

# PROFILE

## Maria K. Mento, Chief Finance Officer Atlantic County Utilities Authority

**Maria K. Mento** is the Executive Vice President/Chief Finance Officer of the Atlantic County Utilities Authority (ACUA), a position she has held since 1994. She is the first Chief Finance Officer of the ACUA. She was first hired by the Authority in 1990 as a Budget Analyst and promoted in 1991 to the position of Finance Manager.

Before coming to the ACUA, Ms. Mento was with Atlantic County Government for 11 years. Most of her tenure with the County was as the Payroll and Pension Officer. Directly prior to coming to the ACUA, she was a Management Specialist with the County Department of Planning.

Ms. Mento holds a MBA in Finance from Rutgers University and a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Rowan University. She is also a Certified County Finance Officer, a Certified Municipal Finance Officer, a Certified Public Manager and holds a real estate license.

Ms. Mento and her staff are responsible for the financial management of the Authority's Solid Waste and Wastewater operations, which includes a \$60 million budget, an annual multi-million dollar capital improvement program and capital budget, debt financings, debt management, cash management, investments, accounts payable, accounts receivable, purchasing, payroll, accounting, and financial reporting. She has extensive budget experience and knowledge and experience in rate making and providing expert testimony. Ms. Mento has completed about \$325 million in solid waste and wastewater financings, including revenue bonds, refunding bonds, notes, pooled financings, and New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Trust financings. She has rating agency experience, has done multiple rating presentations for agency consideration and review, and has a developed rapport with rating agency staff assigned to ACUA.

While Ms. Mento has served at the ACUA, she has established various accounting, budget, internal control, grant and office procedures for the department and described finance responsibilities and has automated the functions of the department. Ms. Mento and her staff provide routine financial and budget reporting and prepare the financial statements for the annual audit each year. She is experienced in GAAP reporting and the requirements of GASB.

Her office, the reports generated, the reporting done for other agencies; state, local, and otherwise, and her representations to the same entities is highly regarded as being credible, reliable and factual. Her relationships with integral outside agencies, her credibility, and the value and accuracy of her representations is one of her strongest attributes. In addition to her responsibilities as Executive Vice President/CFO, Maria also oversees multiple departments within ACUA, including Research and Development, Information Technology and Human Resources.

Maria is an executive board member of the American Red Cross Atlantic/Cumberland chapter; serves on the Rowan University College Accounting Advisory Board; is on the Board of Trustees for the Atlantic Cape Community College; is a Board Member of the NJ Asset & Rebate Management Program (NJARM); is a member of the NJ Association of County Finance Officers; the NJ Chamber of Commerce; the Association of Environmental Authorities; a member of Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) and the NJGFOA; serves on the board of the United Way, is a member of the United Way funding committee, and is a member of the United Way of Atlantic County Women's Leadership Initiative.

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