



# 8TH ANNUAL DOFCON

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE  
POLICY & RECRUITMENT CONFERENCE  
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2024

## FINANCE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



### Welcome to DOFCON 2024!

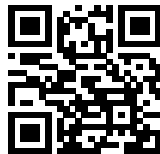
On behalf of the California Department of Finance, thank you for your interest in attending our 8th Annual Policy and Recruitment Conference (DOFCON). Our policy conference is a unique opportunity for job-seeking participants to interact with Finance leaders and policy experts. We will discuss our role in California's government, economy, and demographics; the state's legislative and budget processes; independent audits and evaluations; and current issues in state policy.

Please contact the Talent Acquisition and Employee Experience Team for questions about the conference at [DOFRecruiting@dof.ca.gov](mailto:DOFRecruiting@dof.ca.gov).

**Joe Stephenshaw, Director**  
California Department of Finance

## DOFCON EVENT INFORMATION

For online registration information, conference schedule, speaker bios, and other career resources, scan the QR code or visit the conference web page at <https://dof.ca.gov/DOFCON/>.



## CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Time	Topic
9:30 AM	Welcome to DOFCON 2024!
9:35 AM	Introduction to the Department of Finance from the Director
9:50 AM	Policy Presentation: Governmental Accountability through Audits (with Q&A)
10:10 AM	Policy Presentation: Prison Closures and Reentry Services — Dynamics in California's Approach to Corrections and Rehabilitation (with Q&A)
10:30 AM	Break
10:40 AM	Policy Presentation: California Migration and Impact on the State's Economy and Revenues (with Q&A)
11:00 AM	Finance Careers Presentation
11:20 AM	Break
11:30 AM	Q&A Panel: Working at the Department of Finance
11:50 AM	Closing Remarks and Exit Survey

## PRESENTATIONS

### Governmental Accountability through Audits

— Presented by Cheryl McCormick (CPA), Jack Liu (CPA), and Sergey Fomin

The Chief and two evaluators of the OSAE Unit will discuss the role and responsibilities of OSAE and their unique experiences conducting governmental audits.

### Prison Closures and Reentry Services—Dynamics in California's Approach to Corrections and Rehabilitation

— Presented by Alyssa Cervantes (MPA), Patrick Plant (MBA), and Josh Wittmershaus

Analysts from the Corrections team will discuss the role they play in shaping policies and fiscal decisions for the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) in addition to reviewing reentry services offered and the recent history of prison closures.

### California Migration and Impact on the State's Economy and Revenues

— Presented by Danamona Andrianarimanana (PhD), Somjita Mitra (PhD), and Walter Schwarm (PhD)

Are businesses and high-income earners leaving California? How much of the recent revenue shortfall can be attributed to migration? Experts at the Department of Finance will discuss recent migration trends in California and how migration impacts the state's economy and revenues.

## CONFERENCE SPEAKER BIOS



**Joe Stephenshaw** was appointed as Director of the California Department of Finance by Governor Newsom in July of 2022. In this role, he serves as the Governor's Chief Fiscal Policy Advisor. Prior to his appointment, Stephenshaw served in Governor Newsom's Office as a Senior Counselor on Infrastructure and Fiscal Affairs. Stephenshaw was Staff Director for the Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee from 2017 to 2022. He held multiple positions in the California Legislature from 2008 to 2017, including serving as a Policy Consultant in the Office of the Senate President Pro Tempore, a Special Advisor to the Speaker of the Assembly, and as a Budget Consultant for both the Assembly Budget Committee and the Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee. Stephenshaw was a Budget Analyst for the California Department of Finance from 2005 to 2008. Stephenshaw is a graduate of Menlo College with a bachelor's degree in business administration. He also earned a Master of Business Administration degree from California State University, Sacramento.



**Cheryl McCormick** is the Chief of the Office of State Audits and Evaluations (OSAE) within the Department of Finance. McCormick has been a member of the OSAE team for 28 years – starting as an entry-level auditor. McCormick is responsible for establishing audit policies and procedures as well as working on many unique and complex financial and performance audits, including governmental and private entities. She is a California State University, Sacramento graduate with a Bachelor of Science in business administration – accountancy. McCormick is also a Certified Public Accountant.



**Jack Liu** is a Supervisor, Financial and Performance Evaluator, at the Office of State Audits and Evaluations (OSAE) within the Department of Finance. Liu has been a member of the OSAE team for eleven years and has worked on a wide variety of assignments, including performance and compliance audits, financial audits, single audit compilation, agreed-upon procedures, and peer reviews. He currently serves on OSAE's Onboarding Committee and the Finance Social Committee. He is a University of California, Davis graduate with a master's degree in professional accountancy. Liu is also a Certified Public Accountant.



**Sergey Fomin** is a Financial and Performance Evaluator II at the Office of State Office and Evaluations (OSAE) within the Department of Finance. Fomin has been a member of the OSAE team for eight years and has worked on a wide variety of assignments, including performance and compliance audits, financial audits, redevelopment agency dissolution, single audit compilation, and State Leadership Accountability Act activities. He currently serves on OSAE's Committees on Recruiting as well as Team Building and Retention. Fomin is a California State University, Sacramento graduate with a Bachelor of Science in business administration – accountancy.



**Alyssa Cervantes** is a Staff Finance Budget Analyst in the Corrections and General Government (CORGEN) Unit within the Department of Finance. Cervantes has been with Finance for two and a half years as a member of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) team, where she oversees the budgets for prison health care programs; various CDCR programs, such as the CDCR Office of Internal Affairs; and the Office of the Inspector General. Before starting at Finance, she worked for several California state departments in a variety of areas including legislative analysis, human resources, and fingerprint analysis. Cervantes earned a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from California State University, Sacramento and a master's degree in public administration from McGeorge School of Law.



**Patrick Plant** is a Staff Finance Budget Analyst in the Corrections and General Government (CORGEN) Unit within the Department of Finance. Plant has been with Finance for two years and is a member of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) team where he covers the Adult Institutions assignment. Before starting at Finance, he was a manager for the Bureau of Firearms within the Department of Justice for ten years and was a campaign manager for initiative petition campaigns for fifteen years prior to beginning state service. Plant is from the Sacramento area and has both a bachelor's and master's degrees in business administration from the University of Phoenix.



**Josh Wittmershaus** is a Staff Services Analyst in the Corrections and General Government (CORGEN) Unit within the Department of Finance. Wittmershaus has been with Finance for eighteen months, and he covers various departments and programs related to public safety, including the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation's Division of Rehabilitative Programs, the California Prison Industry Authority, and the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training. Before starting at Finance, he worked in youth and adolescent mental health as both a rehabilitation specialist and an educator. Wittmershaus has been a resident of the Sacramento area since 2012 after moving from western Pennsylvania and is a graduate of Pennsylvania State University with degrees in political science and psychology.

## CONFERENCE SPEAKER BIOS (CONTINUED)



**Danamona Andrianarimanana** is the Chief of the Revenue and Taxation Unit within the Department of Finance's Forecasting Unit. Andrianarimanana has been a member of the Forecasting Unit for six years—including four years in the Economic Research Unit. She oversees the preparation of the state's official revenue estimates for the annual state budget process; is responsible for the development of Administration tax policy proposals and analysis of revenue legislation; and represents and negotiates for the Department and Administration on matters related to tax policy. Andrianarimanana earned a bachelor's degree in economics from Harvard University and a doctorate in agricultural and resource economics from the University of California at Berkeley.



**Somjita Mitra** is the Chief of the Economic Research Unit within the Department of Finance's Forecasting Unit. Mitra has been a member of the Forecasting Unit for five years. Mitra oversees the preparation of the state's official economic forecast and analyses of various economic developments, provides economic information to the public, and reviews economic impact analyses of major state regulations. Mitra earned a bachelor's degree in economics and political science from UCLA as well as a master's degree in politics, economics, and business and a doctorate in economics from Claremont Graduate University.



**Walter Schwarm** is the State Demographer and heads the Demographic Research Unit in the Department of Finance, which is the lead agency for Population Estimates and Projections as well as the State Census Data Center for the state. Schwarm joined Demographic Research in 2006, and in addition to managing the State Data Center, he was responsible for population projections between 2011-15. Schwarm earned his doctorate in economics from Colorado State University and was the Post-Doctoral Research Fellow at the Regional Research Institute at West Virginia University.



**Maryssa DeVille** is a Talent Acquisition and Employee Experience Analyst at the Department of Finance. Since joining Finance in July 2023, she has worked alongside the team to enhance recruitment efforts, strengthen social media and outreach content, and cultivate community engagement and partnerships. Prior to joining Finance, Maryssa worked in sales recruitment, supporting healthcare insurance providers with their staffing efforts. She graduated from Sacramento State University with a bachelor's degree in journalism and a minor in business administration.

### FINANCE CAREER INFORMATION



For current job openings, benefits, career paths, and more, scan the QR code or visit Finance's Careers web page at <https://dof.ca.gov/about-us/careers/>.

### CONFERENCE FEEDBACK



Attendees are encouraged to provide feedback after the conference by completing the online survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8D8V9CJ> or by scanning the QR code.

### SPECIAL THANKS TO THE DOFCOM COMMITTEE

Bella Alioto, Blake Bacon, Jo Casimir-Mahoney, Tina Chambers, J.T. Creedon, Maryssa DeVille, Eunice Donato, Sergey Fomin, Amanda Garcia, Natalie Griswold, Nicole Holbein, Lynne Ishimoto, Idalys Perez, Ben Pollack, Julianne Rolf, Nicole Sheley, Josh Stewart, Thomas Van Steyn, Josh Wittmershaus, and Jack Wyatt.



State of California  
Department of Finance