified as a Master Municipal Clerk by IIMC in 2004.



Amber McKeon-Mueller

Assistant General Counsel, Texas Municipal League

Amber McKeon-Mueller is an Assistant General Counsel with TML where she provides legal information to city officials, presents on issues relevant to cities, and monitors legislation during the legislative session. She graduated from the University of Texas School of Law and received her undergraduate degree from the University of Nebraska. Prior to joining the TML Legal Department, she worked for the Texas Attorney General's Office as a litigator. She also litigated for over 6 years in private practice in San Diego, California.



Martie Simpson

Consultant and GFOAT Executive Director

Martie Simpson has over 20 years of Municipal Finance experience. She worked for the City of Killeen for over 17 years and completed her career with the City of New Braunfels and retired from New Braunfels in May of 2014. She currently serves as the Executive Director for the Government Finance Officers Association of Texas and also works as a consultant. She is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) and has served in various board roles including president of GFOAT, President of the United Way of Comal County and a member of the New Braunfels Chamber of Commerce.

She has three sons, Trent, Dylan and Garrett and her favorite co-worker, Bella, an Australian Shepherd/Border Collie mix. She currently lives in New Braunfels and loves to fill her free time on the Comal river or at Gruene Hall



Dan Johnson

City Manager, City of Richardson

Dan Johnson is the city manager of Richardson, Texas. Johnson's more than 45 years as a public administrator have been served in a variety of capacities in the DFW Metroplex. Johnson was appointed to the position of city manager in 2012. Prior to serving as city manager, Johnson served as Richardson's deputy city manager from 1996 until his appointment to city manager. Prior to his move to Richardson in 1996, Johnson served for 11 years at the City of Carrollton, Texas, including three years as city manager, and eight years as deputy city manager. Earlier service included responsibilities as director of regional services for three years at the North Central Texas Council of Governments (D-FW metro area), and he was budget officer in Sherman, Texas, for five years.

Johnson holds a bachelor's degree in Political Science from Austin College, and a Master of Public Administration from the University of North Texas. He is also a graduate of the Public Executive Institute of the LBJ School of Public Affairs. Johnson is the 1995 Distinguished Alumni recipient for the Department of Public Administration at the University of North Texas.

He is a past president for the Urban Management Assistants of North Texas, the North Texas City Management Association, and the Texas City Management Association. Dan serves on the Methodist Richardson Medical Center Advisory Board, the University of Texas at Dallas Development Board and the Advisory Council for the UT Dallas School of Economic, Political & Policy Sciences. He also serves as treasurer and Board Executive Committee Member of the North Texas Commission.



Tom Bryson

Tom Bryson, Communications Consultant, DFW Strategic Communications

A native of New Orleans and a proud graduate of LSU, Tom Bryson has been a local government communicator for 31 years. Following an early career stint as a newspaper reporter, he came in from the dark side in 1990 to work, first, for the City of Duncanville, then for the City of Farmers Branch where he retired in January of 2021. At Farmers Branch, he was responsible for all city internal and external communications activities and a variety of city media, including website, social media, cable television programming, print publications, two different weekly eNewsletters, and media relations.

During Tom's tenure, the Farmers Branch communications department was recognized more than 55 times at the local, state, and national levels for municipal government communications achievement. Tom is a past president of both the TML affiliate, Texas Association of Municipal Information Officers, and of the national City-County Communications and Marketing Association where he was named national Communicator of the Year in 2016. Additionally, he is a founding member of the Advisory Board for the Certified Public Communicator program at TCU - the first certification program of its kind, in the nation, for government communicators.

Tom enjoys writing, watching an unhealthy amount of television, and playing golf badly. He is married to Dr. Mechelle Bryson, the head of schools at Westlake Academy. They are proud parents of their son Taylor, an aspiring filmmaker and graduate of Centenary College of Louisiana who is currently working for Walt Disney World in Florida.



Will Trevino

Assistant General Counsel, Texas Municipal League

Will graduated from Texas A&M in 2004 with a degree in Psychology. In 2007, he received his law degree from Texas Southern University Thurgood Marshall School of Law and received his masters in law from Western New England School of Law in 2011. In December 2021, Will received his MBA degree, with a concentration in cyber security, from Baylor University. He is currently enrolled in Baylor University's doctoral program in Learning and Organizational Change.

Will is the 2018 recipient of the Rising Advocate in Government Law presented by the State Bar of Texas Government Law Section to recognize an outstanding government lawyer who has provided exemplary service to the profession and the public. He has worked with cities for more than twelve years. He provided legal services to cities in both his private practice work and as an in-house attorney for the City of Fort Worth. He is also a council member of the State Bar of Texas Computer Law & Technology Council.