



SOFE

Society of Financial Examiners

INSIGHT

MARCH/APRIL 2018

Volume 47 • Issue 2



**REGISTER NOW
ONLINE FOR SOFE
Career Development Seminar**

JULY 15-18, 2018

**Hyatt Regency Indian Wells
Indian Wells, California**

Registration Information

All registrations must be made online at www.meetingservicesinc.com/sofe. After you register, you will receive an email confirmation of your submitted registration and a payment receipt if you paid online. Register by **JUNE 18** for the best rate. For the detailed CDS brochure and to register, visit the CDS website linked to www.sofe.org.

Registration Fees

	Registration	
	By June 18	After June 18
Members of SOFE	\$625	\$725
Non-Member Examiners	\$825	\$925
Retired Members	\$345	\$445
Spouse/Guest/Youth	\$100	\$120
IT Special Session*	\$150	\$150

*Optional session for conference registrants Wed. afternoon, July 18 - Thu. morning, July 19.

Cancellation Policy: A \$50 administration charge will be applied to all cancellations prior to July 2. For cancellations received after July 2, registration fees are subject to forfeiture.

You don't want to miss the opportunity to attend this year's Annual Career Development Seminar (CDS) in beautiful Indian Wells, CA.

SOFE CDS offers a comprehensive array of educational sessions on the latest developments and hot topics of State-based insurance solvency regulation. Additionally, attendees will benefit from the many opportunities to network with peers during the conference and at the Sunday Night Social.

Bring the family and arrive early or stay late to enjoy the unique attractions of Indian Wells, CA. Stay on the property and enjoy a variety of activities and recreation including 36 holes of championship golf, tennis, swimming pools and a deluxe spa. Venture off the property into Palm Desert and experience your choice of premier shopping spots, a rich variety of museums, beautiful hiking scenes and even hot air ballooning.

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Q & A

When selecting my Credit Type for reporting CRE credits, what should I enter and why is it important?



If you are entering CRE credits for Ethics, select "Ethics". If you are entering CRE Credits for completing the Handbook Training, enter "NAIC Handbook Training". Failure to correctly enter your CRE Credit Type could cause your end of year CRE Reporting to not meet SOFE requirements.

Credit Type Selections • Handbook and Ethics

When entering your CRE credits at the SOFE website, be sure to select the correct "Credit Type" If you are entering CRE credits for Ethics, select "Ethics". If you are entering CRE credits for completing the handbook training, enter "NAIC Handbook Training".

* Credit Type

NAIC handbook training is available on the SOFE Website in the Member's Areas.

After reviewing the Handbook Update Webinars, remember to take the quiz at the SOFE testing site to get your certificate for CRE credit.

Founders Award Nomination

This is awarded every year to a non-Executive Committee Member in recognition of their dedication and service to the society. If there is a member that you believe should be nominated because of their contributions to the society, please email sofe@sofe.org with their name and a brief explanation as to why they deserve this award by June 15, 2018. The awards will be presented at this year's CDS.

State Chair Updates

Please welcome our new state chairs **LEWIS D. BIVONA, JR., CPA, AFE**, as the new state chair for New Jersey, **SCOTT KALNA, CFE, AMCM**, for Arizona and **DMITRIY VALEKHA, CPA, CFE**, as new state chair for Maryland.



Lew Bivona, Jr.



Scott Kalna



Dmitriy Valekha

Mr. Bivona started his career as a regulator of HMOs for the State of NJ. He has been involved in the insurance industry for more than 39 years as a CFO and Deputy Rehabilitator for three insurance companies, EIC for numerous insurance examinations as a senior manager and insurance partner for two large regional CPA firms. Lew is currently an examiner with INS and has performed numerous financial and market conduct examinations. He is also a frequent writer for the Examiner, presented at SOFE CDS's and is a member of the Examiner Publication and CDS Committees.

Mr. Kalna has been in insurance regulation for more than 20 years. He is currently a Senior Financial Examiner for Examination Resources, LLC and has worked for the Arizona Department of Insurance previously. He works predominately as an Examiner-in-Charge on financial examinations conducting single state and multi-state coordinated financial examinations for various state insurance departments.

Mr. Valekha, Assistant Chief Examiner has been with Maryland Insurance Administration for more than seven years conducting financial examinations of domestic insurers. He holds CPA and CFE designations. He is the Treasurer for Maryland Chapter of SOFE.

There are a two states with State Chair vacancies. If you would like to volunteer to be a State Chair for Wisconsin or the U.S. Virgin Island, please contact SOFE Headquarters.



Updates from the Examination Committee

✓ AFE 1

Successfully updated the test to reflect the changes in the new edition of the book (from 14th to 15th edition). The materials in the 15th edition are very similar to the ones in the 14th edition. Susan Campbell reviewed/verified that members can use the new edition with our exiting test (except for 4 questions that we disabled). Additionally, Susan updated the study guide by making few changes when it was necessary.

✓ AFE 2

Were updated and uploaded to **test.com** on March 1; the old test will be deactivated on April 30.

✓ CFE 1 and CFE 4

Were updated and uploaded to **test.com** on March 1; the old test was deactivated on March 31.

✓ CUSTOM TEXT BOOKS

- ▶ AFE 2 and CFE 2 Exams now have customized textbooks. Books must be ordered directly from the Institute using their Alias numbers (rather than titles).
- ▶ More information can be found on the SOFE Website.

Note: If you have taken one of the existing exams and you take a new exam you will be charged full price instead of the retake fee. If this happens please send a refund request to sofe@sofe.org.

Fred Garsson *Assumes His Position*



FRED GARSSON is a seasoned insurance and reinsurance regulatory attorney who concentrates his practice on advising insurance industry clients on matters involving U.S. federal and state insurance laws and sophisticated national and international regulatory matters. Fred is the Co-Chair of Saul Ewing's Insurance Practice Group. During the early years of his career, Fred worked with Bill Latza (*when Fred was an associate attorney in Stroock's insurance practice group*).



Bill Latza *Retiring*

As SOFE leadership has changed throughout the years, there has been one constant that the SOFE leadership could rely

on—**BILL LATZA**. Bill has provided legal counsel and guidance, leadership, institutional knowledge, and friendship to SOFE leadership and our members as its pro bono counsel since 1998. Bill has recently taken the Chief Compliance Officer/General Counsel role with startup Lemonade Insurance Company and due to time constraints with his new role he will be relinquishing his SOFE duties.

Bill has attended SOFE Executive Committee meetings in locations all over the United States. He has attended most every CDS during his tenure as our pro-bono general counsel and his commitment, support and enthusiasm for SOFE over the years has been over and above what we as an organization could have ever expected. Bill was involved in the SOFE Trademark lawsuit and has spent countless hours on SOFE bylaws, committee policy documents, and advising the Executive Committee and Board of Governors.

The search for a new general counsel has been going on for the past 18 months and recently the search ended with the selection of Fred Garsson of Saul Ewing Arnstein & Lehr, LLP as SOFE's Pro Bono General Counsel. Fred started his legal career with Stroock, Stroock, & Lavan in New York City and actually worked for Bill early in his career as an associate attorney in Stroock's insurance practice group.

Fred is the Co-Chair of Saul Ewing's Insurance Practice Group. He is a seasoned insurance and reinsurance regulatory attorney who concentrates his practice on advising insurance industry clients on matters involving U.S. federal and state insurance laws and sophisticated national and international regulatory matters.

As we welcome Fred on-board, we want to thank Bill for his outstanding commitment and service to SOFE.

Thank You Bill



New Members and Designees

Welcome to the new SOFE members who were approved by the Executive Committee since our last publication of InSIGHT:

Welcome New Members!

GENERAL MEMBERS

Jessie Adamson, ID
Mario Ascic, TX
Oluwatosin Awonuga, TX
Sally Becorena, NJ
Jenny Chuang, CA
LeeAnne Creevy, CT
Alicia Galm, MO
Brian Hammann, MO
Joel Henry, CT
Terry Lorenz, WI
Lu Lin, NJ
Margaret Morin, ME
Joshua Nash, MO
Cindy Neeley, HI
Colin Okutsu, HI
Alice Quan, CA
Yevgeniya Ryzhova, TX
Mary Ross, ID
Conor Scannell, CT

Kolby Shanks, NE
Ergys Shanaj, NY
Julie Smith, IN
Caleb Snyder, WY
Blake Synnestvedt, DE
Fanny Vuong, CA
Tanner Westlake, ND
Jonathan Yee, WA
Nelia Yuzon, CA
Xiaojun Zhang, SC

Congratulations to the following members who were granted SOFE designations by the Executive Committee since our last publication of InSIGHT:

Congratulations to our New Designees!

AFE DESIGNEEES

Aster Behre, TX
Adeola Bello, TX
Matthew Bjorkman, CT
Kenneth Cotrone, CT
Hui Gai, NE
Pyongyang Landoll, IN
Aiden Luong, TX
Ryan Monahan, PA
Anthony Ngo, TX
Justin Parr, WV
Alexander Pirie, GA
Andrew Short, TX
Joel Tapsoba, NE
Varinderpreet Singh, TX
Juan Villasana, TX

CFE DESIGNEEES

Matthew Aidala, DE
Sean Brown, DE
James Carpino, PA
Karen Murphy, VT
Kimmea Stevenson, NE
Philip Talerico, MC
Nathan Turner, SC
Wong Wai, NY

ASSOCIATE

Frederic Garsson, NJ



SOFE Headquarters is closed Monday, May 28 in celebration of Memorial Day.

SOFE Headquarters

3505 Vernon Woods Drive,
Summerfield, NC 27358.

Our hours of operation are
Monday-Friday 8:30am to
5:00pm EST.

Phone No. 336-365-4640



Mark Your Calendars Upcoming SOFE Career Development Seminars

Details as they are available at: www.sofe.org



2018 July 15–18
Indian Wells, California
Hyatt Regency Indian Wells



2019 July 21–24
Memphis, Tennessee
The Peabody Memphis



2020 July 19–22
Orlando, Florida
Walt Disney World Swan Hotel



2021 July 18–21
Scottsdale, AZ
Westin Kierland



Examiner[®]

Authors Wanted

The Publications Committee is looking for members to write articles for the quarterly *Examiner* magazine. **Authors will receive six Continuing Regulatory Credits (CRE) for each technical article selected for publication.**

Interested authors should contact the Publications Committee Chair, **Tian Xiao**, via sofe@sofe.org