



20th Annual Conference

We're pleased to invite all of our members
to our 20th Annual Conference:
Refocus, recharge, and celebrate the power
of pooling that lifts us up and drives us to
thrive in public service everyday.

OCTOBER 21 - 23, 2026

**ROLLING HILLS CASINO
CORNING, CA**

gsrma.org

Pre-Conference Agenda

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21

CHOICE A: ANTI-HARASSMENT TRAINING (AB 1825/SB 1343 COMPLIANT)

1-3 PM



*Laura Fowler,
Partner,
BBK*

Covers harassment prevention requirements, employee rights and responsibilities, reporting procedures, and best practices for maintaining a respectful workplace in compliance with applicable California and federal laws.

CHOICE B: ETHICS TRAINING (AB 1234 COMPLIANT)

1 - 3 PM



*Olivia Clark,
Of Counsel,
BBK*

Equips public agency employees and officials with the knowledge and tools to recognize ethical challenges, navigate conflicts of interest, and make decisions that uphold integrity, accountability, and the public's confidence.

BREAK

3 - 3:15 PM

SB 827 TRAINING: ESSENTIAL FISCAL AND FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT FOR PUBLIC AGENCY OFFICIALS

3:15 -
5:15 PM



*Jennifer Bradlee,
Partner,
BBK*



*Danny Kim,
Partner,
BBK*



*Mia Atencio
Senior Advisor,
RGS*

Participants will gain actionable guidance on budgeting, financial oversight, risk management, and fiduciary responsibilities while satisfying the law's mandatory fiscal and financial training requirements.

BREAK

5:15 - 5:30 PM

EARLY ARRIVALS MIXER

5:30 PM



Arriving early? Join fellow attendees for a relaxed evening of conversation, connections, and a great start to the conference.

Conference Agenda

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22



BREAKFAST & NETWORKING

7 - 8 AM

Start your day with a great breakfast while connecting with peers, sharing ideas, and building valuable relationships before the conference sessions begin.

INTRODUCTIONS & STATE OF THE MARKET

8 - 9 AM



*Scott Schimke, ARM
Executive Director,
GSRMA*

Explore the state of GSRMA and the public sector risk environment. Learn how our collective approach to risk management is responding to emerging trends and challenges, and discover how we're pooling our successes to support safer, stronger member organizations.

THE TRUST GAUNTLET: HOW GREAT TEAMS CREATE SHARED SUCCESS

9 - 10:30 AM

Trust is the backbone of every successful business, high-performing team, and lasting customer relationship. When leaders know how to intentionally build and protect trust, they create teams that pool success to build thriving organizations. Through The Trust Gauntlet, Dallin will take attendees on a journey to identify opportunities to develop trust in their own lives, as well as explore how we can all work together to pool success and build trust throughout our communities.

Opening Keynote



DALLIN COOPER
THURSDAY,
OCT 22 @ 9 AM

BREAK & RAFFLE

10:30 - 11 AM

DONATIONS & VOLUNTEERS: HOW TO GET HELP FROM THE PUBLIC WHILE PROTECTING THE DISTRICT FROM LIABILITY

11 -12 PM



*Brian Hughes,
Of Counsel,
BBK*

This session will explore practical strategies for welcoming public involvement while protecting your agency from liability, compliance issues, and unintended obligations. Attendees will leave with actionable guidance and real-world examples to help their district say "yes" with confidence.

FUELING SUCCESS LUNCHEON

12 PM - 1PM



Take a break, enjoy lunch, and make new connections in the Golden Partner Pavilion. Visit with our Golden Partner Advantage Network members to exchange ideas, discover innovative solutions, and build relationships that extend well beyond the conference.

CHANGE IS CONSTANT, BUT CAPACITY IS NOT

1 -2 PM



*Allison Bateman,
HR Director/
Firm Administrator
Porter Scott*

This session challenges the idea that resistance is the problem and reframes change fatigue as a leadership signal. Designed for leaders, HR, and IT professionals, it offers practical strategies for implementing change that preserves trust, energy, and performance.

BREAK & RAFFLE

2 - 2:30 PM

POOLING OUR SUCCESSES: TOWN HALL & MEET YOUR GSRMA SUCCESS TEAMS

2:30 - 4PM



*Jake Dickman
Risk Control Advisor,
GSRMA*

Get to know the people and resources behind your membership. Explore the new Thrive Portal, learn how Member Services and Risk Control support your organization, and connect with the GSRMA team during this interactive Q&A session.

RAFFLE & MEETING ADJOURNMENT

4 - 4:30 PM

TRIVIA NIGHT & WELCOME RECEPTION

4:30 PM



Stay for a fun-filled evening of trivia: with a mix of general knowledge, pop culture, and GSRMA-themed questions. Next, connect with fellow attendees during our official Welcome Reception with drinks, apps, and music.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23

Customize your conference experience by choosing from three tracks designed for today's public agency professionals.

A Track: Risk Control/Safety Certification

B Track: Employment Practice Liability/Human Resources

C Track: Governance/Pooling

BREAKFAST & NETWORKING

7 - 8 AM

INTRODUCTION TO SAFETY WITH GSRMA RISK CONTROL

A

8 - 9 AM



Steve Wood
*Risk Control Advisor,
GSRMA*



Ryan Brannon
*Risk Control Advisor,
GSRMA*

Learn why workplace safety is essential, how to foster a proactive safety culture, and the key elements of an effective Injury and Illness Prevention Program (IIPP). This session will provide practical strategies to help your organization reduce risk, improve compliance, and create a safer work environment for everyone.

WINNING THE CASE: EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES LIABILITY UPDATES & DEFENSE SUCCESSES

B

8 - 9 AM



Derek Haynes,
*Shareholder,
Porter Scott*



Dylan T. De Wit,
*Shareholder,
Porter Scott*

Stay current on the latest employment practices liability (EPL) trends affecting California public agencies and explore a real-world defense success story that highlights effective risk management, documentation, and decision-making in action.

BROWN ACT ESSENTIALS: AGENDAS & COMPLIANCE

C

8 - 9 AM



Brian Hughes,
*Of Counsel,
BBK*



Jake Dickman
*Risk Control Advisor,
GSRMA*

Gain a practical understanding of agenda requirements, recent Brown Act updates, and best practices for ensuring your board meetings begin on solid legal footing.

BREAK & RAFFLE

9-9:30 AM

CAL/OSHA UPDATE

A**9:30 - 10:30 AM**

*Patrick Corcoran,
Consultation Services
Regional Manager
Cal/OSHA*

Stay ahead of the latest Cal/OSHA regulatory updates and learn what they mean for California public agencies. This session highlights key compliance changes, practical implementation strategies, and steps your organization can take to reduce risk and maintain a safe workplace.

FROM RISK TO REWARD: POLICIES AND PRACTICES TO STRENGTHEN TOMORROW

B**9:30 - 10:30 AM**

*Regional
Government Services*

Join Regional Government Services (RGS) for an interactive roundtable discussion exploring practical policies and proven practices that reduce risk and strengthen public agencies. Bring your questions, share experiences, and gain actionable insights during this collaborative Q&A session.

AFTER THE GAVEL: BROWN ACT UPDATES & SB 707

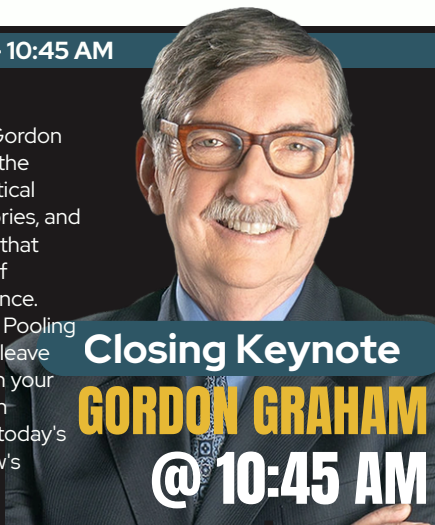
C**9:30 - 10:30 AM**

*Brian Hughes,
Of Counsel,
BBK*

Learn how SB 707 and other recent Brown Act updates affect public meetings, transparency, and compliance. Gain practical guidance for navigating today's evolving legal landscape.

BREAK 10:30 - 10:45 AM

Join internationally recognized speaker Gordon Graham as he closes the conference with practical insights, engaging stories, and actionable strategies that reinforce the power of learning from experience. Tying into our theme, Pooling Our Successes, you'll leave inspired to strengthen your organization, lead with confidence, and turn today's lessons into tomorrow's successes.

**Closing Keynote****GORDON GRAHAM****@ 10:45 AM**

CONFERENCE WRAP-UP & BOXED LUNCH

12 PM

Thank you for joining us to commemorate 20 years of this conference –we'll see you next year & safe travels!