

ERNEST A. ALMONTE is the auditor general of the state of Rhode Island, a position he has held since 1994. As auditor general, he is responsible for auditing of the \$7 billion State Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, the \$3 billion Federal Single Audit, Municipal Oversight, Performance Audits, Fraud Audits, and oversight of quasi-public agencies. He manages a staff of 46 and has over 30 years experience in the accounting profession.

From 1982 until 1994 he had his own CPA firm in Smithfield, RI, servicing clients from New England and several other states.

He holds both a bachelor of science degree in business administration and a master of science in taxation degree from Bryant University. Mr. Almonte is a graduate of the Senior Executives in State and Local Government and Innovations in Governance at the Harvard University John F. Kennedy School of Government.

In addition to being a certified public accountant, he is also certified in financial forensics, a certified government financial manager, a certified information technology professional, and certified fraud examiner.

Mr. Almonte has been active in the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and currently serves as its chairman. He also served as the chairman of the Finance Committee, the Audit Committee, and the Members in Government Committee of the AICPA.

Mr. Almonte was appointed by the secretary of defense as the state of Rhode Island chairman of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve and currently serves on the Department of Defense Audit Committee. He was appointed chairman of the Department of Defense Audit Advisory Committee by the Under Secretary of Defense Comptroller/CFO. He attended the 54th National Security Forum at the Air War College after being selected by the secretary of the Air Force. He served as the chairman of the New England Intergovernmental Audit Forum and is the past president of the National State Auditors Association and the Rhode Island Society of CPAs.

Mr. Almonte is the recipient of the Department of the Army Outstanding Civilian Service Medal, the Rhode Island Public Expenditure Council's Robert M. Goodrich Distinguished Public Award – 2004, the Giovanni da Verrazzano Man of the Year – For Outstanding Service to the Rhode Island Community – 2005, the Rhode Island Society of CPA's – Centennial Outstanding CPA in Government, and other awards in his career. *Accounting Today* named Mr. Almonte in 2008 and 2005 as one of the Top 100 Most Influential People in the Accounting Profession.

Mr. Almonte is an active speaker on various topics such as government finance, electronic government, auditing, fraud, and the CPA profession.