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CALIFORNIA CUPA FORUM

"An Association of Certified Unified Program Agencies" www.calcupa.org

A Message from the CUPA Chairperson

May 1, 2020

Dear CUPA Conference Attendee,

I hope that this message finds you and your loved ones safe and healthy during this COVID 19 outbreak. For those of you actively on the frontlines, please accept my deepest gratitude for your hard work and sacrifice in keeping Californians safe.

How time flies by as it has already been 3 months since our successful conference in Burlingame, California. As we finalize all the last items from the 2020 Conference, how quickly it restarts the cycle for planning the next conference. Next year, the 2021 Conference has been slated to be back in sunny Southern California at the Anaheim Marriott.

In preparation for the 2021 Conference, the CUPA Conference committee started its kickoff meeting in early April. As the month of April progressed, more and more uncertainty has impacted us all. Shelter in place orders, school/daycare closures, business closures, travel cancellations (airlines/hotels), and disruption in goods and services have become our new normal. I am positive that some of these impacts have affected each and every one of you.

I know that many of you are trying to forecast impacts to your programs or businesses. With a moving target, trying to predict what lies in the future is difficult. These impacts also put us into a cloud of uncertainty for planning an event that is within 9 months away. Will attendees want to, have financial means to, or have approval to travel to the 2021 Conference? Obviously, some of these questions none of us can answer at this moment. With these uncertainties, there are likely budgetary impacts both in the public section and private industry partners as well as there are health and safety concerns that would require more clarity and further consideration.

These concerns were brought to the CUPA Forum Board for discussion. On April 29, 2020, the CUPA Forum Board voted to postpone the in-person 2021 Conference that is to be held in Anaheim, California on January 25-29, 2021. Note that this decision was not made lightly.

The CUPA Forum Board has tasked the Conference Committee to explore other means to continue our mission to provide some of the best regulatory training in the nation. We don't have all the details yet, but stay tuned as we figure out how to make this happen.

With a slow soft opening starting to emerge in areas of the State, we can only imagine that the next few months will be different and busy for us all. Please stay safe and continue to participate in your regional forum boards. As we have more information, we will make sure this gets communicated to all of you.

Best regards,

Eric Scott

Chairperson, Cal CUPA Forum

P.O. Box 2017, Cameron Park, CA 95682-2017 Office: 530-676-0815 Fax: 530-676-0515