

***WELCOME TO FMA's
85th NATIONAL CONVENTION!
March 26, 2023***

Welcome to FMA's 85th Annual National Convention and Management Training Seminar! It has been my honor and privilege to serve as your National President these past three years. It was great to see everyone in person at last year's convention and we are even more excited for this year's convention at our new location, with easy access to the metro, hundreds of restaurants and shops, and Capitol Hill! FMA's National Convention provides the perfect chance to hear from distinguished speakers, learn from talented trainers, and reconnect with fellow FMA members from across the country and across government. I encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity to compare notes and learn about your fellow members, especially those from different departments or agencies. You may find you can learn a few things about approaching concerns in new and productive ways.

FMA is honored to have the convention keynote address delivered by Federal Labor Relations Authority Chairman Susan Tsui Grundmann. She will educate us about the work of FLRA, discuss her vision for the agency, and then take questions from convention delegates. I urge you to engage with Chairman Grundmann. She has many years of federal service and a deep knowledge of federal employee issues. Please show her a warm welcome.

The Association's annual *Day on the Hill* is always one of my favorite times of the year! There is a great feeling you get when you are walking the halls of Congress and talking to our leaders and their staffs to help them understand the challenges federal managers and federal retirees encounter. The better educated our Senators and Representatives are, the better chance we all have of making government work better for Americans, and we can create a work environment that respects federal workers. If you have questions about visiting your congressmen, ask me, our staff, or a fellow member who has spent a day on Capitol Hill. It is a rewarding experience I am sure you will appreciate. I am very 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.

You will find that there are a lot of good restaurants and other fun shops in Old Town Alexandria. 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!

As a member of FMA, you are part of a proud tradition that dates back more than 100 years to our founding in 1913. Because of you, FMA continues to enjoy success with improving the federal workplace. And when we learn of challenges from members, 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 can 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. With the new 118th Congress sworn in in January 2023, we have been reaching out to new committee and subcommittee leadership and members to introduce FMA to them, and seek ways to work together on matters that affect federal managers. When you meet with your elected officials, you strengthen FMA's ability to be a trusted leader for federal worker matters. Thank you for being an integral part of FMA's successful advocacy.

Enjoy the next few days at the convention. I really look forward to meeting everyone and getting to know you better.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Craig Carter". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The first name "Craig" is written with a large, prominent "C" and a long, sweeping underline. The last name "Carter" is also written in a cursive style, with a large "C" and a long, sweeping underline.

Craig Carter
National President