



SOFE

Society of Financial Examiners

INSIGHT

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SOFE 2012 CDS July 29 – August 1 Omni Mandalay Hotel Las Colinas, Dallas, TX



“The Regulatory Rodeo” is the theme for the 2012 Society of Financial Examiners Career Development Seminar to be held at the Omni Mandalay Hotel at Las Colinas, TX. The Omni is conveniently located in the prestigious Las Colinas urban center between Dallas and Fort Worth on beautiful Lake Carolyn. The hotel is 10 minutes (8 miles) from the Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport and 15 minutes (8.8 miles) from Dallas Love Field airport.

SOFE will present a wide variety of essential topics at the 2012 CDS. A few highlights include:

The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) will speak on compliance with issuers’ reporting forms, the role of states under the Affordable Care Act’s MLR and Rate Review provisions and HHS oversight. NAIC staff will present on a wide range of topics that include updates on Statutory Accounting Principles, Accreditation, and the Financial Condition Examiners Handbook. NAIC staff will also present on corporate governance, prospective risks and share insights gained from the NAIC Peer Review Project as well as Industry Responses to Risk Focused Exams. Other topics will include Federal Insurance Oversight, Ratings and Analysis for Captive Insurers, IFRS, ORSA and timely topics from actuaries, reinsurance and tax specialists. Paul Burton – speaker, author, and coach will present “Focus Pocus: 24 Tricks for Regaining Command of Your Day”. Paul is a former attorney turned keynote speaker on the national level and is co-founder of “Outdoor Play”, the largest kayaking retailer in the United States.

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Important Announcements

SOFE 2012 CDS July 29 *(continued)*

The CDS Sunday Night Social activities will be at the Circle R Ranch and include great Texas BBQ, activities for all interests and an opportunity to maximize networking with friends and colleagues. Guests will be transported to the Ranch aboard comfortable coach buses complete with beverages to begin the evening's festivities. Once there, saddle-up for a taste of Texas Hospitality set amidst acres of green rolling hills and open pastures in the North Texas countryside. Festivities at the Circle R will be in a 17,500 square foot pavilion with a large open patio. In addition to a Texas buffet, games and line-dancing, attendees will also enjoy a special Circle R Ranch Rodeo Show which is sure to be the highlight of the evening.



Plan to arrive before the conference or stay on afterward to enjoy the many activities, restaurants, golf courses, museums and shopping in the greater Las Colinas/Dallas area.

For further details on the program and to register, visit the CDS website linked to www.sofe.org in early April.



Important REMINDERS Important Reminders Important Reminders

Sponsorship Agreement Form Deadlines

SOFE has updated the sponsorship program based upon feedback received from members and sponsors. The highlights details and Sponsor Agreement form for the 2012 CDS Sponsorship program are at this link:

http://www.sofe.org/pdfs/2012sponsorship_opportunities.pdf

Important Deadlines for Sponsorships: The Sponsorship Agreement form is due by **February 24**, for recognition in the SOFE 2012 CDS Registration Brochure and in the final program, providing payment is received by **March 30, 2012**. Sponsors submitting the Agreement form between February 25 and March 30 will be included in the Onsite Program if payment is received by **March 30, 2012**.

CDS Scholarships

The Financial Examiners Education Foundation has provided SOFE with scholarship funds for a limited number of attendees for the 2012 CDS. These scholarship funds are intended for state and federal insurance regulators whose department or agency does not cover the cost of attending SOFE's CDS. The scholarship applicants must be insurance regulators employed directly by a state, US territory, or federal government agency (*i.e. contract examiners are not eligible*). Applicants must be a member of SOFE in good standing. The scholarship funds cover the program registration fees only.

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CDS Scholarships *(continued)*

Written evidence of the fact that the governmental agency does not pay for CDS attendance must be provided by the person in charge of the state or federal agency or his/her designee. Applicants with the AES, AFE or CFE designation and first time attendees will receive priority consideration, should there be more applicants than can be accommodated. All applications are due by **April 30, 2012**. For more information and an application, please go to:

www.sofe.org/CDS2012/scholarship.html

CRE Reporting Forms Due

CRE Reporting Forms for 2011 are due on March 31st, 2012. There is a **\$25 late fee** applied to CRE Reporting Forms received *after* **March 31**. Failure to timely file the CRE Reporting Form may result in suspension of your designation. More information and the CRE Reporting Form can be found on the "Forms" landing page at:

<http://sofe.org/forms/index.cfm>

under the heading:

Continuing Regulatory Education

Please review the details on at the "Certification" tab at the top of the screen at www.sofe.org for the CRE requirements and information on how to prorate credits. If you have any questions, contact the SOFE staff at sofe@sofe.org.

CRE Audits

All members with a designation have the possibility of being selected for an audit of their 2011 CRE Reporting Form. In 2010, the SOFE Executive Committee approved a new procedure for performing CRE audits as follows:

- A random audit of 5% of all general members CRE Reports will be performed annually
- A 100% audit of new Board of Governors' CRE Reports will be performed their first year in office
- A random sample of 20% of existing Board of Governors' CRE Reports will be performed each year.

Questionable and incomplete CRE reporting forms will be audited at 100%. If you have any questions, contact SOFE at sofe@sofe.org.

Have You Paid Your SOFE 2102 Membership Dues? If Not—Read This!



SOFE bylaws call for suspension of members not paying dues by the end of March in the current dues year. This affects the SOFE designation as well, since only certified or accredited members in good standing can use the SOFE designation.

2012 Membership Dues payment information was emailed in October, December and January. Savvy members took advantage of the new online dues payment system to pay quickly and easily on line. The \$15 late fee is now in effect for dues, but you may still pay your SOFE 2012 dues conveniently online at www.sofe.org. It is very simple:

- 1** Log into the **Members Only** area link at the upper right tab of the SOFE website. *(If you have forgotten your username or password information, follow the instructions directly under the Member login area for password or login retrieval)*
- 2** Then click on "Renew Your Dues"
- 3** Once you have submitted your payment information, print your online receipt for your records or to use for reimbursement purposes

Paying by **credit card online** is the best way to ensure your payment is received and credited by the final deadline.

If you MUST pay by check, login to the SOFE website to see and print out your dues amount and then remit a copy with a check with full payment to:

**SOFE — C/O Wells Fargo Bank
Lockbox #759265
Baltimore, MD 21275-9265**

To receive credit for payment, you must submit with your payment either:

- A copy of your online invoice
- OR
- Another clear notation of your name, your member number, your email address, and indicate that the payment is for "SOFE 2012 Dues"
- Mail your check by March 23 to ensure its delivery by March 30.



NEW AFE/CFE Designees And New Members

The following designees whose status below is in effect as *InSight* is published, as well as new members listed below were approved at the January, 2012 Executive Committee meeting or via email voting in late December and in January.

Congratulations to New Designees:

CFE Designations

Stacey Alden | VT
Thomas J. Allen | IN
Thomas M. Baldwin | SC
Kui Cheng | TX
Natalie Davis | CA
Roy Eft | IN
Steven Elmer | WI
Orlando R. Gabriel | WA
Valerie Hastings | MO
Erin E. Kelley | IN
Vanessa J. Leon | ME
Vanessa Miller | MS
Michael Reep | PA

AFE Designations

Joshua Ammerman | MS
Katy Bardsley | WA
Gregory T. Chew | VA
Andrew Coppedge | MO
Elizabeth Dafoe | MI
Tonya Farley | TX
Thomas Freeman | NY
Tony Greer | MS
Matthew S. Hernley | IN
Robin Hill | MS
Francious Houde | MS
Wenge Parr | TN
D. Shane Sadler | UT
Teresa Trusty | UT
Amy Voong | CA

Welcome New Members!

Bob Wong | IA

General Members

John D'Amato | CT
Phil Schmoyer | FL
Teresa Wong | CA

Regulatory Member

Ashley Sanders | MS

Student Member

Nadine Murden | NY





Mark Your Calendars | Upcoming SOFE Career Development Seminars



2012

**July 29–August 1
Dallas, Texas**

Omni Mandalay Hotel at Las Colinas

Registration Opens in April
Visit: www.sofe.org



2013

**July 21–24
Henderson Lake, Nevada**

Red Rock Resort



2014

**July 27–30
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**

Loews Philadelphia Hotel

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, **Jenny Jeffers**, via sofe@sofe.org.

