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# CIDS

## County Information and Data Service

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JANUARY 16, 2009

### DATES TO REMEMBER

JANUARY 22, 2009	CCAO SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON COUNTY GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS
JANUARY 23, 2009	CCAO BOARD OF TRUSTEES ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS
FEBRUARY 6, 2009	CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING, THE RUSTY NAIL, PORTAGE COUNTY (KENT)
FEBRUARY 9, 2009	CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING, RED PIG INN, PUTNAM COUNTY (OTTAWA)
FEBRUARY 9, 2009	CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING, HOLIDAY INN FRENCH QUARTER, WOOD COUNTY (PERRYSBURG)
FEBRUARY 13, 2009	CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING, RAMADA HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER, MUSKINGUM COUNTY (ZANESVILLE)
FEBRUARY 13, 2009	CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING, CAFÉ 422, TRUMBULL COUNTY (WARREN)
FEBRUARY 19, 2009	CCAO GENERAL GOVERNMENT & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS
MARCH 2, 2009	CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING, CINCINNATI MARRIOTT NE, WARREN COUNTY (MASON)
MARCH 2, 2009	CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING, PUMP HOUSE CENTER FOR THE ARTS, ROSS COUNTY (CHILLICOTHE)
MARCH 13, 2009	CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING, HOLIDAY INN, MONTGOMERY COUNTY (ENGLEWOOD)
MARCH 13, 2009	CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING, CELEBRATIONS BY SALLIE, ASHLAND COUNTY (ASHLAND)
MARCH 13, 2009	CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING, MARION COUNTRY CLUB, MARION COUNTY (MARION)

<b>FEBRUARY 23-25, 2009</b>	<b>COMMISSIONERS TRAINING SEMINAR, DEER CREEK RESORT AND CONFERENCE CENTER, PICKAWAY COUNTY (MT. STERLING)</b>
<b>MARCH 7-11, 2009</b>	<b>NACo LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE, MARRIOTT WARDMAN PARK, WASHINGTON, D.C.</b>
<b>JULY 24-29, 2009</b>	<b>74<sup>TH</sup> NACo ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND EXPOSITION, DAVIDSON COUNTY (NASHVILLE), TN</b>

**ASSOCIATION NEWS**

7979, (888) 757-1904, or [mjneiman@ccao.org](mailto:mjneiman@ccao.org).

2009 CCAO COMMISSIONERS TRAINING SEMINAR

Mark your calendar and plan to attend the CCAO Commissioners Training Seminar to be held February 23-25, 2009 at Deer Creek Resort and Conference Center, 22300 State Park Road 20, in Mt. Sterling. This popular conference is an excellent opportunity for new and veteran commissioners, administrators, and commissioners' clerks to meet with other officials.

Registration materials and an updated agenda are posted on the CCAO website at [www.ccao.org](http://www.ccao.org). Conference registration deadline: February 13, 2009. Hotel room reservation deadline: January 30, 2009. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Jane Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate, at (614) 220-7979, (888) 757-1904, or [mjneiman@ccao.org](mailto:mjneiman@ccao.org).

2009 CCAO ROSTER UPDATES

Yes, it's that time again...time to update information for the *2009 CCAO Roster!* There will be a lot of changes in the Roster this year. The accuracy of the data in the Roster is of utmost importance. Please update the information after reorganization of the Board of County Commissioners.

Newly appointed commissioners and veteran commissioners that want to update their photos should e-mail them in a high resolution, jpg format. If you send a photo, please write the name of the person and their county on the back of the photo. Please do not staple, fax photos, or send photos from the newspaper, because the reproduction quality is poor.

All information and photos should be returned to CCAO by **January 16, 2009**. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Jane Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate, at (614) 220-

CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFINGS

Mark your calendar and plan to attend one of the Regional Legislative Briefings to be held in February and March! The purpose of the meetings is to provide legislators and county commissioners with an opportunity to discuss legislative issues affecting county government on a regional basis. The Briefings are organized by State Senate Districts and the House Districts contained within them. Invitations have been sent to the members of the General Assembly will be sent by CCAO within the week but members are encouraged to contact your legislators to personally invite them to your Regional Legislative Briefing. Please mark the date/time for the meeting in your area:

- **January 16** – 12:00 noon, Cuyahoga County (Cleveland) - Senate Districts 21, 23, 24 & 25 - Cuyahoga County Adm Building, Cleveland
- **February 6** – 11:30 a.m., Portage County (Kent) - Senate Districts 18, 27, 28 & 29 - The Rusty Nail, Kent
- **February 9** – 9:00 a.m. Putnam County (Ottawa) - Senate District 1 - Red Pig Inn, Ottawa
- **February 9** – 11:30 a.m., Wood County (Perrysburg) - Senate Districts 2 & 11 - Holiday Inn French Quarter, Perrysburg
- **February 13** – 11:30 a.m., Muskingum County (Zanesville) - Senate Districts 20 & 31 - Ramada Hotel and Conference Center, Zanesville
- **February 13** – 11:30 a.m., Trumbull County (Warren) - Senate Districts 30, 32 & 33 - Café 422, Warren
- **March 2** – 11:30 a.m., Warren County (Mason) - Senate Districts 7, 8 & 9 - Cincinnati Marriott NE, Mason
- **March 2** – 11:30 a.m., Ross County (Chillicothe) - Senate Districts 14 & 17 - Pump House Center for the Arts, Chillicothe

- **March 13** – 11:30 a.m., Montgomery County (Englewood) - Senate Districts 4, 5, 6, 10 & 12 - Holiday Inn, Englewood
- **March 13** – 11:30 a.m., Ashland County (Ashland) - Senate Districts 13 & 22 - Celebrations by Sallie, Ashland
- **March 13** – 11:30 a.m., Marion County (Marion) - Senate Districts 19 & 26 - Marion Country Club, Marion, 11:30 a.m.
- Franklin County is planning to hold there briefing during the month of February – Senate Districts 3, 15 & 16

A packet of information and a registration form was mailed to each Board of County Commissioners and Summit County last week. Information is also posted on the CCAO website at [www.ccao.org](http://www.ccao.org). For more information please contact John Leutz, CCAO Senior Policy Analyst, at (614) 220-7994, (888) 757-1904, or [jleutz@ccao.org](mailto:jleutz@ccao.org).

CAB 2009-01: COUNTY LAW LIBRARY REFORM

Recent changes in Am. Sub. H.B. 420 (127<sup>th</sup> General Assembly) amended sections of ORC 307 and 3375 dealing with the private, non-profit county law library association. County Advisory Bulletin (CAB) 2009-01 on *County Law Library Reform* is attached to this issue of CIDS and published on our website at [www.ccao.org](http://www.ccao.org). Click on Publications>County Advisory Bulletins. If you have any questions, please contact John Leutz, CCAO Senior Policy Analyst, at (614) 220-7994, (888) 757-1904, or [jleutz@ccao.org](mailto:jleutz@ccao.org).

**STATE ACTIVITIES**

TRANSPORTATION MATTERS: NEW COALITION FORMED

A new broad-based, statewide transportation coalition has been formed to advocate for a strategic new approach to improving transportation in Ohio, including new and increased funding for all modes of travel. Transportation MATTERS was formed in recognition that a well-funded, interconnected transportation system is the backbone of a strong economy in Ohio and alarmed by the shortfalls in transportation funding, which will mean more job losses in the state.

The mission of Transportation MATTERS is to advocate for full funding of a safe and efficient multi-modal transportation network that preserves and enhances Ohio’s mobility, economic competitiveness and quality of life. The first official act of the coalition was to endorse the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Task Force Report that was released last week. To review a copy of the report to go [www.dot.state.oh.us](http://www.dot.state.oh.us). For more information about Transportation MATTERS contact Beth Easterday at (614) 425-0989, [beth@triplestrategies.com](mailto:beth@triplestrategies.com), or [www.Transportation-MATTERS.org](http://www.Transportation-MATTERS.org).

FELDMAN APPOINTED TO TAX CREDIT AUTHORITY

Ohio Governor Ted Strickland appointed Montgomery County Administrator Deborah Feldman to the Tax Credit Authority. The Authority fosters investments and job creation in the state by redirecting a portion of the state’s future revenue back to the business based on their capital investments, and the quality and number of jobs created.

Feldman has served as Montgomery County Administrator for since 1997. She serves on the boards of the Downtown Dayton Partnership and the Jewish Federation of Greater Dayton. Feldman received a bachelor’s degree from Miami University and a master’s degree from Syracuse University.

**FEDERAL ACTIVITIES**

DEMANDS ON STATE INCREASE AS UNEMPLOYMENT BALLOONS

According to the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), the national unemployment rate rose to 7.2 percent in December - up from 6.8 percent in November. This brings job losses in 2008 to 2.6 million, 1.9 million of which occurred in the past four months. The Economic Policy Institute (EPI) says this is the fastest rate of job loss since 1975.

Specifically, BLS said total non-farm payroll employment fell by 524,000 in December. Employment dropped in nearly all major industry sectors over this four-month period, with health care being the only major private industry sector to continue to add a significant number of jobs.

Employment in this industry rose by 32,000 over the month and by 372,000 over the past 12 months.

According to BLS, average hourly earnings for production and non-supervisory workers in the private sector rose by 5 cents, or 0.3 percent, in December. Over the past 12 months, average hourly earnings have increased by 3.7 percent. From November 2007 to November 2008, the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPIW) rose by 0.6 percent.

The measures from the household survey also highlight the deterioration in labor market conditions. The unemployment rate rose by 0.4 percentage points in December to 7.2 percent, and the number of unemployed persons increased by 632,000 to 11.1 million. In 2008, the jobless rate rose by 2.3 percentage points, and the number of unemployed increased by 3.6 million. The rise in unemployment has been widespread across demographic groups.

The number of persons experiencing long spells of unemployment also has risen. About 2.6 million individuals had been unemployed for 27 weeks or more in December, an increase of 384,000 over the month and nearly 1.3 million over the past 12 months. The number of persons working part time who would have preferred full-time employment also continued to increase in December, rising to 8.0 million. Over the last 12 months, the number of such workers has grown by 3.4 million. (*Hannah News*, Jan 9, 2009)

### IRS ANNOUNCES 2009 STANDARD MILEAGE RATES

The Internal Revenue Service today issued the 2009 optional standard mileage rates used to calculate the deductible costs of operating an automobile for business, charitable, medical or moving purposes. Beginning on Jan. 1, 2009, the standard mileage rates for the use of a car (also vans, pickups or panel trucks) will be:

- 55 cents per mile for business miles driven
- 24 cents per mile driven for medical or moving purposes
- 14 cents per mile driven in service of charitable organizations

The new rates for business, medical and moving purposes are slightly lower than rates for the second half of 2008 that were raised by a special adjustment mid-year in response to a spike in gasoline prices. The rate for charitable purposes is set by law and is unchanged from 2008.

The business mileage rate was 50.5 cents in the first half of 2008 and 58.5 cents in the second half. The medical and moving rate was 19 cents in the first half and 27 cents in the second half. For more information go to <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-drop/rp-08-72.pdf>.

### FEMA'S NEW LINK TO DISASTER ASSISTANCE

FEMA launched a new Web site on December 31 to assist individuals affected by federally declared disasters. DisasterAssistance.gov was developed to improve and simplify access to information about disaster assistance.

Users of DisasterAssistance.gov will be able to:

- Apply for FEMA assistance and U.S. Small Business Administration loans through a single online application
- Check the status of their online application(s)
- Choose to have their Social Security benefits redirected to a new address
- Have access to their federal student loan account information

In the near future, DisasterAssistance.gov will include online applications for more types of assistance, and will add federal assistance programs administered at the state level, then local, tribal and public nonprofit organizations.

Sixteen federal agencies have partnered with FEMA to develop the Web site, which offers more than 50 forms of assistance. They include the Departments of Agriculture; Commerce; Defense; Education; Health and Human Services; Housing and Urban Development; Interior; Justice; Labor; State; Transportation; Treasury; and Veterans Affairs; the Office of Personnel Management; Small Business Administration; and Social Security Administration. For additional information, contact FEMA's Office of External Affairs at (202) 646-4600.

## **NACo ACTIVITIES**

### NACo INAUGURATION OPEN HOUSE

The National Association of Counties (NACo) will be holding an Open House on Inauguration morning January 20, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. NACo members and guests who may be in town for the festivities are invited to drop by for coffee and bagels and to watch the swearing-in ceremonies from the NACo boardroom. NACo is located at 25 Massachusetts Ave, N.W., two blocks from Union Station. Be advised that large crowds and street closings are expected.

### GREEN GOVERNMENT INITIATIVE

Launched in 2007, the NACo Green Government Initiative provides comprehensive resources for local governments on all things green, including energy, air quality, transportation, water quality, land use, purchasing and recycling. NACo serves as a catalyst between local governments and the private sector to facilitate green government best practices, products and policies that result in financial and environmental savings.

Through the Initiative, NACo will:

- Increase education and outreach on all things green;
- Help educate counties and help them educate the public;
- Promote environmentally-preferable purchasing;
- Facilitate an open dialogue with the private sector; and
- Reverse misinformed opinions that green techniques are too costly or of lesser quality

NACo has recently completed its several Fact Sheets. For more information contact Kelly Zonderwyk, Senior Associate, Community Services, National Association of Counties, 25 Massachusetts Ave NW, Washington, DC 20001, (202) 942-4224, or [kzonderwyk@naco.org](mailto:kzonderwyk@naco.org) or visit [www.greencounties.org](http://www.greencounties.org).

### NACo LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE: STRENGTHEN THE VOICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

A new Administration and the 111th Congress hit town in January and a great number of programs that assist counties will be under intense scrutiny. As a county official you need to know what this means for counties, what you can do about the issues, and how you can strengthen the voice of local government on Capitol Hill. With a philosophy of "those who show up decide," you have a host of reasons to attend the NACo Legislative Conference!

The NACo Legislative Conference will be held March 7-11, 2008 at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, in Washington, D.C.! Register online and receive a \$25 discount on your conference registration. Earlybird registration discount deadline: **January 23, 2009**. Hotel rooms fill up fast, so register now for a room at or close to the conference headquarters hotel.

Mark your calendars and plan to attend the Ohio Congressional Delegation Breakfast to be held at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 11. More details to follow in future issues of CIDS.

For more information about the conference or the Ohio Congressional Delegation Breakfast, please contact Mary Jane Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate, at (614) 220-7979, (888) 775-1904, or [mjneiman@ccao.org](mailto:mjneiman@ccao.org).

### 2009 ACHIVEMENT AWARD PROGRAM

The National Association of Counties (NACo) Achievement Award Program is a non-competitive awards program that recognizes innovative county government programs. Begun in 1970, the Achievement Award Program promotes and recognizes innovative and successful programs that modernize and streamline county government and increase services to citizens.

Programs in the following 21 categories can be submitted: Arts & Historic Preservation; Children & Youth; Civic Education and Public Information; Community/Economic Development; County Administration & Management; Court Administration & Management; Criminal Justice &

Public Safety; Emergency Management & Response; Employment & Training (for county residents); Environmental Protection & Energy; Financial Management; Health; Human Services; Information Technology; Libraries; Parks & Recreation; Personnel Management, Employee Training & Employee Benefits (for county employees); Planning; Risk Management; Transportation; and Volunteers (includes Acts of Sharing).

Applications must be postmarked by **February 13, 2009**. Send applications to: 2009 Achievement Awards, National Association of Counties, P.O. Box 79007, Baltimore, MD 21279-0007. For more information please contact Kathryn Murphy, NACo Research Associate, at (202) 661-8806 or e-mail [kmurphy@naco.org](mailto:kmurphy@naco.org) or fax your application to the NACo Research Division at (202) 737-0480. Copies of the application may be obtained from the NACo website at [www.naco.org](http://www.naco.org).

#### 2009 NACIO AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE COMPETITION

The National Association of County Information Officers (NACIO) is seeking entries for its 2009 Awards of Excellence competition. The contest seeks to recognize outstanding public relations and public information work being done on behalf of counties throughout the nation.

The 2009 NACIO Awards of Excellence Competition covers projects produced and/or distributed from January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2008. There are 11 categories for submissions – annual reports, writing, graphic design, photography, special projects, computer media, internal and external publications, brochures, Spanish language entries, and audio/visual productions. Each category has various subcategories.

Each entry will be judged for its originality, effectiveness, results, degree of effort and difficulty, overall quality, and strength of impression. The contest is open to staff of county governments that are eligible to join the National Association of Counties (NACo) or staff of state associations of counties. Your county does not have to be a member of NACo for you to enter the contest, nor do you have to be a member of NACIO, a NACo

affiliate. However, NACIO members receive a discount on the entry fee.

Entry fee for each submission: \$35 - NACIO members or \$50 - non-members. No entries will be accepted after **March 28, 2009**. NACIO was formed in 1966 to bring together communications professionals who wanted to share information with other counties across the U.S. For more information about NACIO, please visit us on the Web at [www.nacio.org](http://www.nacio.org).

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

##### STATE AND COUNTY COLLABORATION: MENTAL HEALTH AND THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

The National Association of Counties (NACo) recently published “State & County Collaboration: Mental Health and the Criminal Justice System.” This publication focuses on the importance of state and local collaboration for reducing recidivism, treating individuals in the criminal justice system with mental illness, and improving public safety. Three examples of good state and local collaboration are highlighted. These programs feature different types of state and local collaboration, from joint programming and blended funding to legislation and a grant program. To download a copy of the report go to [www.naco.org](http://www.naco.org) and click on the link in an article on the first page.

#### **CONFERENCES/ SEMINARS**

##### PROTECT YOUR FARMLAND

The Ohio Department of Agriculture is looking for the assistance of county commissioners to pass along the following information to their constituents. The Office of Farmland Preservation staff is going on-the-road to a location near you to hold meetings focused on how to “Protect Your Farmland.” The meeting will explore opportunities for farmland owners to preserve their land through the Clean Ohio Agricultural Easement Purchase Program (AEPP) which can bring many benefits to your community. ODA staff will be on hand to answer questions, as well as local land trust staff and previous AEPP recipients. Meetings will be held on the following dates:

- **January 29** – 6:00-7:30 p.m.  
Wilmington Municipal Building, Community Room – 1st Floor, 69 N. South St., Wilmington
- **February 3** – 5:30-7:00 p.m.  
W.W. Knight Nature Preserve, 29530 White Rd., Perrysburg
- **February 11** -6:00-7:00 p.m.  
Hiram College Kennedy Center, Ballroom – 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 11730 Garfield Rd., Hiram
- **February 12** – 5:30-7:00 (optional breakouts to follow)  
Logan High School, 14470 State Route 328, Logan

More details can be found at [www.agri.ohio.gov](http://www.agri.ohio.gov). Contact the Office of Farmland Preservation with any questions at (614) 728-6210 or [farmlandpres@agri.ohio.gov](mailto:farmlandpres@agri.ohio.gov).

#### OHPELRA ANNUAL TRAINING CONFERENCE

The Ohio Public Employer Labor Relations Association (OHPELRA) will hold its 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Training Conference on February 1-3, 2009 at the Cherry Valley Lodge & Conference Center, Go to [www.ohpelra.org](http://www.ohpelra.org) for more program information or to register online. For more information please contact Laura Joy Campbell, OHPELRA Treasurer, Butler County Department of Personnel, 315 High Street – Floor 6, Hamilton, OH 45011, (513) 887-3595 or fax (513) 785-5199.

#### ELECTED OFFICIALS ACADEMY 2009

The Center for Public Administration and Public Policy at Kent State University will host a two-part “Elected Officials Academy 2009.”

- Part I: Service Development - February 19 to March 19, 2009, Thursday evening from 5:30-8:00 p.m. and
- Part II: Service Delivery - April 9 to May 7, 2009, Thursday evening from 5:30-8:00 p.m.

The academy explores the role of the public official and focuses on Managing Services. These programs are designed to take participants on an in-depth exploration of the functions and services of local government, including policy-making responsibilities, and to teach them strategies for team building and problem-solving.

Registration fees: \$295 per person or \$275 for three or more; \$275 for KSU alumni; or \$550 for both sessions. For more information please contact Kerry Macomber, Senior Research Associate, The Center for Public Administration and Public Policy, 128 Bowman Hall, Kent State University, Kent, OH 44242, (330) 672-8025, [kmacom1@kent.edu](mailto:kmacom1@kent.edu), or [www.kent.edu/cpapp](http://www.kent.edu/cpapp).

#### EDUCATION MEANS BUSINESS

The Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments (TMACOG) will host a half-day program on Thursday, January 29, 2009 at the Holiday Inn French Quarter, 10630 Fremont Pike, in Perrysburg. The focus of workshops and the dinner presentation is “Education Means Business: Building Today’s Local and Global Economy.” Workshops begin at 1:30 p.m. and end after the dinner and keynote presentation at 8:00 p.m.

Registration fee: \$50 – TMACOG member; \$90 - non-member; \$30 – student; \$30 – spouse/guest. Registration deadline: January 23, 2009. For more information contact Greg Gettum at (419) 241-9155 ext. 132, [gettum@tmacog.org](mailto:gettum@tmacog.org), or [www.tmacog.org](http://www.tmacog.org).

#### **CLASSIFIED ADS**

CCAO publishes the County Information and Data Service (CIDS) weekly. Classified ads will be published free of charge as a service to counties. Ads will run for two weeks if space is available. Ads will also be published on the CCAO website at [www.ccao.org](http://www.ccao.org). When submitting your ad to CCAO please provide a link to the job posting online and a deadline. Please provide a copy of the classified ad by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday of each week. Transmit the copy to Mary Jane Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate, by e-mail [mjneiman@ccao.org](mailto:mjneiman@ccao.org)