

MEMORIAL GIFT

In Memory of
HOMER WEBB WATKINS, JR.
by
Bob & Anne Shearer
Jackson

Volunteer for MSCPA Committee Service

MSCPA Committees meet Thursday, May 9 for Committee Day at the MSCPA Building and members are encouraged to volunteer now for committee service.

The process is very easy:

Current committee rosters are carried on the Society's website at www.ms-cpa.org. Click on The Association tab at the top left and then follow the link to Committee Rosters. Review the committee titles and send an email to mail@ms-cpa.org listing up to three committee preferences.

President-Elect Beth Burgess will make appointments in early Spring and a confirmation will be sent to the committee member with details on your committee meeting on May 9. Continuing committee members will receive a notice of details on their committee meeting schedule.

Committees will meet during morning (9-11 a.m.) or afternoon (1-3 p.m.) sessions May 9.

Committees scheduled to meet in the morning starting at 9 o'clock include Accounting & Auditing, Awards, Education & Scholarships, Business Valuation, Continuing Professional Education, Firm Administration & Development, Governmental Accounting & Auditing, and Health Care Services.

The afternoon committee schedule starts at 1 p.m. and includes Industry, Insurance Trust, Legislation, Long Range Planning, Non-Profits, and Taxation.

Committees will plan their program of work for the new year. Minutes will be reviewed by the Board of Governors at the July meeting.

2013 MSCPA Convention

June 20-23, 2013
Sandestin Golf & Beach Resort



2014 MSCPA Convention

June 26-29, 2014
Sandestin Golf & Beach Resort



President-Elect **Beth Burgess** Names **Chairmen** for 2013-2014 Committees

President-Elect Beth Burgess has named Committee Chairmen to serve in the 2013-2014 fiscal year. For certain committees and for the very first time, representatives of the Millennial Generation have been named as Millennial Chairs. Others will be added later this Spring.

Accounting & Auditing	Nathan Cummins, Vicksburg
Advisory to State Board	Gary Walker, Ridgeland
Awards, Education & Scholarships	Karen Moody, Jackson
Millennial Chairman:	Shanell Watson, Jackson
Business Valuation & Litigation Support	Joey Hines, Jackson
Continuing Professional Education	Tela Hemenway, Pascagoula
Firm Administration & Development.....	Matt Freeland, Flowood
Millennial Chairman:	Katie Feibelman, Vicksburg
Governmental Accounting & Auditing.....	Tom Windham, Pearl
Health Care Services	David Williams, Jackson
Millennial Chairman:	Elizabeth Jones, Magee
Industry.....	Mollie Murphey, Jackson
Insurance Trust	Lance Mize, McComb
Co-Chairman:	Jimmy Stokes, Gulfport
Legislation	Tommy Butler, Ridgeland
Millennial Chairman:	Matt Bailey, Jackson
Long Range Planning	Ed Jones, Pascagoula
Non-Profits	Brent Wilson, Jackson
Peer Review	Charles R. Prince, Magee
Professional Conduct.....	Larry Lefoldt, Ridgeland
Taxation	Ted Edwards, Jackson



President Visits Southeast Chapter in Hattiesburg

President Lee Adams visited the MSCPA Southeast Chapter meeting Feb. 7 in Hattiesburg at the USM Alumni House and gave a national issues and MSCPA activities update. From left are Dawn Jones, Chapter representative to the Board of Governors; Jamie M. Hearn, Chapter Secretary/Treasurer; Laura Brame Cerra, Chapter President and current Statewide MSCPA Secretary; and President Adams. Not pictured is Chapter Vice President Gene Polk.



*Published
by the
Mississippi Society of
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The CPA Newsletter is the official publication of the Mississippi Society of Certified Public Accountants. The Newsletter invites articles of interest to the profession and gives credit to the author; however, it reserves the right to edit articles for correct spelling, wording and punctuation.

Opinions expressed are not necessarily the official policy of the MSCPA. Advertising is accepted in good faith that the product/services are of value stated.

Welcome New Members

New members include William Fortson Baird, Jr., Robert Wayne Carleton III, Sharon McCullers Ezell, Lauren Marie LaPrade, James David Madden, Andrew Sean Miller, Lucia Nall, William Ryan Pellum, and Jonathon Eugeno Stevenson.

Now completing the membership process are:

Sarah Fulton Bellipanni was born in Meridian and received an AA from Mississippi Delta Community College and BBA in Accountancy from Delta State University. She is the CFO of Humphreys County School District in Belzoni.

Dale Kelly Love was born in Starkville and attended the University of Southern Mississippi earning a BS in Business Administration with additional study in accounting at the University of Mississippi. He is on the staff of McArthur, Thames, Slay & Dews PLLC in Hattiesburg.

Marila L. Wall was born in Grenada and received a BBA in Management from Delta State University with additional study in accounting at the University of Mississippi. She is a Senior Accountant with Taylor, Powell, Wilson & Hartford PA in Grenada.

The University of Southern Mississippi

announces the forthcoming retirement of
three long-term faculty members

**Ms. Patricia Munn, Dr. Charles Jordan
and Dr. Roderick Posey.**

Ms. Munn and Dr. Posey joined the Southern Miss School of Accountancy in 1979; Dr. Jordan joined the accounting faculty in 1988.

A retirement reception in their honor will be held on Wednesday, April 17, 2013, from 3 to 5 PM at USM's Trent Lott Center. Friends and former students of Patty, Rod, and Charlie are cordially invited to attend.

Please RSVP to Ms. Mary Ann Iverson

NLT April 12, 2013 at 601-266-5162 or

mary.iverson@usm.edu.



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MISSISSIPPI SOCIETY OF CPAS 2013 ANNUAL MEETING
Wednesday, June 19 - Sunday, June 23, 2013 **GROUP CODE: 22P8YG**

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 Sharing With _____
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Your cut-off date for reservations is **May 5, 2013**, after which rooms will be sold on a space-available basis.

ACCOMMODATIONS AND RATES

A deposit of one night's room rate is required to secure rooms.

All room rates quoted **DO NOT** include fees and taxes.

Please circle your preferred accommodations. All requests are subject to availability at time booking request is received.
 Any other type of accommodation besides what is in your block will vary in cost depending on location.

<u>Accommodation</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Accommodation</u>	<u>Rate</u>
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Beachside 3 Bdrm*	\$ 639.00	LeCiel - Guest Room	\$ 150.00
Westwinds 1 Bdrm*	\$ 380.00	LeCiel - 1 Bdrm Suite	\$ 203.00
Westwinds 2 Bdrm*	\$ 510.00	Village – Studio	\$ 185.00
Westwinds 3 Bdrm*	\$ 659.00	Village 1Bdrm	\$ 207.00
Luau 1 Bdrm	\$ 210.00	Village 2 Bdrm	\$ 332.00
Luau 2 Bdrm	\$ 286.00	Village 3 Bdrm	\$ 417.00
Southside 2 Bdrm	\$ 300.00	Grand Complex Studio	\$ 197.00
Southside 3 Bdrm	\$ 400.00	Grand Complex 1 Bdrm	\$ 240.00
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		Grand Complex 3 Bdrm	\$ 410.00

*A minimum stay of 4 nights is required on Beachfront accommodations.

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Young CPA Network Started in 2009

The Young CPA Network started in 2009 to provide opportunities for young CPA's to connect with one another and to offer education and leadership development.

Catholic Charities, Inc. is seeking qualified accountants to serve on a Pro Bono Panel for referral of English as a Second Language and low income individuals with federal tax controversies. If you are interested in serving as a Pro Bono representative, please contact Michal Ann Galliano Oropeza at 601-326-3725 or at *mike.oropeza@ccjackson.org*.

The Network is a section of the MSCPA and is open to MSCPA members who are under the age of 35 or are within the first five years of becoming a CPA. The Network is completely governed by its peers with a board of directors, officers and committees.

Currently the Network functions out of three committees – Events, Communications, and Conference. In the last few months we drafted and approved a set of bylaws that formalize our Network and our leadership structure. Also, in November 2012 we hosted our 2nd annual Thanksgiving luncheon where representatives from the MS Food Network were on hand to share about the mission of their organization and collect both food and monetary donations.

We also look forward to our annual Spring CPE Conference on April 26, 2013. This year's event will be held at the MS Museum of Art. The Network is grateful to the MSCPA for its past and

continued support, and it is the Network's hope that its members can help play a role in helping the MSCPA reach its goals too. Anyone interested in joining should send an email to *msyoungcpa@ms-cpa.org*.

Do We Have Your Current Email Address?

(CPE confirmations & Society News Updates all go to your email address)

Send your preferred Email address to *mail@ms-cpa.org* and we'll update

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HORNE LLP Welcomes 2013 Spring Intern Class

HORNE LLP, recently welcomed 26 accounting students to its highly competitive spring internship program. They will complete their internships at various HORNE office locations throughout the Southeast.

HORNE's 2013 intern class includes: Adam Buckheister of Carthage, Miss., (University of Mississippi); Katie Carona of Richton, Miss., (University of Southern Mississippi); Brooks Champion of Arlington, Tenn., (University of Tennessee at Martin); Britney Clark of Wesson, Miss., (Mississippi State University); Caitlyn Dougherty of Birmingham, Ala., (Millsaps College); Clay Hall of Hernando, Miss., (University of Mississippi); Hayley Hall of Brookhaven, Miss., (Mississippi State University); Will Hayden of Covington, Tenn., (University of Mississippi); Christophyr Hayes of Huntsville, Ala., (University of Mississippi); Meg

Huntington of Oxford, Miss., (Millsaps College); Noel Johnson of Terry, Miss., (Mississippi State University); Alec Jones of Catonsville, Md., (University of Mississippi); Haley Kirkpatrick of Pearl, Miss., (Mississippi State University); Tim Lollar of Booneville, Miss., (University of Mississippi); Madison McKay of Sylacauga, Ala., (University of Mississippi); Melissa Pigott of Picayune, Miss., (University of Southern Mississippi); Barea Rajeh of Houston, Texas, (University of Houston); Briana Ricker of Clinton, Miss., (Mississippi College); Virginia Risher of Brandon, Miss., (Mississippi State University); Clark Shearer of Byram, Miss., (Mississippi State University); Blake Taylor of Humboldt, Tenn., (Freed-Hardeman University); Stephanie Tharpe of Jackson, Miss., (Jackson State University); Brielle Toney of Jackson, Miss., (Millsaps College); Ryan Wallace

of Starkville, Miss., (Mississippi State University); Landon Weaver of Flowood, Miss., (Mississippi State University); and Wesley Williams of Ridgeland, Miss., (Mississippi College).

Buckheister, Champion, Huntington, Jones, Shearer, Taylor, Tharpe, and Williams will be completing their internships in tax services. Dougherty, Clay Hall, Hayden, Hayes, Johnson, Kirkpatrick, McKay, Pigott, and Wallace will focus on assurance services. Carona, Clark, Hayley Hall, and Toney will complete their internships in health care services. Lollar's internship will be in franchise services, and Rajeh's internship will be in disaster recovery services. Ricker will complete her internship in fraud, forensic and litigation services, and Risher will complete her internship in assurance and tax. Weaver will focus his internship in construction advisory services.

Our Members in the News

The Bank of Forest announces that **Thomas E. Walker, Jr.**, has been promoted to the position of Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer. He joined the bank in 2008 and has previously served as the Chief Financial Officer and Legal Counsel, two positions he will retain going forward.



KING OBTAINS ABV CREDENTIAL: **Robert David King, Jr., CPA/ABV, CVA, CFE** has successfully passed the examination and met the experience requirements to be classified as Accredited in Business Valuation (ABV) by the AICPA. King is a shareholder with The Koerber Company, PA, which is located in Hattiesburg, Mississippi and limits its work to valuation, forensic, and litigation services for attorneys, CPAs, and their clients.

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2013 Convention Set June 20-23 at Sandestin

Registration forms for the 2013 MSCPA Annual Convention will go in the mail later in March and have been posted to the Society website. This will be the 28th consecutive year for the Convention and Annual Business Meeting to be held at the Sandestin Golf & Beach Resort in Destin, Florida.

Among speakers confirmed by President Lee Adams are Bill Balhoff, Vice Chairman of the American Institute of CPAs (AICPA) and Dr. Will Fleenor, K2 Enterprises, who are Friday morning speakers. Tim Moore of Generational Insights, will keynote Saturday morning following the Business Meeting.

Two four-hour CPE programs will be offered Thursday. Dr. Quinton Booker of Jackson State University will present a four-hour Ethics program in the morning

and Bill Taylor, CPA, will present a four-hour program "Beyond the Fiscal Cliff: Tax Implications of the 2013 Budget Deal" in the afternoon.

The Annual Business Meeting starts at 9 a.m. Saturday with election of officers for 2013-2014 and reports from the Secretary, Treasurer, AICPA Council Representative, State Board, and Insurance Trust will be presented. Presentations will be made to the Outstanding Educator, Public Service Award Winner, and CPA Exam Medal Winners.

Complete convention details and registration materials will also be posted to the Society's website at www.ms-cpa.org.

(See the Sandestin Room Reservation form on Page 3)

Subpoena Questions & Answers

By Nadia Bell and Natalie Vu

Facing a subpoena can be a daunting situation. CPA firms are often uncertain about whether or how to comply with a subpoena while complying with a number of rules and regulations that are intended to protect client confidentiality. The following Q&A focuses on understanding the nature of subpoenas and how CPA firms can minimize their professional liability exposures when responding to them.

What is a subpoena?

A subpoena is usually a formal request for documents and/or appearance, typically requested by an attorney in the course of litigation, or by a government agency in the course of a criminal or civil investigation.

What should I do when I receive a subpoena?

Consider the information you have in your client file and the recent communications you may have had with the client or any parties involved, and then contact your professional liability risk adviser or attorney before responding to the subpoena. In evaluating the appropriate course of action for you to take, your adviser may consider the following information:

- What is the underlying litigation about? Do you have direct or other knowledge about what the issues are in the litigation?
- What is the subpoena asking you to do?

Is it requesting that you provide testimony, documents, or both? Does the subpoena excuse you from testifying if you provide the documents in advance?

- Are you in possession of the information listed? Review the subpoena and consider whether your firm is in possession of the information.
- Does the subpoena provide a deadline for complying? If the deadline is quickly approaching, or if the subpoenaing party did not provide sufficient time to comply, have you received any communications to suggest the opposing party will grant an extension of time?
- What communications have you had with your client? Have you had any contact with your client, the attorneys on the case, or the governmental agency? Does that contact suggest whether you are a target or merely a person in possession of information? Is the client taking specific measures to formally object to the subpoena?

Why am I receiving this subpoena?

Typically, an attorney or other party will issue a subpoena because he or she believes you are in possession of information that will establish facts that are relevant to the underlying case. However, sometimes a subpoena may indicate you are a target in the underlying case by seeking information that could implicate you as possibly liable for the

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Alternative Dispute Resolution: Planning Ahead for Conflicts

by Ronald C. Parisi

There are effective ways of managing potential disputes or conflicts with clients, and there are less effective ways. Assuming that a dispute will never arise is not a prudent or wise approach to take with any client or engagement. The best approach is to proactively establish an understanding with the client for how potential disputes will be handled, according to the type of dispute, and to document that understanding with a pre-dispute agreement.

Mediation and arbitration are forms of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) that are cost-effective and efficient options to litigation when used correctly in the right situations. Both processes can be administered by professional organizations, such as the American Arbitration Association, and are similar to each other in some ways but different from each other in other ways. First some definitions:

Mediation is a facilitated negotiating process in which the parties to the dispute meet voluntarily with a neutral third party, the mediator, who assists the parties in reaching

an acceptable settlement. The parties and their representatives (attorneys and/or claims specialists) have the ability to negotiate, settle, or terminate the process. Once a settlement has been reached, it is signed by the parties, and the settlement is then binding and enforceable. If a settlement is not reached, the parties may then move on to arbitration or litigation, depending on any agreements they may have made with each other beforehand.

Arbitration also utilizes a neutral third party, the arbitrator, or a panel of arbitrators, who reach a resolution independent of any negotiations between the parties. Arbitration can be binding in that all parties agree to abide by the arbitrator's decision before the process begins, usually to avoid litigation, or the process can be nonbinding and used by the parties to get an opinion of their case before deciding whether to negotiate, litigate, or both.

Claims experience has shown that mediation has a high success rate when used as a first step to resolve all disputes, regardless of the engagement. Mediation is therefore recommended for all disputes

and engagements, except when the cost of a mediator exceeds the amount of fees involved. Claims experience has also shown that arbitration is successful in resolving basic disputes over fees or simple individual tax return preparation engagements, but it is not as successful in consistently achieving fair resolutions to high-dollar disputes involving complex engagements.

Decisions over whether to litigate versus arbitrate in high-dollar, complex professional liability cases can be difficult and fraught with unpredictability. There are pros and cons on both sides of the issue. For example:

- An arbitrator can be unpredictable in terms of what kind and how much evidence is allowed in the arbitration process. The rules of evidence that apply in litigation do not apply in arbitration. On the other hand, juries can also be unpredictable in terms of how they regard all of the evidence developed in litigation from subpoenas, interrogatories and the discovery process.

- Arbitrators do not have to follow

continued on page 17



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CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

APRIL & MAY, 2013

April 26, 2013

Friday
Jackson
Miss. Museum of Art

YOUNG CPAS CONFERENCE

Discussion Leader: Panel
Cost: Members: \$100 Non-Members: \$100 AICPA Member Discount: \$0
Course Hours: 8:15-4:00
LEVEL: Update **CPE Credit:** 8 TBD **VENDOR:** n/a **ACRONYM:** YCPA

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: As the date for this event approaches, please access the MSCPA web site for details and registration information on this conference. www.ms-cpa.org

May 6, 2013

Monday
Ridgeland
MSCPA Center

Mississippi Sales and Use Tax Update

Discussion Leader: Greg Duke, CPA
Cost: Members: \$140 Non-Members: \$180 AICPA Member Discount: \$0
Course Hours: 1:00-4:30
LEVEL: Update **CPE Credit:** 4 Tax **VENDOR:** Self-developed **ACRONYM:** MSUT-13

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: This seminar, led by a representative of the Mississippi Department of Revenue, will include an introduction on *Sales Tax: Levies, Returns and Filing, and Exemptions; Use Tax; Casual Sales Tax; Industry-Specific Sales Tax; Contractor's Tax; and more. This seminar will be a great opportunity to get the latest Sales and Use Tax information directly from the Department of Revenue.

May 9, 2013

Thursday

COMMITTEE DAY

Committee members will be notified of times for each committee. All meetings will be at the MSCPA Center.

May 10, 2013

Friday
Ridgeland
Embassy Suites

ACCOUNTING & AUDITING CONFERENCE

Discussion Leader: Panel
Cost: Members: \$199 Non-Members: \$274 AICPA Member Discount: \$0
Course Hours: 8:00-4:30
LEVEL: Update **CPE Credit:** 8 A&A **VENDOR:** Self-developed **ACRONYM:** AAC

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: As the date for this event approaches, please access the MSCPA web site for details and registration information on this conference. www.ms-cpa.org

May 13, 2013

Monday
Hattiesburg
Convention Center

Auditing Defined Contribution Plans

Discussion Leader: William F. (Bill) Taylor, CPA
Cost: Members: \$255 Non-Members: \$330 AICPA Member Discount: \$30
Course Hours: 9:00-5:00
LEVEL: Advanced **CPE Credit:** 8 A&A **VENDOR:** AICPA **ACRONYM:** AEMP

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: This course provides an opportunity to explore the more advanced issues of financial statement reporting for employee benefit plans, such as communication and coordination of difficulties between the plan sponsor, the auditor and various service organizations. Upon completion of this course, participants will be able to discuss: Electronic Transactions; Identifying and Addressing Complex Risks; Implementing Changes in Compliance Rules and Legislative Issues; Fraud in Pension Plans- Reducing the Risk of Material Misstatement Through a Combination of Prevention, Deterrence, and Detection Measures; Fair Value Measurement; Participant Loans; Over/under Auditing Practices; Disclosure Requirements.

May 13, 2013

Monday
Hattiesburg **NEW**
Convention Center

Tax Strategies for Businesses: Planning Techniques and Current Issues

Discussion Leader: Harris H. (Trip) Barnes, III JD
Cost: Members: \$255 Non-Members: \$330 AICPA Member Discount: \$30 **NEW**
Course Hours: 9:00-5:00
LEVEL: Intermediate **CPE Credit:** 8 Tax **VENDOR:** AICPA **ACRONYM:** CHTX-1

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: Participants will receive a refresher on proven tax saving techniques that have been updated with recent tax legislation and/or court rulings and their effect on particular techniques. Upon completion of this course, participants will be able to discuss: Entity Options; Compensation; Retirement Plans and Deferred Compensation; Passive Activities and At-Risk Issues; Shareholder/Partner Basis; Insolvency and Bankruptcy; Business Losses; Distressed Properties; Tax Credits; Succession Planning; Multi-State Taxation.

May 13, 2013

Monday
Ridgeland
MSCPA Center

Cases in Corporate Ethics for Mississippi CPAs

Discussion Leader: John L. Daly, MBA, CPA, CMA, CPIM
Cost: Members: \$140 Non-Members: \$180 AICPA Member Discount: \$0
Course Hours: 8:30-12
LEVEL: Intermediate **CPE Credit:** 4 Ethics **VENDOR:** Executive Education **ACRONYM:** CCE-MS

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: This seminar includes eight cases drawn from real-life business conflicts involving corporate financial managers. Topics Discussed include: How do you handle an owner who pays for personal expenses with company funds? Can you protect the public interest without violating our profession's confidentiality rules? How can a corporate world CPA get in trouble with their board of accountancy? Is a culture of fear and intimidation particularly susceptible to corporate fraud? Is exaggerating your CPE hours a violation of our professional codes of conduct? Does any legislation provide effective Whistleblower protection? This seminar also includes one hour of Mississippi Law and has been approved by the State Board to meet their requirement for three hours of general ethics and one hour of Mississippi-specific ethics.

May 13, 2013

Monday
Ridgeland
MSCPA Center

Lean Accounting: Apply Lean Thinking to Financial Management

Discussion Leader: John L. Daly, MBA, CPA, CMA, CPIM
Cost: Members: \$140 Non-Members: \$180 AICPA Member Discount: \$0
Course Hours: 1:00-4:30

LEVEL: Intermediate **CPE Credit:** 4 General **VENDOR:** Executive Education **ACRONYM:** LA

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: Pressures from many sources are forcing financial managers to seek ways to do more with less. Accountants everywhere are rethinking the way they manage. This seminar will show you how to focus on your accounting customer and deliver more value, more effectively. **Highlights:** Understand the process of lean thinking; View accounting processes from the user's perspective; Implement a "pull" system for financial information; Make accounting systems flow efficiently; Eliminate processes that do not produce value; Understand accounting for lean operations; Develop a culture of continuous improvement. This seminar includes group discussion of four cases.

May 14, 2013

Compilation, Review, and Accounting Service Update

Tuesday
Hattiesburg
Convention Center

Discussion Leader: James R. (Jim) Crockett, CPA, DBA
Cost: Members: \$140 Non-Members: \$180 AICPA Member Discount: \$0
Course Hours: 8:30-12

LEVEL: Advanced **CPE Credit:** 4 A&A **VENDOR:** AICPA **ACRONYM:** CL4COMP1

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: If you supervise compilation, review, and accounting service engagements, this course will help you comply with the professional standards by keeping you informed of the latest developments and issues relevant to these engagements. Learn about SSARS developments, quality control issues, OCBOA disclosures, FASB codification, IFRS, and other areas affecting compilation, review, and accounting service engagements. Upon completion of this course, participants will be able to discuss: Compilation and Review Guidance; Recent SSARS Developments; Accounting and Reporting Issues; Current and Future Standard Setting Projects.

May 14, 2013

Advanced Compilation and Review Issues: Advanced Issues in Compilation, Review, and Accounting Services

Tuesday
Hattiesburg
Convention Center

Discussion Leader: James R. (Jim) Crockett, CPA, DBA
Cost: Members: \$140 Non-Members: \$180 AICPA Member Discount: \$0
Course Hours: 1:00-4:30

LEVEL: Advanced **CPE Credit:** 4 A&A **VENDOR:** AICPA **ACRONYM:** CL4CRA-1

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: If you supervise compilation, review, and accounting service engagements, this course will keep you informed of the most prevalent advanced management and administrative issues with these engagements. This course contains many case studies to reinforce best practices for managing the accounting, reporting, and performance issues with compilation, review and accounting service engagements. Upon completion of this course, participants will be able to discuss: Compilations and Reviews; Accounting and Reporting Issues; Engagement Administrative and Performance Issues; OCBOA Financial Statement Issues; Latest Developments.

May 14, 2013

From Hiring to Firing and Everything in Between: Legal, Tax, and Health Care Issues

Tuesday
Hattiesburg **NEW**
Convention Center

Discussion Leader: William F. (Bill) Taylor, CPA
Cost: Members: \$255 Non-Members: \$330 AICPA Member Discount: \$0 **NEW**
Course Hours: 9:00-5:00

LEVEL: Basic **CPE Credit:** 8 General **VENDOR:** Surgent-McCoy **ACRONYM:** HTOF-2

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: The employer-employee relationship strains both sides in a troubled economy, and businesses need CPAs, controllers, and other advisors to provide understanding of the complex legal, tax, and health care issues associated with all aspects of employment. This course provides in-depth coverage of this critical area. Major topics include hiring and firing issues – What questions cannot be asked in an interview; how to document employee performance; establishing an annual review system; when an employer may and may not fire an employee; Employment contracts – An analysis of the legal and planning issues in structuring employment contracts; when noncompetition agreements will and will not work; Employment issues in the economy – Telecommuters and other special situations; Legal liability issues – Recognition of age discrimination, sex discrimination, FLSA issues, minimum wage, overtime, sexual harassment, and more; Fringe benefit issues – COBRA, Family and Medical Leave Act, and what is new in health care.

May 14, 2013

Driving Corporate Performance: The CFO's Role in Developing a Competitive Advantage

Tuesday
Ridgeland **NEW**
MSCPA Center

Discussion Leader: John L. Daly, MBA, CPA, CMA, CPIM
Cost: Members: \$255 Non-Members: \$330 AICPA Member Discount: \$0 **NEW**
Course Hours: 9:00-5:00

LEVEL: Intermediate **CPE Credit:** 8 General **VENDOR:** Executive Education **ACRONYM:** DCP

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: This seminar provides financial executives the skills necessary to tie the company's strategy to its performance metrics and drive objectives achievement. Topics Discussed include: Knowing why successful companies focus their strategy; Understand why great companies use a "Hedgehog Concept"; Developing strategies for success including cost leadership strategies, Differentiation strategies, and Lean competition; Managing the strategic planning process; Creating strategy maps to tie your strategic objectives to your financial performance metrics; and Translating strategic initiatives into accomplishments. This seminar includes five opportunities for participants to practice their skills.

May 15, 2013

Ethics, Rules & Regulations

Wednesday
Hattiesburg
Convention Center

Discussion Leader: Donna Ingram, CPA, CFE, CRFA
Cost: Members: \$140 Non-Members: \$180 AICPA Member Discount: \$0
Course Hours: 8:30-12

LEVEL: Update **CPE Credit:** 4 Ethics **VENDOR:** Self-developed **ACRONYM:** ERR-3

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: This seminar satisfies the State Board's requirement for three hours of general ethics and one hour of Mississippi Rules and Regulations.

May 15, 2013

Why You Need to Know Something About Fraud and Internal Controls

Wednesday
Hattiesburg **NEW**
Convention Center

Discussion Leader: Donna Ingram, CPA, CFE, CRFA
Cost: Members: \$140 Non-Members: \$180 AICPA Member Discount: \$0 **NEW**
Course Hours: 1:00-4:30

LEVEL: Intermediate **CPE Credit:** 4 A&A **VENDOR:** Self-developed **ACRONYM:** KFIC4-1

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: Whether you are an auditor, tax preparer, controller or member of management with financial responsibilities you play an important role in helping prevent and detect fraud. We often get too involved in our routine activities or assume it is someone else's job to detect fraud. This mindset can be costly. This course will increase your awareness of fraud schemes and red flags that may indicate fraud exists. The importance of internal controls will also be emphasized. Actual fraud stories will be shared so that you can learn from the experiences of others.

May 15, 2013

Wednesday
Hattiesburg
Convention Center

Annual Update for Controllers: Current Issues and the Latest Trends

Discussion Leader: Steven J. Toups, CPA

Cost: Members: \$255 Non-Members: \$330 AICPA Member Discount: \$30

Course Hours: 9:00-5:00

LEVEL: Update **CPE Credit:** 8 General **VENDOR:** AICPA **ACRONYM:** SKSB

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: Gain a better understanding of current economic issues and the latest trends in accounting, finance, human resources, treasury management and business systems. Discuss leading-edge topics in managerial accounting and finance in a session that is packed with useful tips and how-to guidance that you can apply immediately. Upon completion of this course, participants will be able to discuss: The Economy - "What's next"; New Excel Techniques and Tools; Human Resource Trends and Ethics Issues; Best Practices in Working Capital, What should a company be doing on Social Media; Creating Value through Strategic Alignment; Innovations in Cloud Computing; Latest Top Technology Initiatives.

May 15-16, 2013

Wednesday-Thursday
Ridgeland
MSCPA Center

PROGRAM FOR MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT

Discussion Leader: PANEL

Cost: Members: \$260 Non-Members: \$340 AICPA Member Discount: \$0

Course Hours: 8:30-4:30

LEVEL: Update **CPE Credit:** 16 General **VENDOR:** n/a **ACRONYM:** PMD

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: As the date for this event approaches, please access the MSCPA web site for details and registration information on this conference. www.ms-cpa.org.

May 16, 2013

Thursday
Jackson
Eubank & Betts

AICPA Advanced Course: Overview of the AICPA Peer Review Program Standards

Discussion Leader: Gloria Roberts, CPA

Cost: Members: \$255 Non-Members: \$330 AICPA Member Discount: \$30

Course Hours: TBA

LEVEL: Advanced **CPE Credit:** 8 A&A **VENDOR:** AICPA **ACRONYM:** ADPRT

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: This one-day, advanced course is designed for experienced reviewers who want to heighten their peer review skills. It is an excellent follow-up to the AICPA's training course, *How to Conduct a Review Under the AICPA Practice-Monitoring Programs*, and includes an up-to-the-minute analysis of the latest AICPA Peer Review Program Standards. Enhance your ability to conclude and report peer review findings for system, engagement and report reviews, learn about changes to the peer review standards and review the risk-based approach to planning a peer review.

May 16, 2013

Thursday
Ridgeland **NEW**
Embassy Suites

The Best Income Tax, Estate Tax, and Financial Planning Ideas of 2013

Discussion Leader: Sue Smith, CPA

Cost: Members: \$255 Non-Members: \$330 AICPA Member Discount: \$0 **NEW**

Course Hours: 9:00-5:00

LEVEL: Intermediate **CPE Credit:** 8 Tax **VENDOR:** Surgent-McCoy **ACRONYM:** IIEFP

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: Income and transfer tax rates appear destined to change yet again, and clients will require extensive planning and reconsideration of appropriate tax strategies. CPAs must be prepared for one of the most complex years in recent history. The purpose of the course is to explore practical tax-planning ideas that practitioners can use to assist clients with their needs. This course is crucial for CPAs who are looking for good ideas that can save clients money!

May 17, 2013

Friday
Ridgeland
MSCPA Center

The Complete Guide to Payroll Taxes and 1099 Issues

Discussion Leader: Sue Smith, CPA

Cost: Members: \$255 Non-Members: \$330 AICPA Member Discount: \$0

Course Hours: 9:00-5:00

LEVEL: Basic **CPE Credit:** 8 Tax **VENDOR:** Surgent-McCoy **ACRONYM:** CGPT

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: Employment taxes are often overlooked as an area where more planning may be effective. Payroll taxes have become an increasing burden for the average business, and IRS penalties for noncompliance have risen dramatically in recent years. They have also been subject to employer incentives. The Service has announced that uncovering noncompliance by employers ranks high on its audit list. This course presents a comprehensive overview of federal payroll taxes, Form 1099, and related compliance issues. Topics include: Payroll tax requirements for wages, employee benefits and reimbursements, nonqualified deferred compensation, stock options, and tips; Fringe benefits issues, such as health insurance, life insurance, cafeteria plan benefits, accountable and non-accountable plans, standard mileage rates, and per diem rates; Special issues – Using a common paymaster, how to file W-2s after a takeover, merger, or acquisition, and state and local; tax withholding; Statutory employees; and more.

May 20-21, 2013

Monday-Tuesday
Ridgeland
Embassy Suites

MISSISSIPPI TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE

Discussion Leader: PANEL

Cost: Members: \$435 Non-Members: \$585 AICPA Member Discount: \$0

Course Hours: 8:00-4:00

LEVEL: Varies **CPE Credit:** 16 General **VENDOR:** K2 Enterprises **ACRONYM:** MTC13

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: This conference is filled with 16 hours of fast-paced presentations designed to maximize your time and enhance your learning. Nationally recognized speakers have extensive expertise in numerous software applications. They will share their knowledge with you in order to help you do your job with efficiency and ease. Participants will receive helpful tips and advanced techniques, along with the tools and skills necessary to keep up with the ever-increasing pace of changes in computer technology. This conference is designed for CPAs in public practice or industry who want to take better advantage of technology to improve efficiency and effectiveness. Check the MSCPA web site (www.ms-cpa.org) in early April for details on 2013 topics and breakout sessions.

May 20-21, 2013

Monday-Tuesday
Ridgeland
MSCPA Center

Accounting and Auditing Workshop

Discussion Leader: David Mosley, CPA

Cost: Members: \$380 Non-Members: \$530 AICPA Member Discount: \$60

Course Hours: 9:00-5:00

LEVEL: Intermediate **CPE Credit:** 16 A&A **VENDOR:** AICPA **ACRONYM:** AAUW

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: Are your accounting and auditing skills up to date and on par with industry standards? Make sure with this comprehensive, two-day course that updates you on all of the new accounting, auditing, compilation and review, and other professional standards. Presentation materials include practical applications of the pronouncements covered and a comprehensive compilation and review update. Upon completion of this course, participants will be able to discuss: Practical Applications of the Pronouncements Covered; Compilation and Review Update; Latest PCAOB and SEC Reporting Requirements; Variable Interest Entities; FASB Current Projects - Leases and Revenue Recognition; Assurance Services; Overview of the Clarity Project and Key Changes; Fair Value Disclosures; Recent COSO Guidance.

May 22, 2013

Wednesday
Ridgeland
MSCPA Center

Revenue Recognition: Getting the New Standard Right

Discussion Leader: James R. (Jim) Crockett, CPA, DBA

Cost: Members: \$255 Non-Members: \$330 AICPA Member Discount: \$30

Course Hours: 9:00-5:00

LEVEL: Intermediate **CPE Credit:** 8 A&A **VENDOR:** AICPA **ACRONYM:** RRNS-1

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: Revenue recognition has been the cause of audit failures and the focus of corporate abuse and fraud for many years. The new standard on revenue recognition, currently expected to be issued in the first quarter of 2013, is intended to improve the financial reporting of revenues. This course will provide financial professionals with the necessary tools to understand how to work with the new concepts and principles of revenue recognition. In addition, through practical examples, this course will assist you in avoiding revenue recognition traps. Upon completion of this course, participants will be able to discuss: Current Revenue Recognition Challenges; SEC Guidance; Revenue Recognition for Certain Industries; Multiple Deliverable Revenue Arrangements; Proposed Contract Method; Special Issues with Proposed Standard; and more.

May 23, 2013

Thursday
Ridgeland **NEW**
MSCPA Center

The Best S Corporation, Limited Liability, and Partnership Update Course by Surgent-McCoy

Discussion Leader: Jan Lewis, CPA

Cost: Members: \$255 Non-Members: \$330 AICPA Member Discount: \$0 **NEW**

Course Hours: 9:00-5:00

LEVEL: Update **CPE Credit:** 8 Tax **VENDOR:** Surgent-McCoy **ACRONYM:** BCPE-1

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: Practitioners need to keep abreast of all tax changes affecting pass-through entities used by their business clients and employer, and this enlightening course delivers that information. You will learn invaluable knowledge, strategies, techniques, innovative tax-planning concepts, income-generating ideas, and other planning opportunities available to S corporations, partnerships, LLCs, and LLPs. Major topics include: Choice of entity issues; Basis issues; Self-employment taxes; Series LLCs: wave of the future?; Debts between entity and the investors; defining bona fide debt for back-to-back loans; Changes in expensing and depreciating capital; Impact of health care changes on pass-through entities; A review of the key cases, rulings, and tax law changes; Practice aids and tax-planning worksheets; Coverage of business tax changes under tax reform; Any late-breaking tax legislation; and more.

May 24, 2013

Friday
Ridgeland **NEW**
MSCPA Center

From Hiring to Firing and Everything in Between: Legal, Tax, and Health Care Issues

Discussion Leader: William F. (Bill) Taylor, CPA

Cost: Members: \$255 Non-Members: \$330 AICPA Member Discount: \$0 **NEW**

Course Hours: 9:00-5:00

LEVEL: Basic **CPE Credit:** 8 General **VENDOR:** Surgent-McCoy **ACRONYM:** HTOF-1

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: The employer-employee relationship strains both sides in a troubled economy, and businesses need CPAs, controllers, and other advisors to provide understanding of the complex legal, tax, and health care issues associated with all aspects of employment. This course provides in-depth coverage of this critical area. Major topics include hiring and firing issues – What questions cannot be asked in an interview; how to document employee performance; establishing an annual review system; when an employer may and may not fire an employee; Employment contracts – An analysis of the legal and planning issues in structuring employment contracts; when noncompetition agreements will and will not work; Employment issues in the economy – Telecommuters and other special situations; Legal liability issues – Recognition of age discrimination, sex discrimination, FLSA issues, minimum wage, overtime, sexual harassment, and more; Fringe benefit issues – COBRA, Family and Medical Leave Act, and what is new in health care.

May 28, 2013

Tuesday
Ridgeland **NEW**
MSCPA Center

Tax Strategies for Businesses: Planning Techniques and Current Issues

Discussion Leader: Harris H. (Trip) Barnes, III, JD

Cost: Members: \$255 Non-Members: \$330 AICPA Member Discount: \$30 **NEW**

Course Hours: 9:00-5:00

LEVEL: Intermediate **CPE Credit:** 8 Tax **VENDOR:** AICPA **ACRONYM:** CHTX-2

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: Participants will receive a refresher on proven tax saving techniques that have been updated with recent tax legislation and/or court rulings and their effect on particular techniques. Upon completion of this course, participants will be able to discuss: Entity Options; Compensation; Retirement Plans and Deferred Compensation; Passive Activities and At-Risk Issues; Shareholder/Partner Basis; Insolvency and Bankruptcy; Business Losses; Distressed Properties; Tax Credits; Succession Planning; Multi-State Taxation.

May 29, 2013

Wednesday
Ridgeland **NEW**
MSCPA Center

Forensic Accounting: Critical Phases of an Effective Fraud Investigation

Discussion Leader: Glenn Helms, PhD, CPA, CISA, CIA

Cost: Members: \$255 Non-Members: \$330 AICPA Member Discount: \$0 **NEW**

Course Hours: 9:00-5:00

LEVEL: Intermediate **CPE Credit:** 8 A&A **VENDOR:** Surgent-McCoy **ACRONYM:** FOAC

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: This course provides an in-depth review of the major processes that are performed in a financial fraud investigation. These processes include planning, hypothesis generation, Internet-based and other types of research, link analysis, statistical and other forms of data analysis,

interviews and interrogations, and several other phases. This course furnishes accounting and other professionals with an understanding of the tasks that a financial forensic accountant and others perform during a financial fraud investigation. This course also provides external auditors with guidance as to when they should transition from being an auditor conducting a financial statement audit into an investigator conducting a financial fraud engagement when fraud is discovered during the financial statement audit. Auditing standards that address both management's and the external auditors' responsibility concerning fraud are presented to delineate the difference between fraud considerations during an audit of financial statements with a financial fraud investigation.

May 29, 2013

Why You Need to Know Something About Fraud and Internal Controls

Wednesday

Discussion Leader: Donna Ingram, CPA, CFE, CRFA

Tupelo

NEW

Cost: Members: \$140 Non-Members: \$180 AICPA Member Discount: \$0

NEW

BancorpSouth Conf. Cntr.

Course Hours: 8:30-12

LEVEL: Intermediate **CPE Credit:** 4 A&A **VENDOR:** Self-developed **ACRONYM:** KFIC4-2

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: Whether you are an auditor, tax preparer, controller or member of management with financial responsibilities you play an important role in helping prevent and detect fraud. We often get too involved in our routine activities or assume it is someone else's job to detect fraud. This mindset can be costly. This course will increase your awareness of fraud schemes and red flags that may indicate fraud exists. The importance of internal controls will also be emphasized. Actual fraud stories will be shared so that you can learn from the experiences of others.

May 29, 2013

Fraud Happened . . . Now What?

Wednesday

Discussion Leader: Donna Ingram, CPA, CFE, CRFA

Tupelo

NEW

Cost: Members: \$140 Non-Members: \$180 AICPA Member Discount: \$0

NEW

BancorpSouth Conf. Cntr.

Course Hours: 1:00-4:30

LEVEL: Intermediate **CPE Credit:** 4 A&A **VENDOR:** Self-developed **ACRONYM:** FHNW4-1

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: In this course you will step into the shoes of the investigator engaged to uncover the facts (who, how, and how much) of a fraudulent crime. Many small businesses have limited resources for sophisticated systems of internal controls to exist and when this is coupled with a lack of management oversight, company assets are exposed to increased risk of theft and abuse. You will have an opportunity to expose system weaknesses and develop system enhancements that will not only apply in the sample case, but can be recommended in real life, too.

May 29, 2013

The Best S Corporation, Limited Liability, and Partnership Update Course by Surgent-McCoy

Wednesday

Discussion Leader: Jan Lewis, CPA

Tupelo

NEW

Cost: Members: \$255 Non-Members: \$330 AICPA Member Discount: \$0

NEW

BancorpSouth Conf. Cntr.

Course Hours: 9:00-5:00

LEVEL: Update **CPE Credit:** 8 Tax **VENDOR:** Surgent-McCoy **ACRONYM:** BCPE-2

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: Practitioners need to keep abreast of all tax changes affecting pass-through entities used by their business clients and employer, and this enlightening course delivers that information. You will learn invaluable knowledge, strategies, techniques, innovative tax-planning concepts, income-generating ideas, and other planning opportunities available to S corporations, partnerships, LLCs, and LLPs. Major topics include: Choice of entity issues; Basis issues; Self-employment taxes; Series LLCs: wave of the future?; Debts between entity and the investors; defining bona fide debt for back-to-back loans; Changes in expensing and depreciating capital; Impact of health care changes on pass-through entities; A review of the key cases, rulings, and tax law changes; Practice aids and tax-planning worksheets; Coverage of business tax changes under tax reform; Any late-breaking tax legislation; and more.

May 30, 2013

Occupational Fraud: The Top 50 Tips on How to Prevent Executives, Managers, and Employees from Stealing and Not Getting Caught

Thursday

Discussion Leader: Glenn Helms, PhD, CPA, CISA, CIA

Ridgeland

NEW

Cost: Members: \$255 Non-Members: \$330 AICPA Member Discount: \$0

NEW

MSCPA Center

Course Hours: 9:00-5:00

LEVEL: Intermediate **CPE Credit:** 8 A&A **VENDOR:** Surgent-McCoy **ACRONYM:** OCFR

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: Many managers or auditors implement controls to prevent and detect fraud based on a "one-size fits all" checklist. Many times, the checklist items are not appropriate to businesses, or are out of date. This course provides a description of classic and emerging controls that are effective in reducing the risk of fraud in a variety of transaction processing systems. They could be manual, a hybrid manual/IT, or even entirely electronic (such as those proposed for some cloud computing applications). The five components of internal control are addressed as to how, even in smaller entities, controls can contribute to reducing the risk of fraud – including financial statement fraud. Also, a new model to help managers, accountants, and auditors to prevent and detect fraud is presented. This model is designed to encourage those responsible for fraud detection and prevention systems to consider certain fraud related variables in addition to those contained in the traditional fraud triangle (pressure, opportunity, rationalization).

May 30, 2013

Annual Update for Controllers: Current Issues and the Latest Trends

Thursday

Discussion Leader: Curtis J. Quickel, CPA

Tupelo

Cost: Members: \$140 Non-Members: \$180 AICPA Member Discount: \$0

BancorpSouth Conf. Cntr.

Course Hours: 8:30-12:00

LEVEL: Update **CPE Credit:** 4 General **VENDOR:** AICPA **ACRONYM:** CL4SKSB

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: Gain a better understanding of current economic issues and the latest trends in accounting, finance, treasury management and business systems. Explore leading-edge topics in managerial accounting and finance in a session that is packed with useful tips and how-to guidance that you can apply immediately. Upon completion of this course, participants will be able to discuss: The Economy - "What's next"; Evaluation of the Controller/CFO Functions; Best Practices in Working Capital; What should a company be doing on Social Media; Innovations in Cloud Computing; and the Latest Top Technology Initiatives.

May 30, 2013

Financial Forecasting: Planning for Success

Thursday

Discussion Leader: Curtis J. Quickel, CPA

Tupelo

Cost: Members: \$140 Non-Members: \$180 AICPA Member Discount: \$0

BancorpSouth Conf. Cntr.

Course Hours: 1:00-4:30

LEVEL: Basic **CPE Credit:** 4 General **VENDOR:** AICPA **ACRONYM:** CL4FFMD

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: Proper planning is key to the success of a company. This course is designed to give participants an in-depth view of how projected financial statements are prepared and how they can be used. Learn the differences between budgeting and forecasting. Upon completion of this course, participants will be able to discuss: Overview of the Forecasting Process; The Basic Forecasting Model; Techniques Used to Forecast Sales; A Case Analysis on Working Capital Planning; Forecasting the Company's Capital Structure; and Projecting the Income Statement and Balance Sheet.

May 30, 2013

Audits of 401(k) Plans

Thursday

Discussion Leader: Bill Felder, CPA, CISA

Tupelo

Cost: Members: \$255 Non-Members: \$330 AICPA Member Discount: \$30

BancorpSouth Conf.Cntr.

Course Hours: 9:00-5:00

LEVEL: Basic **CPE Credit:** 8 **A&A** **VENDOR:** AICPA **ACRONYM:** AFKP-1

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: This course focuses on the special issues related to accounting, auditing and reporting on 401(k) employee benefit plans. The requirements of ERISA and SEC are explored as the materials demonstrate ways to plan and conduct an efficient and effective audit of 401 (k) plans. Upon completion of this course, participants will be able to discuss: Voice Response Recordkeeping Systems; New Developments; Preparing the Auditor's Report; Financial Statement Disclosures; Supplementary Schedules; Fair Value Measurement; Fraud and Other Risks.

May 31, 2013

Exploring the Updated Internal Control Framework: Critical Concepts in Design, Evaluation, Implementation, and Monitoring

Friday

Discussion Leader: Glenn Helms, PhD, CPA, CISA, CIA

Ridgeland

Cost: Members: \$255 Non-Members: \$330 AICPA Member Discount: \$0

MSCPA Center

Course Hours: 9:00-5:00

LEVEL: Intermediate **CPE Credit:** 8 **A&A** **VENDOR:** Surgent-McCoy **ACRONYM:** UICF

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: Technological advances, increased regulatory scrutiny, globalization, and other challenges have caused entities and auditors to struggle with proper consideration of the cost-benefit of internal controls, recognizing that a well-designed system does not have to prevent or detect all internal control deficiencies – just the ones that matter most to the entity's objectives. This course will provide practical guidance on what a sound system of internal controls "looks like" and the resulting impact on the financial statement audit, particularly for smaller entities.

May 31, 2013

Analyzing a Company's Financial Statement - Improve the Financial Decision Making Process

Friday

Discussion Leader: Curtis J. Quickel, CPA

Tupelo

Cost: Members: \$140 Non-Members: \$180 AICPA Member Discount: \$0

BancorpSouth Arena

Course Hours: 8:30-12:00

LEVEL: Basic **CPE Credit:** 4 **A&A** **VENDOR:** AICPA **ACRONYM:** CL4FSABM

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: Learn how to use a variety of analytic tools to evaluate financial statements and make better management decisions. Look beyond the basic ratios to determine the causes of a company's performance. This course enables you to closely examine the causes of common financial problems and employ financial analysis tools to make management decisions about them. Upon completion of this course, participants will be able to discuss: Valuation Techniques; Effect Ratios; DuPont System for Analyzing Profitability; Causal Analysis; and How to Conduct a Financial Statement Analysis.

May 31, 2013

Ethics, Rules & Regulations

Friday

Discussion Leader: William F. (Bill) Taylor, CPA

Tupelo

Cost: Members: \$140 Non-Members: \$180 AICPA Member Discount: \$0

BancorpSouth Arena

Course Hours: 8:30-12

LEVEL: Update **CPE Credit:** 4 **Ethics** **VENDOR:** Self-developed **ACRONYM:** ERR-4

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: This seminar satisfies the State Board's requirement for three hours of general ethics and one hour of Mississippi Rules and Regulations.

May 31, 2013

Decision-Making for Finance: Tips, Tools, and Techniques for Today's Financial Environment

Friday

Discussion Leader: Curtis J. Quickel, CPA

Tupelo

Cost: Members: \$140 Non-Members: \$180 AICPA Member Discount: \$0

BancorpSouth Arena

Course Hours: 1:00-4:30

LEVEL: Intermediate **CPE Credit:** 4 **General** **VENDOR:** AICPA **ACRONYM:** CL4TTMD

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: Today's fast-paced, global environment requires you—as a financial professional—to know when and how to use available tools and analytical techniques to identify and address and solve problems in your company and to improve your organization's budgeting and planning processes and results. Upon completion of this course, participants will be able to discuss: Statistical and Managerial Tools and Techniques Examples; Organizational Data Collection and Information Management System Design; Analytical Tools for Trending; Basic Analytical Model Construction; and Systematic Approaches and Techniques for Improving Operations.

May 31, 2013

Select Estate and Life Planning Issues for the Middle-Income Client

Friday

Discussion Leader: William F. (Bill) Taylor, CPA

Tupelo

Cost: Members: \$140 Non-Members: \$180 AICPA Member Discount: \$0

BancorpSouth Arena

Course Hours: 1:00-4:30

LEVEL: Basic **CPE Credit:** 4 **Tax** **VENDOR:** Surgent-McCoy **ACRONYM:** PMI4-1

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: Clients think that estate planning only applies to the very rich. In truth, there are many issues of critical concern for which the middle-income client needs to plan. This course is a must-attend for all CPAs who work with middle-income clients and are looking for ways to provide additional quality services. Discussions will include: More than 20 documents that clients may use; Provisions you need in a will, Trusts and other arrangements for children; Durable powers of attorney for health care and for financial matters; Asset protection strategies; and more. Attend this seminar for personal and professional education.

CPE REGISTRATION

Due to space constraints, the previous course descriptions have been condensed. The full descriptions – as provided by the CPE vendors – are available through links on our web site: www.ms-cpa.org under EDUCATION. You may register through the members' portion of the web site or by mailing or faxing the registration portion below with your check or credit card number to: Mississippi Society of CPAs, 306 Southampton Row, Ridgeland, MS 39157. Fax: (601) 856-8255. Please check each course you wish to attend and circle each amount included to ensure we enter your payment correctly.

(√) DATE	COURSE TITLE	CITY	LOCATION	* AICPA MEM\$	NON-MEM\$	CPE Hrs.	Rec'd Area
() Mar 28	Ethics, Rules & Regulations	Ridgeland	MSCPA Center	140	180	4	Ethics
() Apr 26	YOUNG CPAS CONFERENCE	Jackson	Miss. Museum of Art	100	100	8	TBD
() May 6	Mississippi Sales and Use Tax Update	Ridgeland	MSCPA Center	140	180	4	Tax
() May 9	COMMITTEE DAY	Ridgeland	MSCPA Center				
() May 10	ACCOUNTING & AUDITING CONFERENCE	Ridgeland	Embassy Suites	199	274	8	A&A
() May 13	Cases in Corporate Ethics for Mississippi CPAs	Ridgeland	MSCPA Center	140	180	4	Ethics
() May 13	Lean Accounting: Apply Lean Thinking to Financial Management	Ridgeland	MSCPA Center	140	180	4	General
() May 13	Auditing Defined Contribution Plans	Hattiesburg	Convention Center	* 255	330	8	A&A
() May 13	Tax Strategies for Businesses: Planning Techniques and Current Issues	Hattiesburg	Convention Center	* 255	330	8	Tax
() May 14	Compilation, Review, and Accounting Service Update	Hattiesburg	Convention Center	140	180	4	A&A
() May 14	Advanced Compilation and Review Issues	Hattiesburg	Convention Center	140	180	4	A&A
() May 14	From Hiring to Firing & Everything in Between: Legal, Tax, & Health Care ...	Hattiesburg	Convention Center	255	330	8	General
() May 14	Driving Corporate Performance: The CFO's Role	Ridgeland	MSCPA Center	255	330	8	General
() May 15	Ethics, Rules & Regulations	Hattiesburg	Convention Center	140	180	4	Ethics
() May 15	Why You Need to Know Something About Fraud and Internal Controls	Hattiesburg	Convention Center	140	180	4	A&A
() May 15	Annual Update for Controllers: Current Issues and the Latest Trends	Hattiesburg	Convention Center	* 255	330	8	General
() May 15-16	PROGRAM FOR MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT	Ridgeland	MSCPA Center	260	340	16	General
() May 16	AICPA Advanced Course: Overview of the AICPA Peer Review Standards	Jackson	Eubank & Betts	* 255	330	8	A&A
() May 16	The Best Income Tax, Estate Tax, and Financial Planning Ideas of 2013	Ridgeland	Embassy Suites	255	330	8	Tax
() May 17	The Complete Guide to Payroll Taxes and 1099 Issues	Ridgeland	MSCPA Center	255	330	8	Tax
() May 20-21	MISSISSIPPI TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE	Ridgeland	Embassy Suites	435	585	16	General
() May 20-21	Accounting and Auditing Workshop	Ridgeland	MSCPA Center	* 380	530	16	A&A
() May 22	Revenue Recognition: Getting the New Standard Right	Ridgeland	MSCPA Center	* 255	330	8	A&A
() May 23	The Best S Corp, LLC, and Partnership Update Course by Surgent-McCoy	Ridgeland	MSCPA Center	255	330	8	Tax
() May 24	From Hiring to Firing & Everything in Between: Legal, Tax, & Health Care ...	Ridgeland	MSCPA Center	255	330	8	General
() May 28	Tax Strategies for Businesses: Planning Techniques and Current Issues	Ridgeland	MSCPA Center	* 255	330	8	Tax
() May 29	Forensic Accounting: Critical Phases of an Effective Fraud Investigation	Ridgeland	MSCPA Center	255	330	8	A&A
() May 29	Why You Need to Know Something About Fraud and Internal Controls	Tupelo	BancorpSo. Conf. Cntr.	140	180	4	A&A
() May 29	Fraud Happened Now What?	Tupelo	BancorpSo. Conf. Cntr.	140	180	4	A&A
() May 29	The Best S Corp, LLC, and Partnership Update Course by Surgent-McCoy	Tupelo	BancorpSo. Conf. Cntr.	255	330	8	Tax
() May 30	Annual Update for Controllers: Current Issues and the Latest Trends	Tupelo	BancorpSouth Conf. Cntr.	140	180	4	General
() May 30	Financial Forecasting: Planning for Success	Tupelo	BancorpSouth Conf. Cntr.	140	180	4	General
() May 30	Audits of 401(k) Plans	Tupelo	BancorpSouth Conf. Cntr.	* 255	330	8	A&A
() May 30	Occupational Fraud: The Top 50 Tips on How to Prevent Executives,	Ridgeland	MSCPA Center	255	330	8	A&A
() May 31	Exploring the Updated Internal Control Framework: Critical Concepts . . .	Ridgeland	MSCPA Center	255	330	8	A&A
() May 31	Analyzing a Company's Financial Statement	Tupelo	BancorpSo. Arena	140	180	4	A&A
() May 31	Ethics, Rules & Regulations	Tupelo	BancorpSo. Arena	140	180	4	Ethics
() May 31	Decision-Making for Finance: Tips, Tools, and Techniques for Today	Tupelo	BancorpSo. Arena	140	180	4	General
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* AICPA Seminar. AICPA members may deduct \$30 per day from fee. See www.ms-cpa.org for the CPE Catalog with further details if necessary. The member rate for CPE programs is available to all members of the MSCPA. **Non-certified staff may also claim the member rate.**


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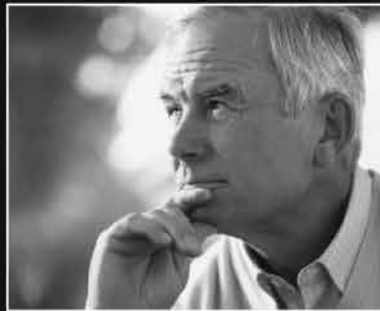
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DISPUTE RESOLUTION

continued from page 8

established legal precedents in reaching decisions. Nor are they required to explain the reasoning behind their decisions, though they are expected to follow a code of ethics. They are not required to have a law degree and can come from any field (preferably a field that pertains to the dispute in question, such as accounting and auditing).

- The arbitration process is quick compared to litigation, and the cost of arbitration is limited to the fees of the arbitrator and the attorneys involved. In contrast, the longer timeframes of litigation and discovery processes can lead to greater expenses of time and money.
- Arbitration (and mediation) are informal and private processes that can be kept confidential, whereas litigation is a formal process conducted in a public courtroom.
- In binding arbitration the parties usually have no appeal option, making it difficult to overturn a bad decision, even if the arbitrator's reasoning was demonstrably faulty. Some exceptions would be when an appeal option has been included in an arbitration clause, or when it can be proved that the arbitrator was biased. Litigation, on the other hand, allows multiple appeals at various levels.

Because of the limitations of the arbitration process, a legal defense can be constricted and impaired by arbitration when compared to litigation. CPA firms should therefore carefully consider all of the pros and cons, the advice of counsel, and the advice of their liability insurer before deciding to limit themselves to binding arbitration for all disputes. The ability to litigate high-dollar, complex cases is a significant right that should not be relinquished lightly. While adverse outcomes can be realized as a result of litigation as well as arbitration, restricting your firm to just one of the two options in all cases can be difficult to justify.

The following are some recommendations when addressing potential or actual disputes and conflicts:

Establish an understanding with clients for how potential disputes will be handled. Addressing this topic on a pre-dispute basis is an effective way to encourage honest and open dialogue during the course of your engagement.

Confirm with your legal counsel and liability insurer the applicability of ADR agreements in your state. In some states these agreements are effective only if they are used as part of an engagement letter or in a separate contract signed by the client.

Take the time to understand your rights and obligations under the agreement.

Many firms relying on the advice of others use language within the engagement letter stipulating the use of mediation and/or arbitration without truly understanding the impact of the language to their practice.

Consult with your liability insurer and attorney as soon as your firm finds itself in

a potential dispute or conflict. Many times the CPA is already in the middle of a conflict before realizing it. This not the time for guesswork on which steps to take next. Getting a professional risk advisor in your corner as soon as possible could be the best business decision you've ever made.

CAMICO Recommends	For Simple Individual Income Tax Return Preparation (1040 Clients)	For All Other Engagements
Mediation For all disputes (including fees and all other malpractice issues)	Yes	Yes
Arbitration (Binding) For fee disputes	Yes	Yes
For other disputes (especially professional malpractice disputes)	Yes	No

Ron Parisi, CPA, JD, is executive vice president of risk management for CAMICO (www.camico.com). Copyright © 2013 CAMICO. All rights reserved.

SUBPOENA Q&A

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matter being investigated or litigated.

Am I required to comply with a subpoena? Is this subpoena a court order?

If you have received a subpoena that is signed by a judge, you must comply.

However, most subpoenas are pre-printed forms that attorneys or other parties fill out to request information. In these cases, accountants are bound by a number of rules and regulations that are intended to protect clients, including Internal Revenue Code section 7216. Under certain circumstances, these rules and regulations prohibit the accountant from complying with the subpoena, unless the accountant has undertaken specific measures to protect client confidentiality.

Again, contact your risk adviser regarding *all* subpoenas to evaluate the underlying litigation and the obligation to comply.

Should I report this subpoena to my professional liability agent or carrier?

Yes, regardless of how much or how little information you may have pertaining to the client or former client, it is always important to promptly report the matter.

Should I notify my client if I either receive or comply with a subpoena?

Notification is generally suggested unless the cover letter or subpoena specifically requests that you do not disclose the subpoena to your client or any third parties.

Am I required to comply with a request for

documents without a subpoena?

In civil matters, absent a subpoena, first obtain written consent from the client to produce any documents to the requesting party. However, situations may vary, so it is still best to first consult with your risk adviser prior to providing any documents at all.

In criminal matters, request issuance of a subpoena prior to producing any documents or disclosing any confidential client information. Providing documents to a governmental agency (e.g., the IRS), absent a subpoena, could still potentially take place "as a one-time courtesy," depending on the nature of the request.

Can I bill my client for the compliance of this subpoena?

Fees are generally suggested to be obtained from the requesting party that issued the subpoena. Reimbursement of fees is often governed by the applicable courts within your specific jurisdiction (state/county) with respect to per page copy costs, hourly fees, or reimbursement for mileage for deposition/testimony.

If, however, there is language in your existing engagement letter between your firm and your client with respect to your firm's involvement in any investigation, litigation or document requests on the clients' behalf, you may then be able to bill your client directly, based upon the agreed upon rates within the engagement letter.

Nadia Bell, MAOM, and Natalie Vu, JD, are claims specialists with CAMICO (www.camico.com).

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Tech Bit 110: Talking to Other Programs

This is one of those articles about a topic that likely will not be something you can use yourself, but you need to know about to make good business decisions. I challenge you to wade through a relatively technical subject with the idea of either passing this article to your IT person, or at least knowing the concept so you can ask your software provider if they can support this.

This is another of the trends I saw at Defrag (<http://www.defragcon.com>) that will impact how we run our businesses in the future.

A lot of the conversation, both from speakers and in informal discussions with other attendees, revolved about the need for more and more businesses to provide (also called expose), Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) that other people can use.

An example of an API comes from Facebook. Facebook makes quite a bit of data available via their APIs. So your website could, as an example, show recent status updates, or the comments that go with status updates, as part of your home page using the Facebook API. Similarly, your website could automatically post a status update whenever you add a new product to your on-line store, or post a new article.

APIs are protocols and formats that let one software system talk to another. Almost all the major websites have an API (actually a set of APIs) that let you use data, and often send data, to that website. As an example, if you are using Amazon for fulfillment (did you even realize that any business can leverage the huge investment Amazon has made in their distribution network to fulfill orders that aren't even sold on the Amazon website), you can send the orders to them using a public API.

Another example of a common API is UPS. They make shipment tracking information available via their API so you can integrate that information with your order system. Another API will let you create shipments in their system, integrating your shipping information with theirs without a full blown local shipping system.

It is also interesting that more and more government agencies are making data available via APIs. If you were in the heating and cooling business, you

could access energy usage by zip code. Local governments are also making data available, it might be possible to get information on building permits. Local governments are also using APIs to solicit feedback and suggestions, there is even an open source distribution to facilitate setting up these kinds of websites, Open311 (<http://open311.org/>).

Many companies have historically taken the view that their computer systems should be closed to the outside world, either for security reasons or the belief that their IT system is some sort of "secret sauce" for their business. That attitude is changing. Having a formal API should be more secure than ad hoc solutions like exporting data into files and emailing them around or the undocumented, and thus unmonitored, link provided by a programmer. And there is almost no business that has IT that is so special that it represents a real competitive advantage. Even if there was, exposing parts of it, like Amazon does for fulfillment, can still make strategic sense.

There is also the misconception that all APIs are public, available to anyone who wants to use them. In almost every case, to use even public APIs you need to register, be approved, and be given special identity credentials before you can use the API. There are exceptions for really public data like a Twitter search result, but more likely being an approved user is required.

And for every public API there are dozens of truly private APIs that might only be known to the company that is using them to have two of their systems communicate with each other. In the past, a big part of large IT departments' efforts were spent creating integrations between different internal systems. This was difficult because the coding was done to be native to the applications, which might be using different programming languages and database systems. Now it is relatively straightforward to create an API that can be access across a network (either a local area network or the Internet at your choosing). Some environments, like Microsoft, can quickly create APIs with their development tools, in Microsoft's case the result is a protocol called SOAP. I worked on a project recently where a closed Java system was interfaced to an open source

PHP system by writing a few dozen lines of code, taking less than a week to create. That API will never be used outside the company, but the alternative was literally hundreds, if not thousands, of lines of code to implement the same interface without an API. I do a lot of web development work in a framework called Drupal, there is a contributed module that can turn your web data into a service (another name for an API) in just a few hours configuring the options.

In short, APIs are turning into a powerful tool for integrating applications. One of the historical issues with most applications is they get larger and more complex trying to solve all the users' problems, even if those solutions only address a very small part of the user population. With APIs you can take small, focused applications, and link them together using APIs to create a specialized application. In many ways it is a way to turn applications into Lego style building blocks.

I see APIs replacing the relatively hard to implement EDI standards. EDI has always been a bugaboo for small businesses. It is often a requirement to do business with a large company, yet requires specialized software and an EDI service provider. With an order entry, invoice, or advanced shipment API, it would be possible for the large vendor to interact directly with the small business. Some of the EDI standards efforts, especially those for XML formats, would make using different companies' APIs much easier.

APIs are becoming an important way for companies to communicate with each other. You should be thinking about uses where an API might help your customers, like being able to check an order's status. It isn't a matter of if your company will be using APIs in the future, it's a matter of when you'll start using them. Maybe you can get started by adding the ability to add your favorite Netflix video to your instant queue directly from your corporate website. While not a business necessity, it will get you started using APIs in your business.

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