

*WELCOME TO FMA's
88th NATIONAL CONVENTION!
March 23, 2026*

Welcome to the Federal Managers Association's 88th annual National Convention and Management Training Seminar! I am honored and truly blessed to have had the opportunity to lead this amazing association over the last six years. Since I must now pass the torch, I have to admit that I have mixed emotions. I am excited to watch the next National President take FMA into the future, but I will miss and cherish the experiences I have had in this role. I was first elected as president in March of 2020 during the Covid pandemic and ended my time during yet another partial government shutdown. Frustrating for sure, but these are good examples of the importance of the continuing work of FMA, as we look out for managers, supervisors and executives in every agency and department in the federal government. Every new Congress and administration brings us new challenges and opportunities, and FMA is always ready to do what we can for our members. And with your help, we will keep on making new connections and allies. Anyone who knows me knows that walking the halls of Congress and talking with members of Congress who may not look so favorably on public servants like FMA's members is one of my favorite things to do.

I am excited to welcome Office of Personnel Management Director Scott Kapor as our keynote speaker on Monday morning. I look forward to hearing what he has to tell us, and he has graciously agreed to take questions. I know that our members will want to ask him about some of the plans the administration has for federal managers, and that we will be respectful and appreciative of his time.

Our convention hotel, the Hilton Alexandria Old Town, is one of my favorites and makes travel to both Alexandria and Washington's attractions and restaurants an easy trolley or Metro ride. Just across the street from the King Street Metro station, this hotel is perfect for us. While you are in town, try to find some time to explore Old Town Alexandria. It offers great walks in a historic city with many restaurants and museums. Take the free trolley down King Street and explore the neighborhood. 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!

FMA staff tells me about 20 percent of the convention attendees this year are New Delegates! I look forward to meeting each of you and I ask that all new delegates join the National Executive Board members on Monday morning, 9:30 am – 10:00 am in the Madison Room. We'll introduce ourselves, review the convention agenda, and answer any questions you may have about the convention, or FMA in general. New delegates will wear a special ribbon, and I ask that we all make sure to make them feel welcome and included.

Tuesday's Management Training Seminar (as well as our luncheon on Monday) will feature outstanding presenters who know federal managers well, with several being former feds themselves. After the Tuesday luncheon, we will head over to the Bureau of Engraving and Printing for a tour. This is a fun and educational tour where we will see actual money being made! Afterwards, if you want to explore the National Mall, its many museums, or D.C.'s many

restaurants, you will have plenty to choose from. The subway gets you into town in about 20 minutes, and a Lyft or Uber is another affordable option.

The Association's annual *Day on the Hill* on Wednesday is my favorite part of the convention each year! Visting with our senators and representatives is an amazing experience, and as citizens, practicing our right to inform our leaders is one of the most important things we can do. If you haven't confirmed 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, the careers of federal managers, and ensuring our retirees receive the benefits they worked for and deserve. 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. Let's have a wonderful convention experience!

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