



NEWS RELEASE

Guam Office of Public Accountability's Audit Supervisor Selected for 7th American Institute of CPAs Leadership Academy *Ms. Gerardo is one of only 38 CPAs selected for prestigious group.*

Hagatna, Guam, August 17, 2015 — Public Auditor Doris Flores Brooks is pleased to announce that Rodalyn May A. Gerardo, Special Assistant and Audit Supervisor at the Office of Public Accountability (OPA), has been selected as one of 38 young CPAs to participate in the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) 7th Annual Leadership Academy in Durham, North Carolina this fall.

Ms. Gerardo will join an exclusive group of rising stars in the accounting profession to learn strategic planning techniques and develop personal success skills for handling complex management challenges. Leadership Academy participants, all under age 36, will discuss pressing issues facing Certified Public Accountants (CPAs) and the accounting profession with some of the profession's most influential leaders, including AICPA Chair Tommye Barie, CPA, CGMA, and Barry Melancon, CPA, CGMA, the Institute's president and CEO.



The AICPA selected the 38 attendees of the Leadership Academy from more than 100 candidates recommended by their employers, state CPA societies or both. Upon learning that the AICPA was accepting nominations, Public Auditor Brooks encouraged Ms. Gerardo to apply for the Leadership Academy. Candidates submitted resumes which included work history, licensure information, professional volunteer activities, community service, and awards and honors.

The selection process for the 2015 class involved the AICPA reviewing each submission in detail. The submission included a statement provided by the candidate explaining why their participation in the Leadership Academy would be personally important to them.

Ms. Gerardo came to OPA in the Fall Semester of 2002, as the office's first University of Guam (UOG) student intern. She was then hired as a staff Auditor at OPA in January 2003, after graduating with a Bachelors of Business Administration in Accounting from UOG in December 2002. Since then, she has rose through the ranks from Auditor I, to Auditor II, to Auditor III, to Chief Auditor, and Audit Supervisor/Special Assistant.

OPA is a young organization only coming into existence as an elected office in January 2001. Ms. Gerardo has been with OPA for over 12 years and serves as the second most senior member of OPA's management team. OPA has the reputation of being a highly professional agency that the citizens of Guam look up to. She has been instrumental in formulating and shaping OPA into the reputable audit organization that it is today.

In addition to the CPA, Ms. Gerardo has four other professional certifications: Certified Internal Auditor (CIA), Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM), Certified Government Auditing Professional (CGAP), and Chartered Global Management Accountant (CGMA). Public Auditor Brooks fondly refers to Ms. Gerardo as the Queen of Certifications.

Ms. Gerardo is a member of several professional organizations: AICPA, the Guam Society of CPAs, the Association of Government Accountants (AGA) Guam Chapter, and the Institute of Internal Auditors.

For AGA, Ms. Gerardo has served in nearly every position, from chairperson for education to co-chairperson of various subcommittees, and to the officer positions of Treasurer to President. Since 2008, she has served as the chairperson of the AGA Guam Chapter's Biennial Guam Professional Development Conference. Most recently, Ms. Gerardo is the Immediate Past Regional Vice President for the Pacific Rim, while still serving as the Guam Chapter's Education Chair.

Ms. Gerardo is the eldest of four children and the only daughter of Roger and Soledad Gerardo. She is a devoted and loving mother to her two children, Theone Jay, age 10, and Gabriella May, age 4.

The American Institute of CPAs 2015 Leadership Academy will be held from Oct. 4 – 8 at the Rizzo Conference Center – Chapel Hill, NC. Additional information is available at AICPA.org/youngcpanetwork.