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Emily Swenson Brock Named
Bond Buyer’s 2018 Rising Star

(Chicago, Illinois – October 1, 2018) Emily Swenson Brock, director, GFOA Federal Liaison Center, has been named a 2018 Rising Star by the Bond Buyer.

Brock leads coalition and advocacy efforts on behalf of GFOA’s nearly 20,000 members. Her advocacy includes anticipating and responding to federal legislative and regulatory activities that impact the finance functions of state and local governments and public-sector entities including tax reform, municipal securities disclosure and public pension and benefit issues. In addition, she has worked tirelessly to strengthen the Public Finance Network – an advocacy network that brings together the issuer community with the broader municipal market community to amplify and defend the municipal bond interest exemption in Washington, DC.

“I love what I do,” says Brock. “Every day, nearly 20,000 finance officers – each of whom I deeply respect – give me the charge to communicate on their behalf to members of Congress, members of the administration, and others in Washington, DC. Much of what I do depends on strong lasting partnerships with the broader issuer and market community – the diligence, communication, and advocacy we do together helps maintain the municipal bond interest exemption and build a strong and thriving economy.”

Chris Morrill, GFOA Executive Director/CEO, says that “Emily has been a successful advocate for state and local governments because she is a strong collaborative leader, building coalitions and using data to help elected officials, policy makers, and regulators understand the impact of their actions. On behalf of GFOA, our nearly 20,000 members, and communities throughout the U.S. that have benefited from Emily’s efforts, congratulations on this well-deserved recognition.”

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Prior to joining GFOA, Brock was a commercial bank relationship manager at a large national bank, serving as the sole bank liaison for government and university clients. She has also developed curriculum and taught public financial management courses at universities in Virginia and Washington, DC.

Brock holds a BS in Political Science from Virginia Tech and an MBA from the College of William & Mary. She has also reached the stage of defending her dissertation studying GASB 68 and public pension disclosure. Her defense is scheduled this academic year.

Additionally, she will be awarded the Women in Public Finance 2018 “She’s Our Hero” Founders’ Award at their 22nd Annual Conference on October 4 in Boston, Massachusetts. The organization seeks to advance women’s leadership opportunities by fostering relationships and providing educational activities and forums. The award is “given to the woman who manages career, self-development, family issues, and civil involvement – all at the same time.”

The Bond Buyer’s third-annual Rising Stars program showcases the brightest young minds in the municipal bond industry. The goal of the initiative is to identify municipal finance professionals under the age of 40 whose leadership, collaborative spirit, innovation, and creativity have enabled them to make a positive contribution to the community.

The 2018 Rising Stars were just announced on the Bond Buyer’s website. The honorees receive a complimentary invitation to their flagship California Public Finance conference, which begins October 1 in Los Angeles, California, where they will be recognized before their peers. For more information on the program, go to www.bondbuyer.com. To learn more about GFOA’s activities, visit www.gfoa.org.