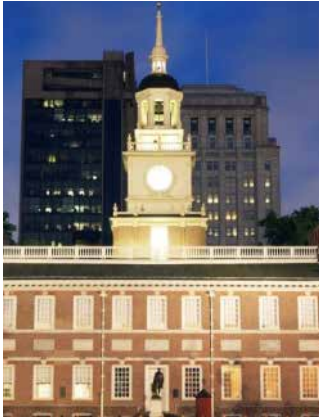




SOFE

Society of Financial Examiners

INSIGHT



SAVE THE DATE
SOFE 2014 CDS
JULY 27-30

Loews Philadelphia Hotel
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Examinations in the Fast Lane



“Examinations in the Fast Lane” is the theme for the 2014 Society of Financial Examiners annual Career Development Seminar, taking place at Loews Philadelphia Hotel in Philadelphia, PA. Loews hotel is situated in Center City, within walking distance of shopping, theater, eclectic South Street, historic and cultural attractions as well as fine restaurants. The hotel is only a block from Philadelphia’s famous Reading Terminal Market, where more than 80 merchants offer local fresh produce and a bountiful variety of prepared cuisine, from soul food, and Asian and Middle Eastern dishes to authentic Philly cheese steaks and traditional Pennsylvania Dutch fare. ▶

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

INSIDE

- ◆ *In Memoriam*
Wanda LaPrath, CFE
- ◆ CDS Sponsorship Information
- ◆ Late Dues Payments
- ◆ CRE Reporting and Audit Reminders
- ◆ AFE, CFE Testing Program Changes
- ◆ Designations Awarded
- ◆ New Members
- ◆ Upcoming CDS Events





Examinations in the Fast Lane



In addition to a comprehensive array of educational sessions on the latest developments, current issues and new solutions in the regulation of insurance companies, attendees will benefit from the many opportunities to network with peers at the conference and at the Sunday Night Social. This year's social event will be held at Philadelphia's award winning Simeone Automotive Museum, which features one of the world's greatest collections of racing cars. The evening will also include an international buffet dinner, music, arcade racing games and billiards, green screen action photo opportunities and a caricature artist to provide souvenirs of the evening.

Bring the family and arrive early or stay on after the conference to enjoy the many unique historic and cultural attractions fabulous Philadelphia has to offer.





In Memoriam



Wanda LaPrath, CFE, CIE, MCM, FLMI, ARC

It is with great sadness that SOFE reports the passing of **Wanda LaPrath, CFE**, friend and long time SOFE member. Wanda served on the SOFE Board of Governors and on the Executive Committee as Vice President of Education, since 2011. Under Wanda's able leadership, the Education Committee initiated the CRE online reporting system and made significant improvements in SOFE's Continuing Regulatory Education policies and procedures.

Wanda was a member of SOFE for over 13 years. In addition serving on the Board of Governors, the Executive Committee, and Education Committee, she also served on the Website Committee and on the Examination Committee.

Wanda's career in insurance spanned more than three decades, culminating with her position as president and CEO of the Huff Group LLC. Prior to that, she was a senior manager of Regulatory Insurance Services at Dixon Hughes Goodman, PLLC. She served as Examiner-In-Charge for both financial and market conduct examinations on behalf of state departments of insurance for over 20 years, including examinations on health maintenance organization, life insurance companies, property and casualty companies, title insurance companies, and workers' compensation companies. Before entering the world of examinations, she served in a financial reporting capacity for life insurance companies and worked five years in the receivership arena.

A strong proponent of professional education and standards, Wanda held the CFE, CIE, MCM, FLMI, and ARC designations as well as an MBA. In addition to her leadership role at SOFE, she was a member of the Insurance Regulatory Examiners Society (IRES) for over ten years and had served on its board and several committees.

Wanda's colleagues at SOFE will remember her for her friendship, her solid character and professionalism, her patience, and her generosity in sharing her time as well as her wealth of knowledge and insight. SOFE members for years to come will benefit from her contributions to the professional standards of the Certified Financial Examiner program.

SOFE extends deepest condolences to Wanda's family. She will be deeply missed by her many friends at SOFE.



Important Reminders

Sponsorship Agreement Form Deadline

The Sponsorship Agreement form is due by **February 24**, for recognition in the SOFE 2014 CDS Registration Brochure and in the final program. The details and Sponsor Agreement form for the 2014 CDS Sponsorship program are linked on SOFE home page, www.sofe.org.

Have You Paid Your SOFE 2014 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. Only certified or accredited members in good standing can use the SOFE designation.

2014 Membership Dues payment information was emailed in October, November, December, and January. The **\$15 late fee** is now in effect for dues, but you may still pay your SOFE 2014 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, but 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 2014 Dues”. Mail your check by **March 21** to ensure its delivery by March 31.

Late Reporting for 2013 CRE Credits Due March 31, 2014

CRE Reporting for 2013 was due online by January 31, 2014. **Late reports are accepted via the Late CRE Reporting Form with the late filing fee until March 31.** Failure to file the required credits is grounds for suspension of the designation. The minimum number of CREs an examiner must earn in any one year is 20, except in the year the designation is received, when credits are prorated. The triennial minimum of 120 CREs must be met for 2013 as well. Please review the full details on at the “Certification” tab at the top of the screen at www.sofe.org.

CRE Audits

All members with a designation have the possibility of being selected for an audit of your 2013 CRE.

Reporting 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, and a random sample of 20% of existing Board of Governors’ CRE Reports will be performed each year. Questionable, late, extended and incomplete CRE reporting will be audited at 100%.

AFE, CFE Testing Program Changes Effective July 1, 2014

Upon recommendation of the Examination Committee following a review of passing scores required for similar professional designation programs, the SOFE Executive Committee has instituted these changes to the SOFE designation testing program.

Effective **July 1, 2014**, the passing score for AFE tests will be **70%**, and for CFE tests, **74%**.

Fees for tests taken after July 1, 2014 will be as follows:

- **Member fees** will be \$200 to initially take an exam and \$150 to retake an exam including retakes of exams initially taken or retaken prior to July 1, 2014.
- **Non-member fees** will be \$275 to take an exam and \$210 to retake an exam, including retakes of exams initially taken or retaken prior to July 1, 2014.

The testing site will be down on June 30, 2014 for these updates.



New AFE/CFE Designees And New Members

Congratulations to New Designees

As of January 29, 2014, the following designations and new memberships were approved since our last issue of *InSight*.

CFE Designations

Christopher Collins — VA
Andrew Pitts — TX
Dmitriy Valekha — MD

AES Designee

Ryan Gibson — OH

AFE Designations

Philip J. Barrett — CT
Keith Kleindienst — CT
Derrick H. Lopez — GA
Carla Mallqui — MA
Tzuwen Y. Meyer — CA
Richard Ramos — NY
Sara Jean Schumacher — MS
Moshe Stempel — NY
Kevin L. Stubbs — NE

New Members!

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



General Members

Bryce Baker — MI
Angela Dawson — TN
Thomas W. Devine — NC
Lamar F. Downs — FL
Monica Edwards — IN
Hui Gao — NE
Mikhael Goldgisser — FL
Pappy Kunjukunju — NY
Pyongyong Landoll — IN
Puthenpurackal Mathew — TX
Jim Murphy — FL
Phillip Padgett — SC

Alexander R. Pirie — GA
Robert Roccapiore — FL
Uso Sayers — GA
April Thomas — AL
David M. Trzcinko — TX

Regulatory Members

Joseph Boyle — UT
Scott Bryson — CT
Patrick Lo — HI
Robert S. Rudnai — TX
Pamela Sanchez — UT
Dayne Shinsato — HI



Mark Your Calendars | Upcoming SOFE Career Development Seminars



2014

July 27–30
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Loews Philadelphia Hotel



2015

July 13–16
San Diego, California
Town and Country Resort Hotel



2016

July 24–27
Marco Island, Florida
Marco Island Marriott Resort and Spa



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 Co-chairs, Colette Hogan Sawyer and Joseph Evans, via sofe@sofe.org