

James L. Zervis, CPA, CPFO
Chief Operations Officer

James Zervis was appointed by Kern County's Chief Administrative Officer, Ryan J. Alsop, to serve as the County Administrative Office's Chief Operations Officer on March 16, 2020. As Chief Operations Officer, Mr. Zervis is responsible for assisting the County's CAO in overseeing all operational functions of the Administrative Office, including overseeing general operations and functions of County government, including Budget and Finance, Policy and Legislative Affairs, Compliance and Accountability, Human Resources, General Services, Information Technology, Economic and Workforce Development, among other functions. Mr. Zervis also works across County departments to implement County policy and strategic initiatives at the direction of the CAO.

Prior to his appointment, Mr. Zervis served as the Administrative Services Director and Treasurer for the City of Shafter from 2011 to 2020 and in various executive level positions with the City of Wasco between 2009 and 2011. During this time, Mr. Zervis served on several regional and statewide boards and commissions related to local government and governmental finance.

Prior to being in public service, Mr. Zervis worked in a variety of financial positions in the private sector, most recently, as the Chief Financial Officer for ACX Pacific Northwest, Inc., a large agricultural processor and exporter. Mr. Zervis is also currently an occasional part-time lecturer with the school of Business and Public Administration at California State University Bakersfield.