

***WELCOME TO FMA's  
86<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL CONVENTION!  
March 25, 2024***

Welcome to the Federal Managers Association's 86<sup>th</sup> Annual National Convention and Management Training Seminar! It has been my honor and privilege to serve as your National President these past four years. I truly cannot believe how quickly the years have gone by. My passion for FMA's work, and pride in my fellow FMA members, has only grown stronger as I have spent more and more time focusing on our issues and taking advantage of opportunities to promote them before Congress and the administration.

I am pleased we are returning to the Hilton Alexandria Old Town Hotel again this year for our National Convention. Just across the street from the King Street Metro station, this hotel suits our needs perfectly and offers the benefit of all that Washington, D.C., and Alexandria, Virginia, have to offer. While you are in town, I hope you will have time to explore some of the many restaurants, museums, and history of the region. I encourage you to take the free trolley down King Street and explore the neighborhood. Of course, FMA's National Office is just around the corner at 1641 Prince Street, and I look forward to seeing everyone there Sunday night for a casual Meet and Greet!

I am pleased that Tuesday's Management Training Seminar will feature two FMA members, Adam Henckler and Vincent Stamper, who will present on topics that, as federal managers, I know you will relate to. We are also honored to have two presenters we have heard from over the years – Zina Sutch and Patrick Malone. They have a new book out, *Leading with Love and Laughter – A Practical Guide to Letting Go and Getting Real,* and will be signing copies on Tuesday. I am sure they would welcome stopping by during the break that immediately follows their presentation. The first 20 in line will receive a free, signed copy of their book. We will also hear from an old friend of FMA's – Conor Dirks. You may recognize his name from *The Federal Manager* magazine. Conor writes the Legal Brief article that helps keep us informed about legal related matters that affect federal managers.

The Association's annual *Day on the Hill* on Wednesday is a highlight of the convention every year! Although the House and Senate will be on recess this year while we are in town, that means the staffers we work with may have more time to meet, and will not be called away to committee hearings. If you haven't firmed up all of your Congressional appointments, connect with Greg Stanford, Director of Government and Public Affairs. He will do what he can to assist and can offer you some tips. We will be reviewing FMA's Issue Briefs, which we ask you to take to your elected leaders, but if there are other more pressing matters that affect your work, you are encouraged to address those first since your representatives need to know of your concerns and suggestions. If this will be your first time visiting with your representatives, I can assure you it is a rewarding experience I am sure you will appreciate. I am always proud of how FMA members conduct themselves when representing our association. We are always respectful and remain conversational, not confrontational. This approach has allowed FMA superior access to leaders and has served us well for decades. Thank you in advance for ensuring FMA continues to be looked upon with respect on Capitol Hill.

Since 1913, FMA has been advocating for our members. Because of you, FMA continues to enjoy success with improving the federal workplace and the careers of federal managers. As we learn of challenges, we are well positioned to address those problems and make a positive difference in our members' lives. Please stay in touch with me, the FMA Executive Board, and our National Office Staff, so that we may respond to your issues of concern. Whether meeting with decision makers in Congress or the administration, I am proud to say the Federal Managers Association's Executive Board and National Staff never stop looking after the interests of FMA members.

Enjoy the next few days at the convention. I really look forward to seeing everyone, learning from you, and finding new and better ways to serve FMA members.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Craig Carter". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Craig Carter  
National President