



Observations



A monthly publication of the Chicago Chapter, Association of Government Accountants

AGA – Dedicated to serving the community and promoting government accountability

September 2009

Issue 1

Upcoming Events

Luncheon:

Monday,
September 21, 2009
11:30 AM

Speaker:

Renée Brooker,
Assistant Director
U.S. Department of
Justice Civil Division
Commercial Litigation
Branch Fraud Section

Location:

Metcalfe Building
HUD Conference Room
77 W. Jackson
Room 2205

Price:

\$5 members
\$12 non-members

1 CPE

Please RSVP to:

Diane Terzian
(312) 353-7832
dterzian@hudoig.gov

Update your member information!

Please review and update your personal information at National's website, www.agacgfm.org. You can update your information in the 'Member's Only' page. This allows us to keep you better informed throughout the year!

Sponsors

Do you know a company looking to sponsor one of our events? It is a great way for them to get their name out to a large distribution list as well as get recognition at our Chapter meetings! For more information, please contact any of the Executive Officers for your Chicago Chapter.

In This Issue . . .

President's Message	2
September Meeting Information	3
CGFM Corner	4
Training Opportunities	4
From the National Office	5
Financials	9
Contact Us	13



*Advancing
Government
Accountability*

Association
of Government
Accountants

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September 11, 2009

Dear AGA Chicago Members,

I would like to send a warm welcome to our members as we enter the 56th year of AGA Chicago Chapter! I am very excited to get this year started! The Chapter Executive Committee is made up of a great team of individuals. We are looking forward to providing the membership with all the necessary tools and resources available for your personal development. Together we have worked on getting various speakers to come talk to us during our training sessions.

That being said, our first meeting to kick off this exciting year will be held on Monday, September 21, 2009 at the Metcalf Building, 77 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL. Our speaker at this meeting will be Renée Brooker, Assistant Director U.S. Department of Justice Civil Division Commercial Litigation Branch Fraud Section. Our meeting will start at 11:30 AM with a lunch buffet and the speaker at 12:00 PM. If you are interested in the attending this meeting please call Diane Terzian at (312) 353-7832 or email her at: dterzian@hudoig.gov before close of business September 17, 2009. I apologize for the short notice.

I hope to see you all on September 21st! If you have any questions or comments, please contact me at (312) 913-8674 or wwolfe@hudoig.gov.

Cordially,

Heath Wolfe

Heath Wolfe
President



2009-2010 Training Schedule*

DATE	TOPIC	SPEAKER	LOCATION
September 21, 2009 11:30AM Luncheon	TBD	Renée Brooker , Assistant Director U.S. Department of Justice Civil Division Commercial Litigation Branch Fraud Section	HUD Conference Room 77 W. Jackson Room 2205
October 19, 2009	TBD	Linda Wawzenski, Deputy Chief of Civil Division-US Attorney's Office	HUD Conference Room 77 W. Jackson Room 2205
November 16, 2009	TBD	Bryan Howell, Counsel to the IG, HUD-OIG	Department of Labor Conference Room 230 S. Dearborn, Sixth Floor - Room 619
December 14, 2009	TBD	TBD	Department of Labor Conference Room 230 S. Dearborn, Sixth Floor - Room 619
January 19, 2010	TBD	TBD	HHS Conference Room 233 N. Michigan Ave. Suite 1360
February 16, 2010	TBD	TBD	HHS Conference Room 233 N. Michigan Ave. Suite 1360
March 15, 2010	TBD	TBD	Department of Education Conference Room 500 W. Madison Street, Suite 1414
April 16, 2010	PDC	PDC	TBD
May 17, 2010	TBD	TBD	Department of Education Conference Room 500 W. Madison Street, Suite 1414

*Dates subject to change

Please RSVP to Diane by September 17th

Diane Terzian

Phone: (312) 353-7832

EMail: dterzian@hudoig.gov

CGFM Corner



The Mark of Excellence in Government Financial Management

We are pleased to publish the names of Certified Government Financial Managers (CGFMs) in active status.

[View the list of Active CGFMs.](#)

Please note: The list is not all inclusive as some CGFMs may request not to have their name published (it also may not reflect the new CGFMs who earned their designation within the last four weeks). If you are not able to find someone on the list or if your information is different from the information on the list, please contact Katya Silver at 703.684.6931, ext. 305 or ksilver@agacgfm.org. If you are an active CGFM and you do not wish your name to be included on this list, please contact the AGA's Office of Professional Certification via email (agacgfm@agacgfm.org) or fax (703-562-0361). This list is updated periodically and may not reflect the most recent changes to the individual CGFM records. Last updated: 3/31/09.

CGFM verification:

If you are looking to verify an individual's Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) designation, the list above can be used for initial verification that an individual is an active CGFM. However, if you are not able to find someone on the list or if your information is different from the information on the list, please contact Katya Silver at 703.684.6931, ext. 305 or ksilver@agacgfm.org. If you need additional information, such as the award date or certificate number, please fax your verification request along with a release form signed by that CGFM holder to Katya Silver at 703-562-0361.

Looking for a list of new CGFM? [Click here.](#)

[AGA Training Opportunities](#)
Click to find events near your area!

From the National Office

National President's Bio

William A. (Billy) Morehead, Ph.D., CGFM, CPA, CPM
Chair of Accountancy, Computer Information Systems and Finance;
Assistant Professor, Delta State University



Billy Morehead, Ph.D., CGFM, CPA, is the current National President for AGA with a presidential theme of “***Think Big! Act Courageously! Make a Difference!***” Billy has a long history of involvement in AGA – Billy has served as Senior Vice President for Regional Services, Section II (2001-2004), as National Treasurer in 1995-1996, as Regional Vice President for the South Central Region in 1997-1998, and as the Jackson Chapter President in 1989-1990. He has been active in numerous national AGA committees and boards, including serving as Chair of the International Development Committee and as a member of the Professional Ethics Board. Billy has received several awards from AGA including the National Educator

Award in 2007 and Presidential Awards in 1998 and 2007. Billy is also active in the Mississippi Society of CPAs, the American Institute of CPAs, and numerous other professional and civic organizations.

Billy has 24 years of government financial management experience in the state of Mississippi. He has been at Delta State University (DSU) in Cleveland, MS since the fall of 2000 and became the Chair of Accountancy, Computer Information Systems, and Finance and Assistant Professor of Accountancy in 2007. Billy has served DSU in other roles including Vice President for Finance and Administration and Interim Dean of the College of Business. Prior to his work at Delta State, Billy worked for the Mississippi Department of Mental Health (DMH) for 10 years as the CFO of two state hospital facilities. Before DMH, Billy worked with each the MS Department of Finance and Administration and the MS State Auditor's Office early in his state government career.

During a one-year leave of absence (October 1998 through October 1999), Billy and his wife, Audrey, were International Service Corps Volunteers in Dakar, Senegal, West Africa where he served as Financial Facilitator for the International Board covering 4 countries. He also performed financial and compliance audits for the International Board in other West African countries.

Billy graduated with a Bachelor of Business degree in Accounting from Delta State University in 1984, a Master degree in Accountancy from Millsaps College in 1995 and a Ph.D. in International Development from the University of Southern Mississippi in 2007 where his dissertation was entitled *Internal Control and Governance in Non-Governmental Organizations Designed to Provide Accountability and Deter, Prevent and*

Detect Fraud and Corruption. Billy is a Certified Public Accountant, Certified Governmental Financial Manager and Certified Public Manager.

Tracking the Recession: State Stimulus Websites Get Mixed Marks

Interested in learning from your state how it's spending its federal stimulus dollars? You may find the information more easily if you live in Maryland, Colorado or Washington, but good luck if you call Illinois home. The group Good Jobs First ranked Illinois dead last in its report that rates all 50 websites that states created to show how and where their share of the \$787 billion stimulus dollars are being spent. On a scale of zero to 100 for 10 criteria, Maryland scored the most points with 80, while Illinois received a zero, largely because its site offers only national figures and nothing on how much is being spent in the state. --Pamela M. Prah, *Stateline.org*. [Read more.](#)

NASBA Wants Independent Funding for Standard-Setters

The National Association of State Boards of Accountancy called for independent funding of global accounting standard-setters. The organization supports the ideal of global accounting and auditing standards developed by qualified representatives of various governments, but emphasized the need for independence. "These standard-setters and any standard-setting body to which they're attached must be truly independent," said NASBA president David Costello at the International Federation of Accountants' G20 Accountancy Summit in London in late July. The International Accounting Standards Board has been criticized for not having an independent source of funding and has been taking steps to obtain a stable source of funding from countries involved in developing International Financial Reporting Standards. Both the IASB and the U.S. Financial Accounting Standards Board have also been criticized for succumbing to political interference in setting fair value and mark-to-market accounting standards. --*WebCPA*. [Read more.](#)

Grants.gov Becomes One-stop Shop for Stimulus Opportunities

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has turned a website for finding information on federal grants into a one-stop shop for people seeking funding opportunities under the economic stimulus law. HHS added a feature to [Grants.gov](#) that directs grant-seekers to government-wide opportunities offered under the stimulus program. No longer will they have to go to individual agency sites for the information. --Mary Mosquera, *Government Health IT*. [Read more.](#)

Government Jobs Have Grown Since Recession

While the private sector has shed 6.9 million jobs since the beginning of the recession, state and local governments have expanded their payrolls and added 110,000 jobs, according to a report issued Thursday by the Nelson A. Rockefeller Institute of Government. The report, based on an analysis of federal jobs data, found that state and local governments steadily added jobs for eight months after the recession began in December 2007, with their employment peaking last August. State and local governments have since lost 55,000 jobs, but from the beginning of the recession through last month they gained a net of 110,000 jobs, the report found, in part because of the federal stimulus program. Government jobs are always more stable than private sector jobs during

downturns, but their ability to weather the current deep recession startled Donald J. Boyd, the senior fellow at the institute who wrote the report. "I am a little surprised at the fact that state and local government has remained as stable as it has in the nation as a whole, given the depth of the current recession," Mr. Boyd said in an interview. --Michael Cooper, *The New York Times*. [Read more.](#)

HHS Says Grassroots Efforts to Fight Medicare Fraud Have Paid Off

A program to educate seniors about fraud in government-run health programs has saved taxpayers \$100 million during the last 12 years, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). HHS reviews of the SMP (formerly Senior Medicare Patrol) Projects, including self-reported information on funds recovered to Medicare and Medicaid programs, turned up the savings. The Administration on Aging, an agency within HHS, runs the program, which relies on volunteers. "The strongest defense against crime is not law enforcement, it is informed citizens," said HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius. --Emily Long, *Government Executive*. [Read more.](#)

Stimulus Reporting Registration Off to a Smooth Start

Nearly 3,000 recipients of Recovery Act funding have signed up for FederalReporting.gov, a website that will collect government-wide data on stimulus spending. The first two days of registration for prime recipients, subrecipients and federal agencies were free of major hiccups, according to Ed Pound, a spokesman for the Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board, which runs the site. "This is a good start," he said. "We did not have any glitches so we know it's working right." Enrollment, which began on Monday, is the initial reporting step for state and local governments, contractors, universities, nonprofits and other organizations that have received stimulus grants, contracts or loans of more than \$25,000. As of early Tuesday afternoon, 2,900 funding recipients completed a one-time registration with the password-protected site, Pound said. --Robert Brodsky, *Government Executive*. [Read more.](#)

States Plug Budget Holes, for Now

This year's state legislative session will go down as one of the most brutal in recent memory as the national recession forced lawmakers to find money to cover a staggering \$215 billion in estimated budget gaps for 2009 and 2010 -- the equivalent of more than \$700 for every man, woman and child in the country. Even with the federal stimulus package dumping billions of dollars into the states, California, Kentucky, Nevada, New York and Washington are among states that struggled with the largest deficits in modern history. --Pamela M. Prah, *Stateline.org*. [Read more.](#)



Honorable
Mention



ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTANTS
CHICAGO CHAPTER
MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
April 1, 2009 to April 30, 2009

INCOME STATEMENT

REVENUE:			
	Luncheons	\$	2,270.00
	Dues	\$	-
TOTAL REVENUE		<u>\$</u>	<u>2,270.00</u>
EXPENSES			
	Meals	\$	1,914.71
	Postage & Mailing Expenses	\$	-
	State of Illinois Fees	\$	-
	Cook County Recorder Fees	\$	-
	P.O. Box Rental Fees		
	Charitable Contributions	\$	-
	Promotional Expenses	\$	-
	AGA Website		
	Speaker Expenses	\$	200.00
	Recruitment Scholarship	\$	827.00
	Misc. Expenses		
TOTAL EXPENSES		<u>\$</u>	<u>2,941.71</u>
NET INCOME (LOSS)		\$	(671.71)

BALANCE SHEET

4/30/2009

ASSETS			
	Cash		
	Checking Account	\$	18,689.89
	Petty Cash	\$	<u>100.00</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>\$</u>	<u>18,789.89</u>
LIABILITIES		\$	-
NET WORTH		<u>\$</u>	<u>18,789.89</u>
	3/31/2009	\$	19,461.40
INCREASES:			
	Cash Receipts - Checking Account		2,270.00
DECREASES:			
	Cash Disbursements		(2,941.71)
NET WORTH - END OF PERIOD		<u>\$</u>	<u>18,789.69</u>

ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTANTS
CHICAGO CHAPTER
MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
May 1, 2009 to May 31, 2009

INCOME STATEMENT

REVENUE:		
Luncheons	\$	2,355.00
Dues	\$	-
TOTAL REVENUE	\$	<u>2,355.00</u>
 EXPENSES		
Meals	\$	350.90
Postage & Mailing Expenses	\$	-
State of Illinois Fees	\$	13.00
Cook County Recorder Fees	\$	-
P.O. Box Rental Fees		
Charitable Contributions	\$	-
Promotional Expenses	\$	-
AGA Website		
Speaker Expenses		
Recruitment Scholarship	\$	97.00
Misc. Expenses		
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$	<u>460.90</u>
 NET INCOME (LOSS)	 \$	 1,894.10

BALANCE SHEET

5/30/2009

ASSETS		
Cash		
Checking Account	\$	20,583.79
Petty Cash	\$	<u>100.00</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	<u><u>20,683.79</u></u>
 LIABILITIES	 \$	 -
 NET WORTH	 \$	 <u><u>20,683.79</u></u>
 4/31/09	 \$	 18,789.69
 INCREASES:		
Cash Receipts - Checking Account		2,355.00
 DECREASES:		
Cash Disbursements		(460.90)
 NET WORTH - END OF PERIOD	 \$	 <u><u>20,683.79</u></u>

ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTANTS
CHICAGO CHAPTER
MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 1, 2009 to June 30, 2009

INCOME STATEMENT

REVENUE:			
	Luncheons		
	Dues	\$	85.00
TOTAL REVENUE		<u>\$</u>	<u>85.00</u>
EXPENSES			
	Meals		
	Postage & Mailing Expenses	\$	-
	State of Illinois Fees		
	Cook County Recorder Fees	\$	-
	P.O. Box Rental Fees		
	Charitable Contributions	\$	300.00
	Promotional Expenses	\$	-
	AGA Website		
	Speaker Expenses		
	Recruitment Scholarship		
	Misc. Expenses		
TOTAL EXPENSES		<u>\$</u>	<u>300.00</u>
NET INCOME (LOSS)		\$	(215.00)

BALANCE SHEET

6/30/2009

ASSETS			
	Cash		
	Checking Account	\$	20,368.79
	Petty Cash	<u>\$</u>	<u>100.00</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>\$</u>	<u>20,468.79</u>
LIABILITIES		\$	-
NET WORTH		<u>\$</u>	<u>20,468.79</u>
	5/30/2009	\$	20,683.79
INCREASES:			
	Cash Receipts - Checking Account		85.00
DECREASES:			
	Cash Disbursements		(300.00)
NET WORTH - END OF PERIOD		<u>\$</u>	<u>20,468.79</u>

ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTANTS
CHICAGO CHAPTER
MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
July 1, 2009 to July 31, 2009

INCOME STATEMENT

REVENUE:			
	Luncheons		
	Dues	\$	581.00
TOTAL REVENUE		<u>\$</u>	<u>581.00</u>
EXPENSES			
	Meals		
	Postage & Mailing Expenses	\$	-
	State of Illinois Fees	\$	5.00
	Cook County Recorder Fees	\$	-
	P.O. Box Rental Fees		
	Charitable Contributions		
	Promotional Expenses	\$	-
	AGA Website		
	Speaker Expenses		
	Recruitment Scholarship		
	Misc. Expenses		
TOTAL EXPENSES		<u>\$</u>	<u>5.00</u>
NET INCOME (LOSS)		\$	576.00

BALANCE SHEET

7/31/2009

ASSETS			
	Cash		
	Checking Account	\$	20,944.79
	Petty Cash	<u>\$</u>	<u>100.00</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>\$</u>	<u>21,044.79</u>
LIABILITIES		\$	-
NET WORTH		<u>\$</u>	<u>21,044.79</u>
	6/30/2009	\$	20,468.79
INCREASES:			
	Cash Receipts - Checking Account		581.00
DECREASES:			
	Cash Disbursements		(5.00)
NET WORTH - END OF PERIOD		<u>\$</u>	<u>21,044.79</u>

<p>Executive Committee</p> <p>President Heath Wolfe HUD/OIG 312/ 913-8674 wwolfe@hudoig.gov</p> <p>President - Elect Vacant</p> <p>Past President Raul Nieto ED/OIG 312/ 730-1634 raul.nieto@ed.gov</p> <p>Secretary Sandy Lawera HHS/OIG 312/ 353-3144 Sandy.Lawera@oig.hhs.gov</p> <p>Treasurer Thomas DiLisio DOL 312/ 596-5454 Dilisio.thomas@dol.gov</p>	<p>Program Director Vacant</p> <p>Meetings Director Vacant</p> <p>Membership Director Janet Knauff RRB/OIG 312/ 751-4683 Janet.Knauff@rrb.gov</p> <p>Newsletter Editor Alexandria Hayden HHS/OIG 312/ 353-3033 Alexandria.Hayden@oig.hhs.gov</p> <p>Historian Aníbal Marrero HHS/OIG 312/ 353-3029 Anibal.marrero@oig.hhs.gov</p> <p>Education Director Frank Moy GSA/OIG 312/ 353-7781, Ext. 112 franklin.moy@gsa.gov</p> <p>Webmaster Mark Knudson RRB/ OIG 312/ 751-4764 mark.knudson@rb.gov</p>	<p>Community Service Director Tom McManigal HUD/OIG 312/ 913-8035 tmcmanigal@hudoig.gov</p> <p>CGFM Raul Nieto ED/OIG 312/ 730-1634 raul.nieto@ed.gov</p> <p>Early Careers Coordinator Jolanta Biskup ED/OIG 312/ 730-1619 Jolanta.biskup@ed.gov</p> <p>Job Referral Rick Urbanowski HUD/OIG 312/ 913-8492 rurbanowski@hudoig.gov</p> <p>Publicity Director Olga Gesell HHS/OIG 312/ 353-7907 Olga.Gesell@oig.hhs.gov</p> <p>Awards Director Zakia Haneef HUD/OIG 312/ 913-8693 zhaneef@hudoig.gov</p>
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Newsletter Information

Observations is the monthly newsletter of the Chicago Chapter of the Association of Government Accountants (AGA). Observations is published six times each year. Subscriptions to Observations may only be obtained by joining AGA. This is the first edition of Observations for the **2009-2010** chapter year. To submit material for upcoming issues, contact Alexandria Hayden at 312/353-3033 (phone) or 312/353-3814 (FAX). **The deadline for submissions to upcoming issues is the second Friday of each month. To update delivery information, contact Alexandria Hayden at 312/353-3033.** If you are not receiving the Chicago Chapter Newsletter electronically, please send your current e-mail address to: Alexandria.Hayden@oig.hhs.gov