

Chairman's Message

Friends and Colleagues:

On behalf of the AGLF board and the conference planning committee, welcome to Savannah! The AGLF is excited to be in this beautiful coastal city, with its manicured parks, horse-drawn carriages and antebellum architecture, not to mention the ghosts! Savannah is credited as being the second largest port on the East Coast, providing a perfect complement to the "Safe Harbor Government in Leasing" conference theme. The committee has developed a great program and we are fortunate to have Mr. Griffith Lynch, Executive Director of the Georgia Ports Authority as the Opening Keynote Speaker of the Conference. Additionally, we have insightful presentations by Lindsey Piegza with an Economic Update and Dr. Ann Levett discussing Leadership Insights. On Thursday evening, our generous members at Capital One have arranged an event at the Georgia State Railroad Museum. The Pillars of Success Panel on Friday will highlight several leaders in the industry; Courtney Shea, Cathy Jimenez, Juliet Huang and Monika Suarez.

I encourage you to network with other attendees and make new connections. If your company is not currently a member, please talk to our great team from Talley at the registration desk or any board member and learn how the AGLF has provided value to members for nearly 40 years. In addition to the annual conference, members receive the "50 State Survey" and annual review of industry activity including data on non-appropriation and defaults. This reference material is invaluable when drafting and negotiating documentation or introducing the government lease product to a new investor (or potential employer). The AGLF mission is to expand our market reach by welcoming new members and encouraging members to volunteer for leadership roles on the board of directors and working on conference planning.

In closing, my sincere admiration and thanks to the planning committee for developing this year's program. Thank-you to Haley Brust, Wendy Stevens and Arianna Bender with Talley for their service and dedication to the AGLF. And, Thank-you to the AGLF Board of Directors who selflessly volunteer on behalf of the association and the industry. Please enjoy the meeting and make plans to join us next year at the Don CeSar, in St Pete Beach Florida to celebrate the **40th anniversary of the AGLF!**

Chris Jones
AGLF Chairman