

CFE UPDATE
November-December 2003

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Association and Chapter Fraud Training and Meeting Dates

Be sure to mark the following calendar year 2003 fraud training meetings on your personal schedule and plan to attend:

December 5, 2003: Joint Chapter and WSCPA 7th Annual Fraud Conference; Marriott Hotel; 3201 South 176th Street, SeaTac (across the street and up the hill a short distance from SeaTac International Airport). The estimated early registration fee for members of the WSCPA and the Pacific Northwest Chapter is \$175 for this conference. There is also a \$6 daily parking fee if you drive your car and park in the hotel parking lot. Car pooling is recommended to reduce the nominal cost of parking. Registration and continental breakfast is at 8:00 a.m. The conference begins at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 5:00 p.m.

Register directly with the WSCPA by calling 1-800-272-8273 (Bellevue, WA). The conference includes eight hours of continuing professional education credit. The course

registration form can also be obtained from the WSCPA's web site at "www: wscpa.org". You must call the WSCPA to actually register for the conference. Ask for Lisa Chin-Iwata in the Education Department.

President Joe Dervaes and Vice-President Norm Gierlasinski and will co-chair the 7th Annual Fraud Conference. The Chapter Board of Officers has confirmed the following list of speakers and topics for the annual fraud conference this year:

(1) Dr. Gordon Mitchell – Owner, Electronic Future Focus, Incorporated, Topic: "Using Computer Forensic Techniques to Catch Crooks" -- Block: 8-10:00 a.m.

(2) Rex Staples – Branch Chief of Broker-Dealer/Investment Adviser Enforcement for the Securities Division of the Department of Financial Institutions, State of Washington, Topic: "Securities Fraud: Current Issues and Debates" -- Block: 10:00 a.m.-Noon.

(3) Jean Seidler and Jim M. Shaker – Employment Rights Attorneys, Ryan Swanson & Cleveland, PLLC, Topic: "Legal Perspectives of Fraud in the Workplace" -- Block: 1-3:00 p.m.

(4) Ann L. Rueter – Special Agent, Internal Revenue Service, Criminal Investigations Division, Topic: "Money Laundering" -- Block: 3-5:00 p.m.

Be sure to mark the following calendar year 2004 fraud training meetings on your personal schedule and plan to attend:

February 25, 2004. Chapter Fraud Training Seminar; Downtown Seattle, at 1000 Second Avenue in a 28th floor conference room of the Washington State Housing Finance Commission. This is the old Key Towers Bank Building; but, the building currently has no name on it. The building is located across the street and one block North of the Jackson Federal Building (corner of Second Avenue and Spring Street). We begin all meetings promptly at 2:30 p.m., hold a 30 minute networking session at 3:30 p.m., and then complete the seminars at 4:45 p.m. The seminar fee is \$20 for Chapter members and \$25 for non-members. . **Speaker and topic to be determined.**

April 28, 2004. Chapter Fraud Training Seminar; Downtown Seattle, at 1000 Second Avenue in a 28th floor conference room of the Washington State Housing Finance Commission. This is the old Key Towers Bank Building; but, the building currently has no name on it. The building is located across the street and one block North of the Jackson Federal Building (corner of Second Avenue and Spring Street). We begin all meetings promptly at 2:30 p.m., hold a 30 minute networking session at 3:30 p.m., and then complete the seminars at 4:45 p.m. The seminar fee is \$20 for Chapter members and \$25 for non-members. **Speaker and topic to be determined.**

June 30, 2004. Annual Chapter Business Meeting and Fraud Training Seminar; Mayflower of China Restaurant; 17005 SouthCenter Parkway (near SouthCenter Mall); Tukwila, WA. Special door prizes will be awarded; but, you must be present to win. The

luncheon and continuing professional education for the fraud seminar is “free” to Chapter members and \$15 for non-members. The luncheon begins promptly at Noon, followed by the Chapter’s annual business meeting. The fraud training seminar begins at approximately 1:00 p.m. and lasts for one hour. **Speaker and topic to be determined.**

July 11-16, 2004. Association of CFE’s 15th Annual Fraud Conference; MGM Grand Hotel; Las Vegas, Nevada. Register for this conference at www.cfenet.com. The meeting times are from 1:00-5:00 p.m. on July 11, 2004, for the Pre-Conference; 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. on July 14, 2004, and from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. on all other days during the Main-Conference and Post-Conference period. Because of the location, there will probably be a record number of attendees at the conference this year. Don’t miss it! The estimated early registration fee for Association members is \$795 for the Main-Conference.

President Joe Dervaes will be the Pacific Northwest Chapter’s official representative at the Chapter Representatives Meeting on July 11, 2004, held in conjunction with the Annual Fraud Conference. He will provide a report to the Chapter on the events of this meeting.

August 25, 2004. Chapter Fraud Training Seminar; Downtown Seattle, at 1000 Second Avenue in a 28th floor conference room of the Washington State Housing Finance Commission. This is the old Key Towers Bank Building; but, the building currently has no name on it. The building is located across the street and one block North of the Jackson Federal Building (corner of Second Avenue and Spring Street). We begin all meetings promptly at 2:30 p.m., hold a 30 minute networking session at 3:30 p.m., and then complete the seminars at 4:45 p.m. The seminar fee is \$20 for Chapter members and \$25 for non-members. **Speaker and topic to be determined.**

October ?(3 Days)?, 2004. Joint Chapter and Association of CFE’s Three-Day Fraud Training Class at the Doubletree Hotel, 18740 International Boulevard; SeaTac. There is a daily parking fee if you drive your car and park in the hotel parking lot. Car pooling is recommended to reduce the nominal cost of parking. The first two days of the class will be on the topic of “Contract and Procurement Fraud”. The third day of the class will be on the topic of “Fraud Prevention”. The estimated early registration fee for Association members is \$535 for the two-day class. The estimated cost of the one-day class is about 50% of that fee. There is also a \$6 daily parking fee if you drive your car and park in the hotel parking lot. Car pooling is recommended to reduce the nominal cost of parking. Registration is at 7:30 a.m. each day. The actual class begins at 8:00 a.m. and ends at 4:30 p.m. daily. **Register directly with the Association of CFE’s by calling 1-800-245-3321 (Austin, TX).** The conference includes 24 hours of continuing education credit. Ask for conference registrations for all the details. Or, you may also register on-line at the Association’s web site www.cfenet.com. Your Board of Officers has worked long and hard with the Association to bring you new fraud topics for this annual fraud training class. So, you’ll enjoy this three-day event immensely. Don’t miss it. Come network with your fellow professionals at this fraud training class. Members of the Chapter Board of Officers will perform registration duties for this fraud training class and will be on-

hand to answer any questions participants might have about membership in and activities of the Chapter. **Speakers and training dates to be announced.**

December 3, 2004. Joint Chapter and WSCPA 8th Annual Fraud Conference; Marriott Hotel; 3201 South 176th Street, SeaTac (across the street and up the hill a short distance from SeaTac International Airport). The estimated early registration fee for members of the WSCPA and the Pacific Northwest Chapter is \$175 for this conference. There is also a \$6 daily parking fee if you drive your car and park in the hotel parking lot. Car pooling is recommended to reduce the nominal cost of parking. Registration and continental breakfast is at 8:00 a.m. The conference begins at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 5:00 p.m.

Register directly with the WSCPA by calling 1-800-272-8273 (Bellevue, WA). The conference includes eight hours of continuing professional education credit. The course registration form can also be obtained from the WSCPA's web site at "www: wscpa.org". You must call the WSCPA to actually register for the conference. Ask for Lisa Chin-Iwata in the Education Department.

President Joe Dervaes and Vice-President Norm Gierlasinski and will co-chair the 8th Annual Fraud Conference. The Chapter Board of Officers is working on the tentative list of speakers and topics for the annual fraud conference.

Important Chapter Fraud Training Meeting Information for Downtown Seattle Location

All fraud seminars conducted by the Chapter in downtown Seattle are held at this location.

We meet at 1000 Second Avenue in a 28th floor conference room of the Washington State Housing Finance Commission. This is the old Key Towers Bank Building; but, the building currently has no name on it. The building is located across the street and one block North of the Jackson Federal Building (corner of Second Avenue and Spring Street).

Please pay particular attention to the following rules for visiting our fraud seminar training location in downtown Seattle. Our host, the State of Washington Housing Finance Commission, controls the conference room where our meetings are held and has asked for our cooperation in implementing these security and access rules. The Chapter Board of Officers appreciates your cooperation with these requirements.

- First, building security. The staff has asked us to go to the Commission's main offices on the 27th Floor and sign-in with the receptionist before going to the 28th Floor conference room for the fraud seminar. A visitor's badge will be issued to you. Please turn-in this visitor's badge in the conference room before departing the building. The Chapter will turn-in all visitor badges at the end of the day.
- Second, the time of our fraud seminar. The staff has asked us to depart the facility promptly because their duty day ends at 5:00 p.m. Therefore, **we will**

begin all meetings promptly at 2:30 p.m., hold a 30 minute networking session at 3:30 p.m., and complete all fraud seminars at 4:45 p.m. sharp. Visitor badges will be collected at this time.

Chapter Greetings

The Board of Officers of the Pacific Northwest Chapter/ACFE hopes you had a Happy Thanksgiving holiday with family and friends, and that you enjoyed this special time of year when we remember all the things we are thankful for in our lives.

The Board of Officers of the Pacific Northwest Chapter/ACFE hopes you have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and that you will enjoy these holidays with family and friends.

Remember our troops and their families as well during the holidays. The men and women of our Armed Forces are on the front lines in war-like conditions in many parts of the globe these days. They protect the very freedoms we often take for granted.

Remember our President too as he guides and directs our country through these perilous times. He needs our support, even if you didn't vote for him. We must stand united.

Fraud Alert-Hotel Key Cards

On October 29, 2003, the following information was received from the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, Counterintelligence, Foreign Disclosure and Security, U.S. Army, The Pentagon, Washington, D.C.:

“Southern California law enforcement professionals assigned to detect new threats to personal security issues, recently discovered what type of information is embedded in the credit card type hotel room keys used throughout the industry.

Although room keys differ from hotel to hotel, a key obtained from one well-known hotel chain that was being used for a regional Identity Theft Presentation was found to contain the following information:

- a. Customer's (your) name.
- b. Customer's partial home address.
- c. Hotel room number.
- d. Check-in date and check-out date.
- e. Customer's (your) credit card number and expiration date!

When you turn them in to the front desk, your personal information is there for any employee to access by simply scanning the card in the hotel scanner. An employee can

take a hand-full of cards home and, using a scanning device, access the information onto a laptop computer and go shopping at your expense.

Simply put, hotels do not erase these cards until an employee issues the card to the next hotel guest. It is usually kept in a drawer at the front desk with YOUR INFORMATION ON IT!!!!

The bottom line is, keep the cards or destroy them! NEVER leave them behind and NEVER turn them in to the front desk when you check out of a room They will not charge you for the card.

Information courtesy of: Sergeant K. Jorge, Detective Sergeant, Pasadena Police Department.”

Fraud Tips from the Better Business Bureau

The following information was published in the Association of CFE’s “Fraud Information Newsletter” on November 19, 2003:

‘Tis the Season to Avoid Fraud

Whether buying high-tech computer products or more traditional gifts, the Better Business Bureau has some helpful tips for holiday shoppers:

Trust Your Instincts. Check the online seller’s price against the estimated retail value of the software. Whether it is being sold as new or used, if a price for software seems too good to be true, it probably is.

Make Sure It’s Authentic. Be suspicious of software products that do not include proof of authenticity, such as original disks, manuals, licensing, service policies, warranties, etc.

Read the Label. Beware of products that do not look genuine, such as those with hand-written labels.

Beware of Back-Ups. Take special care to avoid sellers offering to make “back-up” copies. This is a clear indication that the software is illegal.

Steer Clear of Compilations. Be wary of compilations of software titles from different publishers on a single disk or CD.

Source: Better Business Bureau.

Training Opportunities

(2) The Pacific Northwest License, Tax and Fraud Association has a “free” training class for its members on December 10, 2003, at the Criminal Justice Training Center in Burien, WA. The class includes the topics of: (1) Understanding Checks; (2) Timeliness of Returned Items – UCC 3 and 4; (3) Ethics; and, (4) Washington State Identification – What Is Legitimate?. Membership in the organization is \$25 per year, and you can find additional information and forms at the web-site identified below. So, this is a good investment that results in saving you some training dollars. And, the organization provides quality speakers and topics throughout the year. You can obtain a more complete description of the topics for the December 10, 2003, training class at the organization’s web-site at: <http://pnltfa.com/Quarterly.htm>.

(2) The Oregon Chapter/ACFE is sponsoring an “Ethics Panel Discussion” in Portland, OR on December 9, 2003. Visit the Chapter web-site for additional information. Information about the web-site is contained in the Chapter Section of the Association’s web-site (www.cfenet.com). Pacific Northwest Chapter/ACFE President, Joe Dervaes, will be one of five members of the panel discussing this important topic.

Job Announcements

(1) On October 23, 2003, the Chapter received the following job announcement via e-mail:

The Oregon Department of Education, Salem, OR, has posted a job announcement for an Internal Auditor 3 (\$3,903-\$5,229 monthly salary). Announcement number ES058105 opened on October 24, 2003, and will close on November 7, 2003. Send completed application materials to: Human Resource Services, Oregon Department of Education, 255 Capitol Street N.E., Public Service Building, Salem, OR 97310-0203. Additional information may be obtained from Liz Snook, Oregon Department of Education, Human Resources Assistant, Recruitment, at (503) 378-3600, extension 4445.

(2) On October 23, 2003, the Chapter received the following job announcement via e-mail:

The Puget Sound Regional Council, Seattle, WA, has posted a job announcement for a Growth Management Intern (\$12 per hour). Application materials must be received by November 10, 2003. Send completed application materials to Puget Sound Regional Council, Attention: Growth Management Internship, 1011 Western Avenue, Suite 500, Seattle, WA 98104. Additional information may be obtained from “www.psrc.org/about/jobs”, or call Meghan Foley at the council at (206) 464-6175 or e-mail mfoley@psrc.org.

(1) On October 23, 2003, the Chapter received the following job announcement via e-mail:

The Puget Sound Regional Council, Seattle, WA, has posted a job announcement for an Associate Planner (Up to \$68,380 per year). Starting salary range is from \$45,000 to \$52,000 per year. Application materials must be received by November 17, 2003. Send completed application materials to Puget Sound Regional Council, Attention: Associate Planner Position, 1011 Western Avenue, Suite 500, Seattle, WA 98104. Additional information may be obtained from “www.psrc.org/about/jobs”, or call Meghan Foley at the council at (206) 464-6175 or e-mail mfoley@psrc.org.

(2) On November 17, 2003, the Chapter received the following job announcement via e-mail:

The Department of Licensing, Olympia, WA has posted a job announcement for an exempt position of Administrator, Prorate and Fuel Tax Services, Vehicle Services Division. Salary is exempt (\$65,000-\$70,000 annually) depending upon qualifications. The closing date is December 8, 2003. Additional information may be obtained from HRrecruit@dol.wa.gov, or contact the Human Resources Office, Department of Licensing, P. O. Box 6007, Olympia, WA 98507-6007, Attn: PFTS Administrator Recruitment.