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Jan. 10, 2022

NACo President Larry Johnson, Warren County Commissioner Shannon Jones and 2022 CCAO President Debbie Lieberman at the Winter Conference

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Association News
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- CCAO releases new manual for Siting and Taxation Renewable Energy Facilities

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Federal/NACo News
- Bipartisan infrastructure law will impact Ohio
- NACo to host webinar on preventing county financial fraud – Jan. 6
- Congress considers legislation to improve flexibility for ARPA funds
- Register today for the 2022 NACo Legislative Conference

Education and Grants
- USDA accepting applications to help rural communities get access to internet
- DeWine launches program to help communities clean up hazardous brownfield sites
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- Ohio Grants Summit recordings available
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CCAO Job Opportunity: Legislative Counsel

The County Commissioners Association of Ohio (CCAO) is seeking to fill the position of Legislative Counsel, a position previously held by the current CCAO Assistant Director.

This is an excellent opportunity for an attorney interested in public policy issues to work for a trade association well respected in the field of local government that advocates on behalf of county government and assists county officials and key staff with training and educational opportunities.

Specifically, the position includes advocating CCAO policies and positions with the legislature and executive branch as well as other organizations, particularly in the areas of public safety, criminal justice, and county government. Responsibilities include researching assigned policy areas and recommending Association positions to members; establishing relationships with legislators and members of the executive branch and their staff; maintaining continuous contact with Association members and their staff, other organizations, and the media; responding to inquiries regarding legislation, regulations and general administrative questions; and preparing testimony, reference materials, member training and presentations as well as public speaking.

QUALIFICATIONS: Bachelor's Degree and Juris Doctorate or currently working toward a law degree; 3-5 years' experience with county government or the state legislative or executive branch. Previous lobbying experience preferred. Valid Ohio driver's license and ability to meet insurance requirements.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES: Knowledge of legislative process and administrative rule process. Knowledge of county government structure and function. Ability to research and synthesize information and create concise reports, correspondence, testimony, presentations, and other written communications. Skill in communicating and persuading others. Ability to foster trust and form interpersonal relationships. Ability to speak in public before groups of varying sizes. Ability to travel within Ohio and work varying hours due to legislative advocacy obligations.

COMPENSATION: Commensurate with experience.

Please submit letter of interest, resume, references and writing samples to CCAO Boards' Liaison & Events Manager Robin Garrett at rgarrett@ccao.org by close of business on Jan. 21, 2022.

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CCAO starts 2022 Roster process

CCAO is in the process of collecting county information for our 2022 Roster.

Be on the lookout an email from us containing an online form with your county's information. Please review, update and submit that form back to nbenson@ccao.org, by Jan. 18.

The CCAO Roster is our flagship publication, highlighting our 282 elected members and featuring county elected officials, our affiliate members' leadership, Ohio legislature contacts, CCAO staff and more. Distributed statewide, it is our most-used document, and we strive to include the most accurate information available. We are aiming to complete the 2022 edition as soon as possible, and you are part of that goal. We greatly appreciate the work you do on behalf of counties, and we look forward to partnering with you on this project.

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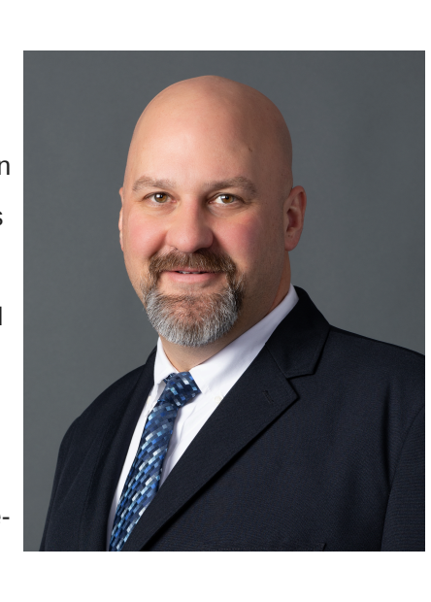
Steve Flory joins CORSA



We are proud to announce that Steve Flory, native and lifelong resident of Defiance County, became CORSA's newest loss control coordinator on Dec. 31, 2021. Steve is an OPOTA certified firearms instructor who brings over 20 years of law enforcement experience to the CORSA program. Steve spent eight years as a Sheriff's Office road deputy and 12 years as a patrol supervisor. Steve is currently a reserve deputy with the Paulding County Sheriff's Office. As a contractor for the last five years, Steve provided CORSA member sheriff deputies and corrections officers on-site, one-on-one simulated de-escalation training. In his new role, Steve will assist CORSA Sheriff's Offices with a full array of law enforcement and corrections risk control services.

Should you have any questions regarding CORSA Law Enforcement and Corrections Risk Management Services please contact Steve (614) 981-3414, Ken Hilty (614) 357-6966 or Frank Hatfield, CORSA Loss Control Manager, (614) 560-1474.

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Auditor of State posts county financial health indicators online

Each year, the Auditor of State (AOS) creates a financial report on the fiscal health of Ohio's counties and large cities. The report uses a series of 17 fiscal indicators to monitor local governments for signs of fiscal stress. Financial health indicators for counties for 2020 have been posted on the AOS website at the following link: https://ohioauditor.gov/fhi/default.html.

A description of the indicators is available here and a user guide is available here.

Members with questions should contact Senior Policy Analyst Jon Honeck, 614-220-7982.

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All public employers must submit 300AP by Feb. 1

All public employers are required to maintain a log of work-related injuries and illnesses, form 300P, and then submit a summary, the 300AP, to the Public Employment Risk Reduction Program by Feb. 1. If your public entity has more than one establishment or site, you must keep separate records for each physical location. Then, on Feb. 1 of each year, you must post the summary at each of your physical locations until April 30. The 300AP is required under Ohio Administrative Code 4167-6-04(B)(1) as part of the PERRP statistical data collection process.

Required information includes:

- Completion of both the 300P and 300AP
- Verify that you've classified each case only once on both forms.
  - A case that has one day away and several days restricted would be classified as days away from work, not both. Each case is classified only once, and it is classified as the most serious.
  - The other recordable case is a case that does not have days away or job transfer or restriction. The case is recordable because it is beyond first aid.
- Verify that the total number of cases equals the total number of injuries and illnesses; otherwise, you will receive an error message and will not be able to submit.

State agencies:

- Submit one master 300AP with the totals for all your departments/establishments.
- Ohio Department of Transportation must submit one master for each district and one master for the central office.
- Ohio Department of Natural Resources must submit one master for each park.
- Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections must submit one master for each correctional institution.

Counties:

- Submit separate master 300APs for the county entities below.
- County commissioners submit one master 300AP with the total from each of your county departments/establishments, which are under your authority.
- County board of developmental disabilities submit one master 300AP with the total for board employees: and one master 300AP for sheltered workshops.
- County engineer submits one master 300AP.
- County home submits one master 300AP.

Cities, townships, villages, educational institutions:

- Submit only one master 300AP with the totals from all your departments/establishments.

For more information, please contact Craig Lanken at 330.472.1656 or craig.lanken@sedgwick.com.

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2022 Holiday Schedule released

Take note of the released 2022 holiday schedule.

- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – Monday, Jan. 17
- Presidents Day – Monday, Feb. 21
- Memorial Day – Monday, May 30
- Juneteenth – Monday, June 20 (observed)
- Independence Day – Monday, July 4
- Labor Day – Monday, Sept. 5
- Columbus Day – Monday, Oct. 10
- Veterans Day – Friday, Nov. 11
- Thanksgiving – Thursday, Nov. 24
- Christmas – Monday, December 26 (observed)

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US Treasury releases final rule for ARPA funds

The US Treasury has released the Final Rule for the ARPA Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. The Final Rule will be effective April 1, 2022. This is a link to the press release: https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/jy0550. The press release makes the following statement:

First, Treasury has expanded the non-exhaustive list of uses that recipients can use to respond to COVID-19 and its economic impacts – ensuring states and localities can adapt quickly and nimbly to changing public health and economic needs. This includes clarifying that recipients can use funds for certain capital expenditures to respond to public health and economic impacts and making services like childcare, early education, addressing learning loss, and affordable housing development available to all communities impacted by the pandemic.

- Second, Treasury has expanded support for public sector hiring and capacity, which is critical for the economic recovery and in maintaining vital public services for communities.
- Third, Treasury has streamlined options to provide premium pay for essential workers, who bear the greatest health risks because of their service in critical sectors.
- Fourth, Treasury has broadened eligible water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure projects – understanding the unique challenges facing each state and locality in delivering clean water and high-speed broadband to their communities.
- In addition to these expansions, Treasury has greatly simplified the program for small localities – many of whom have received a historic federal investment in their communities through this program – **including through the option to elect a standard allowance for revenue loss rather than calculating revenue loss through the full formula.**

CCAO and NACO are starting to analyze the rule. **A major new development is a $10 million allowance for revenue loss. Recipients do not have to use the complicated revenue loss formula in order spend up to $10 million for eligible governmental services. It appears that federal Uniform Guidance still applies.**

A summary of the rule is available at the following address: https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/SLFRF-Final-Rule-Overview.pdf

The summary states the following with regard to revenue loss (p. 9):
Recipients may elect a "standard allowance" of $10 million to spend on government services through the period of performance. Under this option, which is newly offered in the final rule. Treasury presumes that up to $10 million in revenue has been lost due to the public health emergency and recipients are permitted to use that amount (not to exceed the award amount) to fund "government services." The standard allowance provides an estimate of revenue loss that is based on an extensive analysis of average revenue loss across states and localities, and offers a simple, convenient way to determine revenue loss, particularly for SLFRF's smallest recipients. All recipients may elect to use this standard allowance instead of calculating lost revenue using the formula below, including those with total allocations of $10 million or less. Electing the standard allowance does not increase or decrease a recipient's total allocation.

The explanatory text of the rule itself (400+ pages) is available here: https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/SLFRF-Final-Rule.pdf

CCAO will continue to analyze the rule and provide more information as it becomes available.

Treasury is hosting webinars to brief and answer questions about the Final Rule. If Treasury reaches RSVP capacity and you cannot attend a webinar or prefer to be briefed at your convenience, Treasury will post a recording of the webinar hosted on Jan. 7. Remaining webinar dates are as follows:

Jan. 10 at 4 p.m.
Jan. 12 at 1 p.m.

Click the respective link to register.

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2022 NACo Achievement Awards applications now open

Applications are now open for the National Association of Counties (NACo) 2022 Achievement Awards. Please join us in celebrating 52 years of county innovation by applying today.

Since 1970, the NACo Achievement Awards have recognized outstanding county government programs and services. Through a non-competitive application process, noteworthy programs receive awards in 18 categories that cover a vast range of county responsibilities. By participating, your county can earn national recognition.

NACo will highlight the 18 "best of category" winners, as well as feature all winners in NACo materials and online. We also provide a customizable press release for you to share the good news with the media and residents.

EARLY BIRD APPLICATION DEADLINE: March 4, 2022 (save $25 off the application fee)
REGULAR APPLICATION DEADLINE: March 31, 2022

For more information, please review the Achievement Awards online brochure, or email awards@naco.org with any questions.

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Ohio EPA to host Water Supply Revolving Loan Account - Program Year 2023 Updates and Highlights webinar – Jan. 20

Join the Ohio EPA on Jan. 20 at 10 a.m. to review the basics, program updates and what's new for the Water Supply Revolving Loan Account in program year 2023. This low-interest loan program funds a wide range of public and non-community drinking water system needs. The webinar provides an update on activities and priorities that may be new or revised for the upcoming program year, and will include a detailed discussion of the project nomination process, to help those who may be interested better understand how to position themselves so they can maximize their chances of receiving a WSRLA planning, design, and/or construction loan during 2022-2023 program cycle.

Click here to register.

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Ohio Residential Broadband Expansion Grant Program applications posted and challenge process information

The challenge process for the Ohio Residential Broadband Expansion Grant has officially begun.

You can find all the complete applications (under the Completed Applications tab), along with resources for the challenge process here: https://broadband.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/broadband/grant-opportunities/grant-opportunities-1/grant-opportunities-1

A complete challenge must include:

- Submit a completed challenge to the Ohio Department of Development via Certified Mail
- Submit a completed challenge via Certified Mail to the applicant's addressed listed for the application on the program website
- Submit an emailed copy of the challenge (to include evidence the original was sent certified mail) including the challenged addresses in the provided excel format. The copy of the challenge and addresses spreadsheet should be emailed to Broadbandohio@development.ohio.gov **AND** the applicant email address which can be found on page 1 of the application.
- Please also refer to the Frequently Asked Question document for additional information.

The last day to submit a challenge is: **Wednesday Jan. 12, 2022, by 5 p.m.**

Please feel free to email Broadbandohio@development.ohio.gov with any questions or concerns regarding the challenge process.

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County News

Old jails like Montgomery County's a common problem for Ohio counties
Dayton Daily News, Jan. 1, 2022
Montgomery County now is facing a similar issue seen around the state: what to do about an old jail being used to house more people with different needs than when it was first built. Montgomery County's jail sometimes holds double the people it was built to house.

County leaders recently said that they think the best option would be to build a new facility, as proposed by a contractor hired to detail their options. However, leaders also paused any plans for a new jail, citing funding problems and not wanting to go out on a financial limb during pandemic uncertainty.

Montgomery County's jail is not just holding more people than it was built for, but holding more people who need different treatment than it was built to give. At the time county officials announced plans for a new jail was on pause, about 35% of the jail population were being monitored for opioid withdrawal with another 34% were on psychotropic medications.

Allen County commissioners approve $31.8 million budget for 2022
limaohio.com, Jan. 5, 2022
After six months of meetings and revisions, the Allen County Commissioners approved the final version of the county budget for 2022 on Tuesday.

Commissioners Cory Noonan, Beth Seibert and Brian Winegardner unanimously voted for the $31.8 million general fund budget. The new budget represents an increase of nearly $2 million over last year, and much of that can be attributed to rising health insurance costs, contractual negotiations and additional staffing.

"Any time that you have increases to contracts, increases to your insurance lines, you have to identify them and find the dollars for that, and we've been able to do that," Allen County Commissioner Cory Noonan said.

Morrow County receives $2,070,000 grant to upgrade SoMoCo sewer system
The Morrow County Sentinel, Jan. 5, 2022
Morrow County Commissioners were pleased to receive word they have obtained a $2,070,000 grant to improve Southern Morrow County (SoMoCo) Sanitary Sewer System that provides service to the State Route 61/Interstate 71 interchange and nearby businesses in Bennington and Peru townships.

"This significant grant will greatly reduce the total cost of necessary improvements to the SoMoCo Sanitary Sewer that supports several of Morrow County's largest employers, including the Bennington Glen Nursing Home, the Dollar Tree Distribution Center and the Bennington Way Industrial Park," said Morrow County Commissioner Tom Whiston.

He added, "The grant not only reduces costs for current businesses and residents, but also keeps this development site attractive to future growth, more services and better jobs."

County to push for Imagination Library enrollment
The Ironton Tribune, Jan. 4, 2022
The Lawrence County Commission President plans a big push for 2022 to get the public involved in the Imagination Library.
"Enrollment is one of our goals," commission president DeAnna Holliday said Wednesday.

Programs throughout Ohio have partnered with the Dolly Parton Imagination. Partnerships and funding have been established that all children who enroll — from birth to age 5 — can receive a free book in the mail each month to help accelerate their development.

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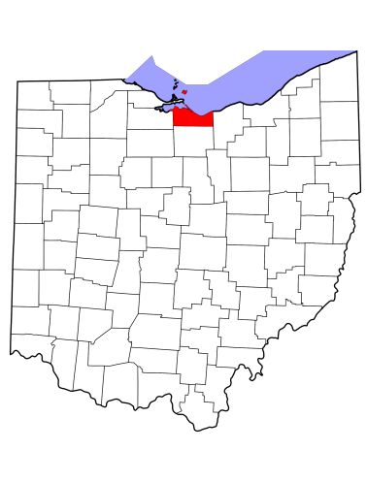
Did You Know? - Erie County



Erie County's most famous resident was inventor Thomas Alva Edison, who was born in Milan, Ohio

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Dates to Remember

JANUARY 20. 2022
GENERAL GOVERNMENT AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

JANUARY 21, 2022
CCAO BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

JANUARY 28, 2022
CEBCO BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

FEBRUARY 11, 2022
CORSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

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