

Federation of Tax Administrators

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Radee Skipworth Named Harley T Duncan Award Winner D.C. Office of Tax and Revenue Director for Collections and Enforcement to be honored at FTA Annual Meeting held June 8-11 in Chicago

The Federation of Tax Administrators named Washington DC Office of Tax and Revenue Director for Collections and Enforcement Radee Skipworth a winner of the 2025 Harley T Duncan Award for Leadership and Service.

"Director Skipworth's coalition building skills are a model for management," said Federation of Tax Administrators Executive Director Sharonne Bonardi. "His leadership philosophy, grounded in consensus building, courage in decision making, and enabling others to lead through service, has and will continue to in so many ways benefit the tax administration community and everyone it serves."

During his time over the past four years as director and previously as deputy secretary for compliance and collections for the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue, Skipworth has established a legacy of building partnerships, enhancing taxpayer compliance strategies, and aligning Pennsylvania and D.C. with national best practices. His successful leveraging of partnerships with federal entities like the IRS to enhance compliance operations has played a pivotal role in aligning Pennsylvania's sales and use tax enforcement strategy with national trends of how these taxes are collected for online and remote sales.

Skipworth continues to build and maintain partnerships with local and regional agencies, enhancing enforcement coordination and program alignment in Washington, D.C. His work is underpinned by robust analytics and transparency, and he has led the development of key compliance strategy reports that guide internal priorities and serve as foundational tools in discussions with peer states and national working groups.

"Director Radee Skipworth exemplifies the highest standards of visionary leadership, innovation, and service to the public in the field of tax administration," said District of Columbia Office of Tax and Revenue Deputy Chief Financial Officer Keith Richardson in a letter to FTA nominating Skipworth.

His ability to transform operations through bold reforms, cross-agency collaboration, and a deep-rooted commitment to voluntary compliance and customer service aligns Skipworth with FTA's core values of collaboration, innovation, and public service, Richardson said.

Skipworth is known for fostering staff-level learning environments that encourage cross-training, interagency knowledge sharing, and leadership development. His willingness to share successful models, learn from others, and partner across borders has earned him the respect of his peers nationwide.

Skipworth has spearheaded many critical programs and initiatives throughout his career. One notable example was his modernizing of Clean Hands, a DC Office of Tax and Revenue program working with taxpayers to achieve tax compliance. Skipworth established a unit dedicated to the program, resulting in significant improvements to taxpayer access and staff training while elevating transparency through strategic use of automation and the development of internal FAQs, reference materials, and webinars. From Fiscal Year 2022 to 2024, Clean Hands achieved a 26.67% increase in taxpayer compliance, with the compliance rate rising from 60% to 76%. It was a signature achievement and one example of the many major projects Skipworth has led to fruition.

Skipworth holds a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the University of Phoenix and a Bachelor's from the Virginia Military Institute.

The FTA Harley T. Duncan Award for Leadership and Service is a distinguished honor presented to leaders in tax administration who possess exceptional vision and innovation, commitment to open communication, devotion to continuous learning, and willingness to adapt and embrace change.

The Federation of Tax Administrators is a Washington DC based non-profit serving its government tax administration members from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, New York City, and Philadelphia. It provides its members with the knowledge, tools, and relationships in support of tax administration, which furthers voluntary compliance while preserving, protecting, and enhancing tax revenue.