



GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION  
**NEWS RELEASE**

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***GFOA Announces Christopher Morrill  
as Next Executive Director***

(Chicago, Illinois – February 21, 2017) Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) is pleased to announce the appointment of Christopher Morrill, City Manager for Roanoke, Virginia, since 2010, as its next Executive Director. Mr. Morrill succeeds Jeff Esser, who is retiring after 35 years of distinguished service as GFOA Executive Director on June 30, 2017. Esser joined the Washington, D.C., office of GFOA in 1979 when the membership of GFOA was 9,000 and today it is 19,000.

Mr. Morrill, a former GFOA President, has spent a majority of his career in municipal finance. Prior to his City Manager position in Roanoke, he served as the Assistant City Manager and Research and Budget Director for Savannah, Georgia, for more than 20 years. In both cities, he led efforts in Budgeting for Outcomes, Lean Process Improvement, and Pension Reform. Mr. Morrill also spent three years with the Kellogg National Leadership Program working on community building in Northern Ireland, South Africa, China, and Peru. He has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from the College of Holy Cross in Worcester, Massachusetts, and a Master of Public Administration from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

“Chris impressed the Search Committee and the GFOA Board with his vision, his leadership skills, and his commitment to the public finance arena,” commented Marc Gonzales, GFOA President and Chair of the Search Committee. “His breadth of knowledge and ability to work effectively at all levels of government make him the right choice to lead GFOA at this important time in the world of state and local government finance.”

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When asked about taking the helm of GFOA, Mr. Morrill made the following comment: “I am excited to join GFOA and build on its strong tradition of serving the government finance profession. These are challenging times for state, provincial, and local governments. I look forward to working with the GFOA team to support our members with best practices, training, support, and advocacy so they can better serve their communities in the United States and Canada. It is an honor to take on the leadership of GFOA, an organization that has been an important part of my professional development.”

Mr. Morrill was selected from a field of 69 candidates from throughout the country. He will begin his duties on May 1, 2017. For more information about GFOA, visit [www.gfoa.org](http://www.gfoa.org).

*Government Finance Officers Association is a major professional association servicing the needs of 19,000 appointed and elected local, state, and provincial-level government officials and other finance practitioners. It provides top quality publications, training programs, services, and products designed to enhance the skills and performance of those responsible for government finance policy and management. The association is headquartered in Chicago, Illinois, with offices in Washington, D.C.*