THOMAS M. SALMON, CPA, was born and raised in Bellows Falls, VT. He earned a bachelor's degree in accounting from Boston College and was trained in auditing at Coopers and Lybrand (now Price Waterhouse Coopers) in Hartford, Conn., and Los Angeles.

In 2005, after seeing firsthand the effects of Hurricane Katrina and believing that government can do better, he entered politics with an eye on reform and was elected state auditor in 2006. He was re-elected in 2008 and 2010.

Since becoming Vermont state auditor, Tom is proud the accomplishments of the State Auditor's Office. Audit findings have been greatly reduced thereby saving money in many state agencies. The office has conducted training sessions for municipal and school business personnel on ethics, internal controls, grants management and auditing practices. A number of performance audits have been completed and going forward, the office will concentrate on this type of audit.

Tom has been a certified public accountant since 1993. He is a member of Vermont Society of CPAs, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Certified Fraud Examiners Association. He also serves on the Executive Committee of the National State Auditors Association and is vice chairman of the New England Governmental Audit Forum. He has been honored by the Vermont Society of CPAs as Outstanding CPA in Government and received the Community College of Vermont Community Service Award.

He has also been a licensed teacher and has served on various community boards. He serves in the U.S. Navy Reserves as a member of the Seabees and returned from active duty in Iraq in March 2009.