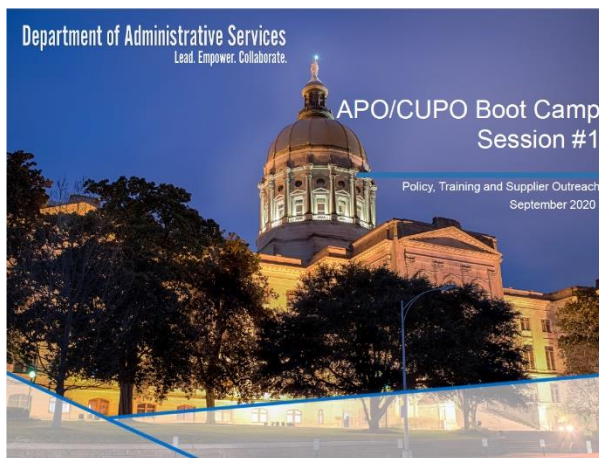


# Training News

## Georgia DOAS APO/CUPO Boot Camp

SPD launched its inaugural **APO/CUPO Boot Camp**, a seven-session training series held from September 2020 through April 2021. The Boot Camp was designed as a collaboration between DOAS and other agency stakeholders to assist new and upcoming agency and college or university procurement officers (APOs/CUPOs) excel in their new roles. The goal was to provide these procurement officers with the knowledge and tools needed to help them make more informed decisions, be aware of various policies and procedures throughout the state and understand various techniques for managing their entity procurement offices.



Led by **Becky Alexander**, *SPD Audit Manager*, and **Joyce Auld**, *SPD Procurement Training Specialist*, the training program was developed with input gathered from various groups of experienced procurement officers on what information they learned along the way that would have been great to know when they started their positions. Questions such as “*What are some useful tools? What are things you picked up along the way that would help a new person coming in? What are critical aspects of your role that*

*absolutely are important in running a successful program?*” were asked.

With that information, SPD then met with the subject matter experts in the various areas and they helped to develop the curriculum for the different sessions of the Boot Camp as listed below.

### Sessions:

1. Procurement and PCard Policy, Training Certification, Supplier Outreach, and Small Business Initiative
2. Agency Sourcing – Complex Sourcing Strategies, IT Purchases, Georgia Technology Authority, and Board of Regents
3. IT Systems – Team Georgia Marketplace™, Georgia First, Contact Center Support (CRM), Metrics on our website, etc.
4. Office of Inspector General, State Accounting Office, and Department of Audits and Accounts
5. Legal, Ethics, and Protests

6. Fleet, Risk Management, Surplus, Audits, Strategic Sourcing – Contract Portfolio, Contract Management, Pricing
7. Graduation Ceremony

Training sessions were delivered with the **incredibly generous support** of DOAS staff as well as multiple sister agencies, including:

- Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia
- Department of Administrative Services (Legal Services Office, Information Technology, Fleet Program, Risk Management, Surplus Property and State Purchasing Division)
- Department of Audit and Accounts
- Department of Natural Resources
- Georgia Technology Authority
- Office of Attorney General
- Office of Inspector General
- State Accounting Office
- Technical College System of Georgia
- University of Georgia

Participants in the Boot Camp were selected based on the following criteria (1) designated as the APO/CUPO within the past two years and (2) not previously serving in the role. A listing with the inaugural cohort who participated in the training follows.

### **Participants:**

| <b>Name</b>         | <b>State Entity</b>                   |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Ross Barrineau      | Department of Corrections             |
| Roni Bell           | Office of Planning and Budget         |
| Joi Bryant-Jernigan | State Accounting Office               |
| Scott Callan        | Department of Public Health           |
| Demetria Jones      | Department of Community Affairs       |
| Stephanie Loveless  | Georgia Highlands College             |
| Tammie Meeks        | South Georgia State College           |
| Debbie Miles        | College of Coastal Georgia            |
| Desiree Peoples     | Columbus State University             |
| Lisa Rambhajan      | Department of Early Care and Learning |
| Jamillia Richmond   | Department of Public Health           |

|                   |                                          |
|-------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Jessica Sherman   | Georgia Public Safety Training Center    |
| Kippine Smith     | Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency |
| Vanessa Walker    | Department of Revenue                    |
| Traci Watson      | State Board of Pardons and Parole        |
| Sheila Wentz      | East Georgia State College               |
| Desiree' Williams | Department of Administrative Services    |
| Czarina Woods     | Department of Community Health           |

**Congratulations to our 18 graduates** in completing the first APO/CUPO Boot Camp!