



CFTC Career Forum for Colleges, Universities and Law Schools

AGENDA

**Location:**

Zoom, click [here](#) to connect

Dates:

Tuesday, November 14, 2023

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

Thursday, November 16, 2023

**Time:**

2:00pm to 4:00pm EST

Login Early:

1:45 pm EST

Day 1: Tuesday, November 14, 2023

Time	Activities	Speakers
2:00pm – 2:10pm	Chief Diversity Officer: Welcome and Opening Remarks	Tanisha Cole Edmonds, Chief Diversity Officer and Director, Office of Minority and Women Inclusion
2:10pm - 2:45pm	CFTC Chairman and Commissioners: Welcome and Remarks	CFTC Chairman and Commissioners
2:45pm - 3:25pm	Featured Guest Speaker: Alex Tremble “Leading for the Common Good: Unleashing Your Potential in Public Service”	Alex Tremble, Executive Leadership Coach and Keynote Speaker
3:30pm - 4:00pm	Presentation: “Overview of Careers at the CFTC” hosted by Human Resources Branch Talent Management	Steven Inneh, Human Resources Specialist
4:00pm	Virtual Program Ends	

Our Speakers for Day 1



Rostin Behnam
Chairman

Sworn in as the CFTC's 15th Chairman on January 4, 2022 after being unanimously confirmed by the U.S. Senate. Chairman Behnam has advocated for the CFTC to use its authority and expertise to ensure the derivatives markets operate transparently and fairly for participants and customers and innovate responsibly. He also spearheaded efforts to invigorate agency-wide diversity and inclusion initiatives. During his legal studies, Chairman Behnam interned with CFTC's Division of Enforcement.



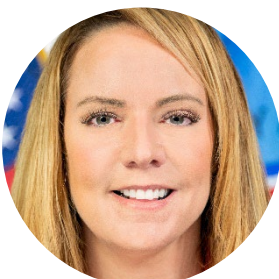
Kristin N. Johnson
Commissioner

Sworn in as a CFTC Commissioner on March 30, 2022, after being nominated by President Joseph Biden in September 2021, and unanimously confirmed by the United States Senate. Commissioner Johnson is a nationally recognized expert on financial markets risk management law and policy with specialization in the regulation of complex financial products including the origination, distribution, and secondary market trading, clearing, and settlement of securities and derivatives.



Christy Goldsmith Romero
Commissioner

Sworn in as a CFTC Commissioner on March 30, 2022, after being nominated by President Joseph Biden in September 2021, and unanimously confirmed by the U.S. Senate. Prior to becoming a CFTC Commissioner, she served for a decade as the Special Inspector General for TARP (SIGTARP), where she led a nationwide federal law enforcement agency and watchdog program. Commissioner Goldsmith Romero has received national recognition for her work.



Summer K. Mersinger
Commissioner

Sworn in as a CFTC Commissioner on March 30, 2022, after being nominated by President Biden and unanimously confirmed by the Senate. Prior to her appointment, Ms. Mersinger served as the Chief of Staff to CFTC Commissioner Dawn D. Stump. She also served as the Director of the Office of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs at the Commodity Futures Trading Commission under former Chairman Heath Tarbert.



Caroline D. Pham
Commissioner

Sworn in as a CFTC Commissioner on April 14, 2022, after being nominated by President Biden and unanimously confirmed by the U.S. Senate. Commissioner Pham is an internationally recognized leader in financial services compliance and regulatory strategy and policy, with deep expertise in derivatives and capital markets and emerging issues such as digital innovation.



Tanisha Cole Edmonds
Chief Diversity Officer and Director, Office of Minority and Women Inclusion

Ms. Cole Edmonds is the first Chief Diversity Officer at the CFTC and a member of the CFTC's Executive Leadership Team. She oversees the Office of Minority and Women Inclusion and leads the CFTC's efforts to integrate and promote diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility across all levels of the CFTC's workforce and in its talent and business operations. Prior to joining the CFTC, Ms. Edmonds served as the Department of the Interior Deputy Chief Diversity Officer.



Alex D. Tremble
Executive Leadership Coach and Keynote Speaker

Founder and CEO of GPS Leadership Solutions, a sought-after speaker, executive coach, author, and consultant with a passion for developing high-performing leaders. Alex's mission is to empower ambitious leaders to achieve their personal and professional goals by fostering clarity, intentionality, and leveraging strategic relationships across all facets of life and business. His revolutionary four-step methodology, the 4C Connection Model™, drives this transformation.



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Day 2: Wednesday, November 15, 2023

Time	Activities	Speakers
2:00pm – 2:10pm	Chief Diversity Officer: Welcome and Opening Remarks	Tanisha Cole Edmonds, Chief Diversity Officer and Director, Office of Minority and Women Inclusion
2:10pm – 3:05pm	Presentation: “Writing your Federal Resume” hosted by the Office of Personnel Management	Enimini Ekong, Talent Acquisition Specialist
3:05pm – 3:15pm	Break	
3:15pm – 4:30pm	Panel Discussion: “CFTC Career Paths”	Shivon Kershaw, Moderator Panelists: John Hill, Risk Analyst Jennifer Tveiten-Rifman, Special Counsel Robert Howell, Deputy Director Tamara Dervin, Auditor Lihong McPhail, Research Economist Kate Cerveney, Project Manager Judith Slowly, Futures Trading Investigator
4:30pm – 4:40pm	Break	
4:40pm – 4:55pm	Presentation: “CFTC Internships and Student Volunteer Opportunities” hosted by Human Resources Branch Talent Management	Rolanda Morgan, Human Resources Specialist
4:55pm - 5:00pm	Closing Remarks	Tanisha Cole Edmonds, Chief Diversity Officer and Director, Office of Minority and Women Inclusion

Agenda at a Glance

Our Speakers for Day 2



Enimini Ekong – Writing your Federal Resume
Talent Acquisition Specialist, Office of Personnel Management

Enimini Ekong serves as a Talent Acquisition Specialist for the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) with over 13 years of federal experience. With a decade of experience in federal recruitment and hiring, Enimini has a robust track record of training supervisors on how to hire and equipping candidates with the tools necessary to be competitive in the federal application process. A native of Dallas, Texas, Enimini holds a B.A from Baylor University and an M.A from Morgan State University.



Shivon Kershaw – Moderator
Senior Innovation Advisor, Office of Technology Innovation

Shivon leads CFTC's strategic direction for digital asset education initiatives and innovator focused engagement. Having joined the CFTC in 2008, Shivon's career has spanned many disciplines including having served as the agency's Learning Officer, where she led teams responsible for conceptualizing and designing the agency's programs, policy and budget with respect to educational initiatives. She has an MBA from Hampton University, and an Executive Masters from Harvard University.

John Hill - Panelist
Risk Analyst, Division of Clearing and Risk

John has over 22 years of experience in the derivatives markets. He began his career at the Chicago Board of Trade. He then traded for his own proprietary account focusing on supply and demand fundamentals in the grain markets. He went back to graduate school and was hired by the CME Group as an Agricultural Economist. He was then appointed as the vice president of an agricultural collateral management technology firm. John then transitioned back to risk management compliance at the CFTC.



Jennifer Tveiten Rifman – Panelist
Special Counsel, Division of Market Oversight

Jennifer is an attorney in the Compliance Branch of the Division of Market Oversight of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, providing oversight and conducting examinations of futures and swaps exchanges from the Chicago office. Jennifer spent more than ten years in futures, derivatives, and securities compliance in the private sector before joining the Commission in 2020. Jennifer was the Co-chair of the Chicago Bar Association's Futures and Derivatives Committee for five years.



Robert Howell - Panelist
Deputy Director, Division of Enforcement Chicago Regional Office

Robert Howell is a Deputy Director for the CFTC's Division of Enforcement and oversees all enforcement activity conducted from the Chicago office. Prior to being appointed Deputy Director, he served as a chief trial attorney where he represented the Division in many enforcement actions, including matters stemming from allegations of manipulation, fraud, and trade practice misconduct.



Tamara Dervin - Panelist
Auditor, Market Participants Division

Tamara has served as an Auditor at the CFTC within the Market Participants Division for 18 years. As an Auditor, she regularly monitors and audits an assigned set of Futures Commission Merchants and Swap Dealers for compliance with CFTC Regulations. Tamara currently serves as one of the Co-Chairs of the Association of African-Americans at the CFTC. She has a B.S. in Accountancy from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and MBA in Finance and Marketing from Loyola University Chicago.



Dr. Lihong McPhail - Panelist
Research Economist and Head of Academic Outreach at CFTC's Office of the Chief Economist

Dr. Lihong McPhail serves as Research Economist and Head of Academic Outreach at CFTC's Office of the Chief Economist. She spearheads initiatives to enlist top-tier economic and finance professionals for collaborative research projects. Meanwhile she provides economic analysis for numerous rulemakings and publishes research on derivatives markets. Prior to joining the CFTC, she was instrumental in building risk models and advancing financial research, underscored by her publications.



Kate Cerveny - Panelist
Project Manager, Division of Administration Information Technology Branch

Kate Cerveny leads the Project Management Services team in the Information Technology branch of the CFTC. Originally from Texas, she has spent her career in IT after graduating with a B.A. in Professional and Technical Writing. She has also acquired an M.A. in Latin from the University of Maryland. Kate loves working in the public sector and enjoys wielding her technical and communication skills to enable the CFTC to succeed.



Judith Slowly – Panelist
Senior Futures Trading Investigator, Division of Enforcement

Judith Slowly, MS, CFE, ACAMS began her career in the U.S. over twenty years ago. She is a Senior Futures Trading Investigator and is also a Certified Fraud Examiner and a Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialist. During her employment, Ms. Slowly found time while raising her family to obtain a Master of Science Degree in Fraud and Forensics from Carlow University. An avid crafter, Ms. Slowly enjoys spending time with her family and is an active participant in community service projects.



Rolanda Morgan – CFTC Internships and Student Volunteer Opportunities
Human Resources Specialist, Division of Administration

Rolanda Morgan joined the CFTC as an HR Specialist in 2022. She started her federal career in 2011 as an intern with the Dept of Navy and later worked for the DOD, the EPA, and the NCUA partnering with senior leadership on strategic recruitment and hiring. A graduate of Old Dominion University, she received her BS in Counseling and soon after completed her MPA with a concentration in HR from Troy University. In her spare time, Rolanda enjoys traveling and being an amateur photographer.



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Day 3: Thursday, November 16, 2023

Time	Activities	Speakers
2:00pm – 2:10pm	Chief Diversity Officer: Welcome and Opening Remarks	Tanisha Cole Edmonds, Chief Diversity Officer and Director, Office of Minority and Women Inclusion
2:10pm – 3:05pm	Presentation: “Navigating USAJOBS” hosted by the Office of Personnel Management	Lauren A. Foreman, Management and Program Analyst
3:05pm – 3:15pm	Break	
3:15pm – 4:30pm	Panel Discussion: “CFTC Career Paths”	Shivon Kershaw, Moderator Panelists: Marilee Dahlman, Special Counsel Alan Simpson, Trail Attorney Peter Sanchez, Attorney Advisor Tamara Dervin, Auditor Malcolm Alexander-Neal, Risk Analyst Lihong McPhail, Research Economist Kate Cerveny, Project Manager
4:30pm – 4:40pm	Break	
4:40pm – 4:55pm	Presentation: “CFTC Internships and Student Volunteer Opportunities” hosted by Human Resources Branch Talent Management	Steven Inneh, Human Resources Specialist
4:55pm - 5:00pm	Closing Remarks	Tanisha Cole Edmonds, Chief Diversity Officer and Director, Office of Minority and Women Inclusion

Agenda at a Glance

Our Speakers for Day 3



Lauren A. Foreman – Navigating USAJOBS
Management and Program Analyst, Office of Personnel Management

Lauren A. Foreman was born in Brooklyn New York. Upon completing her diploma, she attended the College of New Rochelle, before enlisting in the United States Navy in 2008. While on active duty, she graduated with her bachelor's in health care administration and a master's in human resources management. In 2014, she finished her enlistment in the Navy and after graduating from college she was recruited under the Pathways Recent Graduate Program to work for the USAJOBS program office at OPM.



Shivon Kershaw – Moderator
Senior Innovation Advisor, Office of Technology Innovation

Shivon leads CFTC's strategic direction for digital asset education initiatives and innovator focused engagement. Having joined the CFTC in 2008, Shivon's career has spanned many disciplines including having served as the agency's Learning Officer, where she led teams responsible for conceptualizing and designing the agency's programs, policy and budget with respect to educational initiatives. She has an MBA from Hampton University, and an Executive Masters from Harvard University.



Marilee Dahlman – Panelist
Special Counsel, Division of Market Oversight

Marilee Dahlman is Special Counsel in the CFTC's Division of Market Oversight, Compliance Branch. She has worked for CFTC since 2012. Prior to joining the agency, she was an associate in the New York office of the law firm Kaye Scholer LLP. She received a B.A. from the University of Minnesota and her J.D. from Cornell Law School.



Alan Simpson – Panelist
Trial Attorney, Division of Enforcement

Alan Simpson serves as a trial attorney in the Division of Enforcement. From the Kansas City regional office, he investigates and prosecutes violations of the Commodity Exchange Act and CFTC regulations across the country and internationally. Alan joined the Commission after four years with the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Western District of Missouri, where he was a civil litigation generalist. Alan graduated from the from Washington University in St. Louis's School of Law.



Peter Sanchez – Panelist
Attorney, Advisor, Market Participants Division

Peter is the Acting Associate Director in the Market Participants Division. He has held several legal roles during his 20 years at the CFTC. He began his legal career as a Securities and Mergers & Acquisitions attorney for companies in the cable, telecommunications, and energy sectors. He received his undergraduate degree cum laude in Psychology from Brooklyn College, his JD magna cum laude from Southern Illinois University and an LL.M. from Georgetown University Law Center.



Tamara Dervin - Panelist
Auditor, Market Participants Division

Tamara has served as an Auditor at the CFTC within the Market Participants Division for 18 years. As an Auditor, she regularly monitors and audits an assigned set of Futures Commission Merchants and Swap Dealers for compliance with CFTC Regulations. Tamara currently serves as one of the Co-Chairs of the Association of African-Americans at the CFTC. She has a B.S. in Accountancy from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and MBA in Finance and Marketing from Loyola University Chicago.



Malcolm Alexander-Neal – Panelist
Risk Analyst, Division of Clearing and Risk & Union President at CFTC

With a background in Finance and Accounting from MSU and Wayne State, Malcolm's expertise lies in financial regulation at the CFTC. He excels in examining clearinghouses and has been pivotal in DEIA initiatives, leading him to become the union president. His role balances technical acumen with a strong commitment to workplace inclusivity.



Dr. Lihong McPhail - Panelist
Research Economist and Head of Academic Outreach at CFTC's Office of the Chief Economist

Dr. Lihong McPhail serves as Research Economist and Head of Academic Outreach at CFTC's Office of the Chief Economist. She spearheads initiatives to enlist top-tier economic and finance professionals for collaborative research projects. Meanwhile she provides economic analysis for numerous rulemakings and publishes research on derivatives markets. Prior to joining the CFTC, she was instrumental in building risk models and advancing financial research, underscored by her publications.



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