



SOFE

Society of Financial Examiners

INSIGHT



CDS 2013 Highlights

The 2013 SOFE CDS which took place at the Red Rock Resort in Summerlin, NV was a great success, with record turnout. Attendees thoroughly enjoyed the Sunday Night Bowling Party at the Red Rock Hotel and have rated this event as one of best yet for education and networking. Additionally, attendee contributions and matching funds from SOFE, Eide Bailly, LLP, Noble Consulting Services, Inc, and Meeting Services, Inc. resulted in a donation of over \$2,500 for a Nevada charity, Opportunity Village, which provides services and support to individuals with intellectual disabilities.

Many thanks for the success of this event go to the CDS sponsors, and to the CDS Committee chaired by **Rick Nelson**:

Philip Bluestein, Susan Carroll, Donald Crawley, Natalie Davis, Kathleen Drake, Roshi Fekrat, Joshua Johnson, James M. Kattman, and Kara Thome

And, the CDS program Committee, chaired by **Jim Kattman**:

Lewis Bovina, Jr., Susan Carroll, Eric Dercher, Ryan Havick, Jenny Jeffers, Annette Knief, Michael B. Kogut, Craig Moore, Rick Nelson, Elaine R. Nissley, Junjie "JJ" Pan, Connie Ridinger, Colette Sawyer, Nancy Stepanski, Rebecca Belanger-Walkins, and Kelly Wensing.

Special thanks to Noble Consulting Services, Inc. and former SOFE President, Mike Dinius, for the donation of laptop computers, which will save thousands of dollars each year in equipment rental fees at SOFE CDS events.

SOFE thanks Commissioner **Scott J. Kipper** of the Nevada Division of Insurance, and Superintendent **Joseph Torti, III, CPA, CFE** of the Rhode Island Division of Insurance Regulation for their participation the Commissioner's Roundtable.

Additionally, the Society would like to express its appreciation to the members of the Financial Examiners Educational Foundation who provided scholarship funds allowing 47 regulators to attend the 2013 CDS.

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CDS Certificates are Available for those Who Scanned Into Sessions at the 2013 CDS

Go to the SOFE home page www.sofe.org or the "Education" tab and follow the links there.

NOTE — if you printed your certificate before Thursday, August 15, please be aware that the partial credits calculation was

revised, which may increase the number of credits from that which appeared for the two days prior when the tracking site was first linked to the SOFE website.

After downloading and reviewing the CDS certificate, SOFE designees must input their CDS CRE credits into SOFE's online CRE reporting area to receive credit.

Congratulations to this Year's Award Winners



Presented for the first time this year was the **William McCune Award** initiated by NAIC in memory of the late Nevada chief examiner. Pictured here is Nevada Insurance Commissioner **Scott Kipper** (right) with **Joseph McGarry, CFE** (left), the award recipient for attaining highest achievement in the CFE Test Series in the previous year.



Joanne Smith, recipient of the **2013 Founders Award** in recognition of her dedication and service to the Society.



Alabama State Chair **Sheila Travis, CFE**, the **2013 Don Fritz Award** recipient for outstanding service as a state chair.



James Stangroom, recipient of the **Editor's Choice Award** for his contribution to the publications of the Society during 2013.

Special THANKS to the 2013 SOFE CDS Sponsors

Platinum Level Sponsors

Eide Bailly, LLP
Examination Resources, LLC
Invotex, Inc.
Noble Consulting Services, Inc.
Risk & Regulatory Consulting, LLC
The INS Companies

Gold Level Sponsor

Lewis & Ellis, Inc.

Silver Level Sponsors

Carr, Riggs and Ingram, LLC
Eisner Amper LLP
Johnson Lambert LLP
ParenteBeard LLC

Bronze Level Sponsors

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NorthStar Exams, LLC
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Taylor-Walker & Associates, Inc
The Huff Group, LLC

General Level Sponsor

Westmont Associates, Inc.

AES Session Sponsors

Eide Bailly LLP
Examination Resources, LLC
Jennan Enterprises, LLC
Noble Consulting Services, Inc.

Special Thanks to the Financial Examiners Educational Foundation for the 2013 CDS Scholarships



Board of Governors and Executive Committee Transitions

Thanks to Outgoing Members of the Executive Committee and Board of Governors

SOFE thanks the following members retiring from the Board of Governors or Executive Committee in August:



Retiring Executive Committee Members:
Michael Dinius | 2005 – 2013 (left) and William Umbaugh, CFE, AES | 2012 – 2013 (right) with outgoing President Ryan Havick (center)

Retiring from the Board of Governors:

Mario Cuellar, CFE
2009 – 2013

Roshi Fekrat, CFE
2008 – 2013

Mary James, CFE
2006 – 2013

Larry Lucas, CFE
2006 – 2013

Jim Nixon, CFE
2000 – 2013

Nancy Thomas, CFE
1993 – 2013

Shawn Towchik, CFE
2010 – 2013

Newly Elected Members of the Board of Governors:

Congratulations to the following members of the Board of Governors elected at the Annual Meeting on July 22, 2013:

James Armstrong, CFE

Al Bottalico, CFE

Joseph Evans, CFE

Stewart Guerin, CFE

Patrick Hyde, CFE

Russell Jones, CFE

Colette Hogan Sawyer, CFE

Doug Slape, CFE

Monique Smith, CFE

April Spevak, CFE

Bill Tatelman, CFE

Bill Umbaugh, CFE, AES

Tian Xiao, CFE

2013–2014 Board of Governors



Present for photo were:

1st Row (L – R) Jean Adams-Harris, Joanne Campanelli, Mark Murphy, Eli Snowbarger, Rick Nelson, Eric Dercher, Richard Foster, Ryan Havick, Virginia West, Annette Knief, Jenny Jeffers, Wanda LaPrath, Colette Sawyer, Joseph Evans

2nd Row (L – R) Lynn Beckner, Thomas Gauthier, Al Bottalico, Stewart Guerin, Michael Shadowens, Mark Ossi, Justin Schrader, Joseph Holloway, Ignatius Wheeler, John Humphries, Mark Jaster, Brian Sewell, Rebecca Belanger-Walkins

Top Row (L – R) James Armstrong, Ed Payne, Doug Slape, David Martinez, Leanne Rafalko, Mike Dinius, Fred Heese, Chase Davis, Tarik Subbagh



Announcing the 2013–2014 Executive Committee and SOFE Committees

Officers:

President | **Richard Foster, CFE**
Treasurer | **Rick Nelson, CFE**
Secretary | **Annette Knief, CFE**
Pro Bono Legal Counsel | **William D. Latza, Esq**

Standing Committees:

Membership — **Mark Murphy, CFE**

The Membership committee reviews all general membership applications and reinstatement of designation applications. They also review applications for the AFE and CFE designations and recommends to the Executive Committee approval of qualified applicants for the AFE and CFE designations in the Insurance discipline. *This committee must have at least 5 members, each of whom must be a CFE or an AES.*

Automated Examination Specialist (AES) — **Jenny Jeffers, AES**

The Automated Examination Specialist (AES) Committee must consist of at least 5 members who hold the AES Designation. The AES committee oversees the requirements for the AES designation and recommends to the Executive Committee approval of qualified member applicants for the AES designation.

Examinations — **Joanne Campanelli, CFE**

This Insurance Testing committee must consist of at least 9 members who are CFEs. This committee responds to questions from test takers about specific exam questions. This committee will also develop a plan of updating all exams and developing a policy to keep all exams current.

Nominations — **Eli Snowbarger, CFE**

This committee reviews and approves the applications of candidates for the expiring and open positions for the Board of Governors and Executive Committee. *The Nominations committee must consist of at least 7 certified members.*

Professional Standards — **Eric Dercher, CFE**

This committee must consist of at least 10 members, who may initiate and shall conduct investigations of potential disciplinary matters involving members of the Society. They also draft, interpret and amend the Society's Code of Ethics. *Each committee member must be a CFE or an AES.*

Education — **Wanda LaPrath, CFE**

The Education Committee works with the headquarters staff in approving any non-NASBA approved sponsor. The committee also assists with the annual CRE audit. This committee also obtains the speakers/sponsors for the NAIC breakfast meetings. *Each committee member must be a CFE or an AES.*

Ad Hoc Committees:

Career Development Seminar — **Jim Kattman, CFE**

The CDS committee is responsible for overseeing the entire CDS and working with the Certified Meeting Planner and headquarters staff in planning this event from conception to wrap-up.

CDS Programs — **Annette Knief, CFE** **Wanda LaPrath, CFE**

This committee is responsible for obtaining all speakers and compiling a list of topics for CDS. They are also responsible for laying out the sessions.

Finance Committee — **Rick Nelson, CFE**

This committee assists the treasurer in reviewing the monthly financial statements. They also develop financial policies to be presented to the executive committee for adoption.

Future Sites — **Rick Nelson, CFE**

The Future Sites committee is responsible for selecting the venue for future CDS programs. They have currently selected sites through 2016.

Publications — **Colette Hogan Sawyer, CFE** **Joseph Evans, CFE**

This committee is responsible for the *Examiner* and *INSIGHT* publications. This includes procuring authors and articles, editing articles, proofreading final drafts, and obtaining and approving advertising. The committee also oversees the CRE Reading Program and drafts the questions for each Reading Program quiz.

Website — **Jenny Jeffers, AES**

The website committee is responsible for the content and design of the Society's website as well as the continuous review and update of information contained there.

To volunteer for a committee, contact the Vice President for that committee listed above.



Designations Awarded

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

CFE Designees

- Elizabeth Ammerman — RI
- Scott K. Eady — GA
- Stephanie Falck — WI
- Tonya Farley — TX
- Tony Florez — KS
- Neal Foster — SC
- Frank M. Fricks — GA
- Tracy Gates — NC
- Donavan Han — CA
- Kathleen L.W. Hicks — WA
- Ian D. Martin — NY
- Jay Mertz — MI
- Jason Ng — CA
- Jamie Taylor — WV
- Mary F. Verville — NH
- Amy Voong — CA



AES Designee

- Thomas H. Hayden — CT

AFE Designees

- Todrick Burks — AL
- Jeffrey Buschmann — MO
- Amanda Buseman — IA
- Scott K. Eady — GA
- Jane Fang — CA
- Tracy Gates — NC
- Bradley R. Hazelwood — GA
- Elizabeth Hofker — NE
- Soo Kim — NY
- Jason Ng — CA
- Michelle L. Orren — NJ
- Darrin M. Riha — NE
- Joanne Smith — GA
- Kevin P. Sullivan — NJ
- Rasa Zubielaitė — DE

New Members!

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

ASSOCIATE MEMBER

- Randall Ross — UT

REGULATORY MEMBERS

- Margaret Chaput — ME
- Carolina Fernandez — FL
- Kofi Mensah — NJ
- Ralph Scott — FL
- Gennady Stolyarov — NV
- Smith Vil — MA
- Tammie Vincenti — DE
- Mark Wiedeman — UT

GENERAL MEMBERS

- Ellen Adams — VT
- Kristin Brynga — VT
- Wes Chance — MS
- Laura Church — MO
- Colin Clary — LA
- Scott K. Eady — GA

- Richard Gerdtts — NV
- Ashok Gupta — NY
- Andrea Harbison — MS
- Megan Hubbuch — OK
- Soo Kim — NY
- Adam Lewis — GA
- Sara McNeely — MO
- James M. Minder — PA
- Adrienne Monroe — NV
- Heather Morrow — NE
- Sean Nakamura — HI
- Jessica R. Price — NC
- Kristina Sampson — IN
- Daniel S. Sartin — MS
- Sara Jean Schumacher — MS
- Amy Short — IN
- Michael J. Solomon — DE
- Moshe Stempel — NY
- Emily Turek — MO
- Tom Wiygul — MS



Important Reminders

Report Your 2013 CRE Credits Online Now!

How to File — First, read the handy guide the Education Committee developed to assist you. You'll find this linked to the home page www.sofe.org.

- Log into the Members Only area of the SOFE website
- Click on the "Update Your Profile" link
- Scroll down to "Current CRE Reporting Cycle Details"
- Hit the "add credits" button.

Guidelines on the process are also with the online form. Be sure you add you CDS credits from the tracking company site, linked on the Education/Career Development Seminar page.

2013 CRE credit must be reported by January 31, 2014.

2014 Online Membership Renewal Will Begin in Early October

Be sure to renew your SOFE membership on time! SOFE 2014 dues are conveniently paid online at www.sofe.org by early October in the Members Only the SOFE website, at the "Renew Your Dues".

Once you have submitted your payment information, print your receipt for your records or to use for reimbursement purposes.

If you have forgotten your username and password information, follow the instructions at the Member login area.

Please be sure to safe-list (and/or add to your contacts) sofewebmaster@sofe.org in order to Receive your login information. *Do not create a new account, as that will not access your member record.*

Dues for 2014 must be paid in full no later than January, 31 2014.

State Chapter News

MARYLAND

The SOFE Maryland Chapter CDS takes place September 4–6, in Towson, Maryland. Details and registration at <http://sofemd.org>

TEXAS

In Memoriam: R. F. Westbrook of Granbury, TX, passed away on August 3, 2013 at age 81. Prior to his retirement, he was an insurance auditor with the State of Texas Department of Insurance for 30 years, 25 years of which he served as supervisor for the North Texas area

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 Sawyer and Joseph Evans, via sofe@sofe.org





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