

Thought Leadership for the Federal Enterprise Risk Management Community

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## President's Corner

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By: Marianne Roth, AFERM President

Greetings AFERM Members and Sponsors!

For the past 15 years, enterprise risk management professionals have come together to receive exceptional training at the annual AFERM Summit. The Summit is AFERM's seminal event, providing enterprise risk management practitioners with a unique opportunity to expand their subject matter expertise through practical content that can be integrated into their organizations to mature enterprise risk management practices. The Summit also provides valuable opportunities for risk managers to exchange ideas with risk professionals in government service, non-profits, and the private sector.



The theme of the 16 Annual ERM Summit Training Event is “**Collaborate and Celebrate: Weaving ERM into the Fabric of Government.**” Our theme, and the informative and inspiring presentations and breakout sessions, align with federal guidance and leading practices that highlight the importance of integrating risk management into core business processes including tracking and measuring organizational performance, maturing operational standards, and strategies to enhance diversity, equity and inclusion. The Summit will provide broad benefits to government policy makers and enterprise risk management practitioners alike.

Don't miss the opportunity to expand your knowledge, to network, and to take away insights that will help you make a positive impact in your organization. The Summit will bring together experts from across the globe to share ERM best practices and ideas to help you weave ERM into the fabric of your organization. Please join us at the upcoming Summit, which will take place at the Walter E. Washington Center on November 28 and 29, 2023.

This edition of the AFERM newsletter will introduce you to the keynote and plenary speakers, identify the types of information attendees will receive, recognize the organizations who are sponsoring the Summit, and share opportunities to support Government Risk Awareness Week.

I hope you'll take a few minutes to register for our landmark Summit. See you on November 28<sup>th</sup>!

Best,  
Marianne

## Meet Summit Plenary Speakers

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### Keynote Speaker: Danny Werfel - IRS Commissioner



Danny Werfel serves as the 50th Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service. As Commissioner, he presides over the nation's tax system, which collects approximately \$4.1 trillion in tax revenue each year representing about 96% of the total gross receipts of the United States. Commissioner Werfel oversees an agency of about 85,000 employees and an annual budget of more than \$12 billion. Prior to becoming Commissioner, he was the global leader of Boston Consulting Group's (BCG) Public Sector practice. Previously, he was the leader of BCG's Public Sector practice in North America. In these roles, he worked with government agencies worldwide on finances, service delivery, transformation plans and risk-assessment initiatives.

Before joining BCG in 2014, Commissioner Werfel served in the federal government for more than 15 years, including seven months as Acting Commissioner of the IRS from May to December 2013. Prior to his appointment as Acting Commissioner, he was Controller of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), where he led efforts across the federal government to improve program integrity, including all areas of financial management, financial reporting, accounting standards, improper payments and financial systems, among others. During his tenure as Controller, Commissioner Werfel assumed the responsibility of Deputy Director of Management, where he oversaw government-wide efforts to reform and improve personnel, IT, acquisition and performance management. While at OMB, he also served as Deputy Controller, Chief of the Financial Integrity and Analysis Branch, Budget Examiner in the Education Branch, and Policy Analyst in the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs. During his time at OMB, Commissioner Werfel served under nine different directors in both Republican and Democratic administrations.

Commissioner Werfel holds a Master's Degree in Public Policy from Duke University, a Juris Doctor from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a Bachelor's Degree in Industrial and Labor Relations from Cornell University.

### **Thomas Peng, Chief of Operations and Administration - Peace Corps**



Thomas Peng is the Chief of Operations and Administration of the Peace Corps. He brings more than 20 years of public and private sector experience and has led, managed, and supported teams in the technology and non-profit sectors.

Most recently, Thomas served as Deputy Chief Executive Officer of the Peace Corps where he oversaw internal operations, human resources, and strategic information, research, and planning. Previously, he served the Peace Corps as Chief Information Officer, where he strengthened operations and promoted a culture of transparency and inclusion.

Thomas' Peace Corps roots extend back to his service as a Volunteer in the Philippines from 2006-2008, where he trained teachers to use technology in the classroom.

Throughout his career, Thomas has championed diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives by sponsoring employee resource groups and facilitating safe spaces for all employees to have brave conversations.

Thomas holds a bachelor's degree in computer science engineering from the University of Pennsylvania and a master's degree in information systems with a specialization in security from Boston University.

### **Emily Haimowitz, Chief Compliance Officer and Enterprise Risk Management Lead - Peace Corps**



Emily joined the Peace Corps as the Chief Compliance and Risk Officer in August 2021. Prior to the Peace Corps, Emily led the Compliance and Security Division at the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS), a small agency within USDA. Before moving to DC to join FAS, she lived in New York City and served as a bilingual Investigator for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. Emily served as a Rural Community Development Volunteer in Costa Rica from 2008-2010.

She completed her Bachelors degree from the University of Pittsburgh and her Masters in International Development from The New School.

**Jennifer W. Pedersen - (A) Deputy Assistant Director, Cybersecurity Infrastructure and Security Agency**



Jennifer W. Pedersen serves as the Acting Deputy Assistant Director of the National Risk Management Center (NRMC) in the Cybersecurity Infrastructure and Security Agency (CISA) of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Ms. Pedersen's responsibilities primarily include strategic risk analysis and the prioritization of critical infrastructure and entities that support National Critical Functions.

She has worked across the 16 sectors of critical infrastructure with particular experience in chemical, energy, transportation and manufacturing infrastructure. She leads the industrial control systems (ICS) risk work for the NRMC and leads a public-private partnership on ICS Cyber Supply Chain issues.

Trained as a civil and environmental engineer, Ms. Pedersen has been supporting critical infrastructure mission of DHS for more than 15 years following a career in industry.

**Grace Crickette, ARM, CGEIT, CCEP-I, CCSA, SHRM-SCP, SPHR, Vice Chancellor of Finance and Administration - University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire**



Passionate about creating innovative programs that elevate the reputation of the organization, provide a positive employee experience, and result in lasting change and sustainable savings. An accomplished Administrator and Financial Executive, Chief Risk Officer, and Chief Compliance Officer, with an exceptional record of success in leading institutional strategic business planning, finance and budgeting, administration and operations management, investment and business growth, and governance and risk management for the 3 of the top ranked Public Universities and Health Systems. She currently serves as the Vice Chancellor of Finance and Administration at the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire.

Grace was chosen in 2011 as one of Business Insurance's Women to Watch. Grace was also selected by Business Insurance magazine for their 2011 Risk Management Honor Roll. Also in 2011, Treasury and Risk magazine named Grace as one of the “100 Most Influential People in Finance”, and she was recipient of the West & North America Awards in 2011 and the Information Security Executive (ISE) of the Decade Award in 2012. In 2017, PHI Protection Network (PPN) recognized her for her dedication to protecting health information awarding her the PHI Hero’s Award.

Grace currently serves on the ISACA CGEIT Certification Working Group <https://www.isaca.org/> and is Co-Chair of the Information Technology Security Community for ASIS International <https://www.asisonline.org/>

Grace is an alum of the University of Redlands, Harvard Business School, and Harvard Graduate School.

## Summit Theme and Session Tracks

Investing time at the AFERM Summit can yield inspirational and practical information that ERM professionals can operationalize. This year's Summit theme, "**Collaborate and Celebrate: Weaving ERM into the Fabric of Government**," includes three underlying tracks: **Integrating ERM into the Larger Agenda, Embracing the Journey: Celebrate Progress and Prepare to Pivot and Delivering Value to Decision Makers**. **Session topics** include:

### **Levering Technology to Mature ERM Practices in Your Organization**

- Leveraging Technology to Advance Risk Management in Government
- Transforming ERM Programs by Maturing Data Management Capabilities using Low Code/No Code
- Identifying Business Requirements for the Ideal GRC Platform
- Using Technology to Advance Global Risk Management

### **Building an Effective ERM Program**

- Building a Program through Collaboration
- Overcoming Obstacles: The ERM Journey at the IRS
- Linking Human-Centered Design and ERM: Concepts and Practice
- The FDIC's ERM Journey

### **Integrating ERM in Your Organization**

- ERM's Role in Risk-Informed Decision-Making
- So What, Now What: Effective ERM Training Strategies to Implement Culture Change within Federal Government
- ERM as an Integrator
- Going Beyond the Federal Government – How ERM Cascades through Grant Programs
- Embedding ERM in Federal Agencies' Capital Budgeting to Strengthen Organizational Agility
- ERM and Internal Controls Integration

### **Highlighting the ERM Value Proposition**

- ERM Success in State & Local Government
- Leveraging ERM to Deliver Organizational Value
- Beyond the Risk Register – Showing the Value of ERM



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### Sponsors

Great events like the annual AFERM Summit take a tremendous amount of planning, collaboration, and investment of time and resources. AFERM would like to recognize the following sponsors for their support.

#### Platinum Sponsors



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## Government Risk Awareness Week

### Get Involved!

**Government Risk Awareness Week** (*Gov-Risk Awareness Week*) will be the week of November 27-December 1, 2023. Federal Risk Awareness Week began in 2021, **to raise awareness and build support for risk management** in Federal agencies. This year, with the addition of the State and Local ERM Committee and AFERM Book Club, **we are expanding to all levels of government**. Daily enterprise risk awareness is essential, emphasizing that everyone is a risk manager. An annual *Gov-Risk Awareness Week* showcases the **value of creating a risk aware culture** at all levels and amplifies the importance of identifying and communicating the connection between risks and achievement of strategic objectives.

*Gov-Risk Awareness Week* is a collaboration of government ERM Communities of Practice (CoP) and leaders who **share opportunities to engage with and learn from each other**. During *Gov-Risk Awareness Week*, government ERM professionals organize activities (trainings, video messages, townhalls, podcasts, blog posts, etc.) to promote a risk aware culture within their organizations and government-wide. If interested, **please join us to become involved** in the following ERM Communities: Federal Agency ERM CoP, [Cyber-ERM Community of Interest \(Cyber ERM Col\)](#), [Data Analytics CoP \(DACoP\)](#), [Small Agency CoP \(SACoP\)](#), and [State and Local Outreach Committee](#). **Together we can make a difference!** For more information please visit: [www.resources.aferm.org](http://www.resources.aferm.org).



The banner features the text "GOVERNMENT RISK AWARENESS WEEK" in large, bold letters, with "GOVERNMENT" in blue, "RISK AWARENESS" in red, and "WEEK" in blue. Below the text are three stylized gauges in green, yellow, and red. To the right of the main text is a classical building facade with columns. At the bottom, it says "Nov. 27 - Dec. 1, 2023". On the right side, there is a list of collaborating organizations under the heading "A Collaboration Between": AFERM (Association for Federal Enterprise Risk Management), ERM Community of Practice, Cyber ERM Col, DACoP (Data Analytics CoP), SACoP (Small Agency CoP), and STATE & LOCAL OUTREACH COMMITTEE.