



# CIDS

## County Information and Data Service

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APRIL 24, 2009

### DATES TO REMEMBER

APRIL 30, 2009	CCAO METROPOLITAN & URBAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL
APRIL 30, 2009	CCAO FISCAL, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS
MAY 3-9, 2009	NATIONAL COUNTY GOVERNMENT WEEK
MAY 4, 2009	MANAGING FISCAL RESOURCES & MAKING TOUGH STAFFING DECISIONS SEMINAR, EDISON COMMUNITY COLLEGE, MIAMI COUNTY (PIQUA)
MAY 11, 2009	MANAGING FISCAL RESOURCES & MAKING TOUGH STAFFING DECISIONS SEMINAR, SALT FORK RESORT & CONFERENCE CENTER, GUERNSEY COUNTY (CAMBRIDGE)
MAY 19, 2009	SE DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS AND ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY MEETING, COSHOCTON COUNTY
MAY 20, 2009	OHIO COUNCIL OF COUNTY OFFICIALS LEGISLATIVE LUNCHEON, STATEHOUSE ATTRIUM, COLUMBUS
MAY 20-22, 2009	NACo WESTERN INTERSTATE REGION (WIR) CONFERENCE, UMATILLA COUNTY (PENDLETON), OR
JULY 24-29, 2009	74 <sup>TH</sup> NACo ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND EXPOSITION, DAVIDSON COUNTY (NASHVILLE), TN

### ASSOCIATION NEWS

#### OCCO LUNCHEON – MAY 20

Mark your calendars and plan to attend the Ohio Council of County Officials (OCCO) legislative luncheon on Wednesday, May 20, 2009! The Ohio Clerk of Courts Association will host the luncheon. There is no charge to attend the luncheon.

County officials need to continually communicate and build a partnership with members of the General Assembly. The OCCO encourages you to invite your state senators and state representatives

to the luncheon. Please schedule appointments with them to discuss issues of importance to your county while you are in Columbus. In lieu of an educational seminar, the OCCO recommends that you attend a committee meeting and/or Senate and House Session. Don't miss this opportunity to lobby the Ohio General Assembly!

Many of you see your lawmakers regularly within your counties. OCCO strongly encourages you to travel to Columbus on May 20 to physically show your support for your lawmakers, who will be looking to see if anyone from their district made the effort to come to this important event.

Please register by May 15, 2009. For more information please contact Todd A. Bickle, Muskingum County Common Pleas Clerk of Courts, at (740) 455-7104, fax (740) 455-8245, or [tabickle@muskingumcounty.org](mailto:tabickle@muskingumcounty.org).

After you meet with your legislators at the Statehouse, please take some time to see the following:

- **County flags** - displayed on Veterans' Plaza located on the east side of the Statehouse.
- **The Ladies Gallery** - located on the first floor of the Statehouse. The room pays homage to the first female Ohio legislators who paved the way for women in government and honors all women who have served in the Ohio General Assembly.

MANAGING FISCAL RESOURCES & MAKING TOUGH STAFFING DECISIONS SEMINARS

During these tough economic times, all county elected officials are challenged to manage finances and human resources more effectively. To assist officials in making well-informed decisions, CCAO is sponsoring two one-day seminars on "Managing Fiscal Resources & Making Tough Staffing Decisions" that are open to all county elected and appointed officials and chief staff members. The same topics will be covered at each seminar.

**Dates and Locations**

**May 4, 2009 – Miami County (Piqua)** – register by April 29

Edison Community College  
1973 Edison Drive, Piqua

**May 11, 2009 – Guernsey County (Cambridge)** – register by May 6

Salt Fork Resort & Conference Center  
P.O. Box 7, US Route 22 East, Cambridge

**Agenda and Registration Information**

9:00 a.m. Registration  
9:30 a.m. Welcome  
9:40 a.m. Personnel & Human Resource Issues: Layoffs, Job Abolishments, Voluntary Reductions, 4-Day Work

12:00 noon Week, and Unemployment & COBRA Benefit for Employees  
Lunch  
12:45 p.m. Mandatory Funding - *A panel discussion on mandatory programs and services the county must fund.*  
2:30 p.m. Funding Source for Counties  
3:30 p.m. Adjourn

Registration fee: \$25 (includes seminar materials and lunch). Registration information is posted on the front page of CCAO's website at [www.ccao.org](http://www.ccao.org). For more information, please contact Janet Erwin, Administrative Assistant, at (614) 220-7986, (888) 757-1904, or [jerwin@ccao.org](mailto:jerwin@ccao.org). Mark your calendars and plan to attend!

NEW CCAOSC ENERGY PROGRAM – NATURAL GAS SAVINGS

Recently, the County Commissioners Association of Ohio Service Corporation (CCAOSC) announced a **new energy program** designed to help keep your natural gas costs under control. The CCAOSC has partnered with Palmer Energy to help manage a new natural gas program – CCAOSC Energy Solutions - for member counties. Program advantages: utilize strength of group buying and leverage buying power to shop the market and secure the best deals.

As you recall, the CCAOSC established a natural gas program in 2000 to save counties money through pre-payment and aggregation. Since the inception of that program, the CCAOSC Natural Gas Program has saved the 30-member counties over \$7.4 million in gas commodities. In the past year, counties saved over \$1.3 million. **Counties currently enrolled in the program must sign and return the Participation Agreement for the new program by May 1.**

The CCAOSC believes this program has the potential to provide a significant value for your county. If you have questions or would like to schedule a consultation, please contact Kirk Mizerek, Palmer Energy Vice President, at (419) 539-9180 or [kmizerek@palmerenergy.com](mailto:kmizerek@palmerenergy.com) or Tom Strup, CCAO Deputy Director of Operations, at (614) 220-7978 or [tstrup@ccao.org](mailto:tstrup@ccao.org).

NATIONAL COUNTY GOVERNMENT WEEK –  
MAY 3-9

Join counties across the nation to celebrate National County Government Week (NCGW) to be held May 3 – 9, 2009. The theme for the 2009 celebration is “Greening Our Future.” All counties are encouraged to participate, especially those that are pursuing green government initiatives. Tell your residents about what counties are doing to conserve energy, protect the environment, and save taxpayer’s dollars. A comprehensive booklet of ideas on ways to celebrate NCGW, including draft proclamations and news releases, is available at [www.naco.org](http://www.naco.org). For more information, contact Tom Goodman, NACo Public Affairs Director, at (202) 942-4222 or [tgoodman@naco.org](mailto:tgoodman@naco.org).

Share your ideas for celebrating National County Government Week in your county! Contact Mary Jane Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate, at (614) 220-7979, fax (614) 221-6986, or [mjneiman@ccao.org](mailto:mjneiman@ccao.org).

**COUNTY ACTIVITIES**

CUYAHOGA COUNTY MAKES FIRST CUT IN  
NATIONAL AWARDS PROGRAM

Seven counties from across the United States have made the first cut in the Harvard Kennedy School of Government’s Innovations in Government Awards program —the so-called “Oscars” of government programs.

The Kennedy School’s Ash Institute for Democratic Governance and Innovation recently announced the 2009 Top 50 Government Innovations. Winnowed from a pool of 600 applicants, the top 50 include the following counties: Santa Clara County (CA), Orange and Hillsborough counties (FL), Hennepin County (MN), Cuyahoga County (OH), Milwaukee County (WI), and King County (WA).

Cuyahoga County’s Credit Crisis Relief program combats the devastating impacts of the global credit crisis by providing real, replicable solutions that protect communities, neighborhoods, and families. The program offers comprehensive foreclosure prevention services, prevents neighborhood blight, and creates a land bank to revitalize neighborhoods. The program is managed

by Gus Frangos in the office of Cuyahoga County Treasurer Jim Rokakis.

The county intends to issue between \$50-70 million in bonds based on the anticipated revenue from the delinquency penalties. Meanwhile, many of the properties acquired by the land bank will need to be demolished, while others will be tapped for future rehabilitation. Down the road, the sale of the rehabilitated properties will create another revenue stream for the county.

Finalists of the 2009 Innovations Awards will be announced on May 18, and on May 27 they will make presentations before the national selection committee in Cambridge, MA. The 2009 Innovations winners will be announced in September.

Applicants for the 2010 Innovations in American Government Awards are encouraged to apply at [www.innovationsaward@harvard.edu](http://www.innovationsaward@harvard.edu).

**STATE ACTIVITIES**

SUPREME COURT RULES AGAINST  
NEWSPAPER IN PUBLIC RECORDS CASE

The Ohio Supreme Court on Tuesday denied a newspaper's request for an order that would grant it access to an investigative report that a private law firm prepared for a political subdivision. Justices said in a 7-0 opinion that such reports are covered by attorney-client privilege and are not subject to disclosure under the state's public records law. The decision came in a complaint that *The (Toledo) Blade* filed against the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority.

In dispute was an investigative report that the port authority hired a law firm to prepare. Directors hired the private attorneys to analyze records in order to identify potential legal repercussions of an allegedly improper personal relationship between the port authority president and a lobbyist working for the agency.

*The Blade* filed suit in the Supreme Court to obtain access to the law firm's report, and to all the supporting documents. It also sought statutory damages and attorney fees. Justices denied the

request after finding that attorney-client privilege shielded the investigative report.

Justices also said, in an unsigned opinion, that the newspaper's request for other documents was moot because the port authority had already provided copies of all records the law firm had reviewed. They also said withholding of the report did not significantly deter the newspaper's reporting of the matter. Justices denied the request for damages and attorney fees after finding the newspaper's claim lacked merit.

## FEDERAL ACTIVITIES

### CENSUS 2010: COMPLETE COUNT COMMITTEES KEY TO SUCCESS

Every 10 years, as mandated by the U.S. Constitution, our nation conducts a census — an effort to count every person living in the United States. The key to this endeavor is having every household fill out and mail back a completed census form. Participation is critical, as the results determine how Congress is apportioned and how more than \$300 billion in federal funds are distributed annually to state, local and tribal areas.

One way to help ensure that everyone is counted is to form Complete Count Committees in communities across the country. Complete Count Committees are volunteer teams consisting of community leaders, faith-based groups, schools, businesses, media outlets, and others who are appointed by elected officials and work together to make sure entire communities are counted.

A variety of state, county, municipal, tribal and community-based organizations formed 11,800 Complete Count Committees during Census 2000. These committees developed targeted outreach plans specific to their communities to supplement what the Census Bureau was already doing through paid advertising and partnership efforts.

As a result, these committees helped inform local residents — including those historically hard to reach in census counts — of the importance of responding to the census. In part because of these efforts, the response rate for Census 2000 increased for the first time in 30 years and the

undercount of those historically missed during a decennial census was reduced.

In 2010, the Census Bureau needs even more Complete Count Committees to create awareness within their communities about the upcoming Census. What can your county do?

- Organize a Complete County Committee
- Donate space for testing and training temporary census workers,
- Publicize recruiting efforts and obtain endorsements from local leaders.
- Conduct census rallies or parades, media luncheons, interfaith breakfasts, and weekend events as we get closer to Census Day.

The 2010 Census will have one of the shortest census questionnaires in the history of the United States, dating back to the first census in 1790. The 2010 Census will ask just name, gender, age, race, ethnicity, relationship and whether the householder owns or rents their home. The census form will take only about 10 minutes on average to complete, and answers are protected by law and strictly confidential.

Ohio, Michigan, and West Virginia are in the Detroit region. For more information about forming a Complete Count Committee, contact Rose Simmons, Partnership Specialist, U.S. Census Bureau, at (614) 684-0120 or [rose.simmons@census.gov](mailto:rose.simmons@census.gov). Contact Ms Simmon's office for training materials, timelines, suggested activities, and a Complete Count Committee handbook to make your committee a success. In addition, visit the Census Bureau's Web site at [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov).

## NACo ACTIVITIES

### BROWN TO APPOINT LEADERSHIP TEAM FOR 2009-10

Sonoma County (CA) Supervisor and NACo President-Elect Valerie Brown will be considering the following appointments to his 2009-10 Leadership Team in early May.

- **Steering Committee Leadership** – The 11 steering committees will each have a leadership team consisting of a chair, vice-chairs, subcommittee chairs, and vice-

chairs. Active members of the steering committees are given first preference. This does not include steering committee membership nominations. **CCAO will process nominations in early June. (See article below.)**

- **Caucus Leadership** – These one-year appointments include the Rural Action Caucus and Large Urban County Caucus Steering Committees chair and vice-chairs. Active members of the steering committees are given first preference.
- **At-Large Appointments to the NACo Board of Directors** – These ten one-year appointments add diversity to the board.
- **Standing Committees** – Four committees (i.e., Finance, Information Technology, Member Programs and Services, and Membership Committees)
- **Ad Hoc Committees** – Four committees (i.e., Deferred Compensation Advisory Committee – three-year term, Arts and Culture Commission – one-year term, Sustainability Leadership Team – one-year term, and Geospatial Information Systems Committee – one-year term.)

The application is available online at [www.naco.org](http://www.naco.org). Click on About NACo>Committees and Caucuses>Presidential Appointment. **Application deadline: May 22, 2009.** If you have any questions please contact Mary Jane Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate, at (614) 220-7979 or [mjneiman@ccao.org](mailto:mjneiman@ccao.org).

#### 2009-10 NACo STEERING COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

The nomination process for membership on NACo policy steering committees in 2009-10 is underway. As a NACo steering committee member, you are responsible for debating and creating national policies and priorities affecting counties and serve on NACo's front line in their grassroots efforts. Committees meet at the NACo Legislative and Annual Conferences and one other time during the year. You will be responsible for your own travel. Attendance and participation in the committee is important.

NACo has eleven steering committees: Agriculture & Rural Affairs; Community & Economic

Development; Environment, Energy & Land Use; Finance & Intergovernmental Relations; Health; Human Services & Education; Justice & Public Safety; Labor & Employment; Public Lands; Telecommunications & Technology; and Transportation. To serve on a Steering Committee, your county must be a member of NACo.

CCAO processes all nominations for Ohio public officials before being sent to NACo. If you would like to serve on a NACo committee for 2009-10, please respond by **Friday, June 12, 2009**. Nominations will be approved by the incoming NACo President after the NACo Annual Conference, which will be held July 24-28, 2009 in Davidson County (Nashville), Tennessee. NACo will announce your appointment in September 2009. For more information about NACo Steering Committees 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 COUNTY COURTHOUSE AWARDS

As leaders in innovative problem solving, county government deserves to be recognized for outstanding efforts in improving the lives of citizens through outstanding governance and strong leadership. The National Association of Counties (NACo) is sponsoring the 2009 County Courthouse Awards to profile elected county officials who work to address our nation's most challenging issues, such as homeland security, air and water quality, information technology, health and human services, public safety, and a wealth of other priorities.

Last year, former Union County Engineer Steve Stolte won the County Courthouse award! Application deadline: May 8, 2009. For more information, please contact Dalen Harris or Erik Johnston, Associate Legislative Directors, at (202) 393-6226 or [dharris@naco.org](mailto:dharris@naco.org) or [ejohnston@naco.org](mailto:ejohnston@naco.org) or click on the story on the front page of [www.naco.org](http://www.naco.org).

#### **SEMINARS**

##### HOT BUTTONS 2009

Clemans Nelson & Associates will present a seminar for all county employers titled "Hot Buttons 2009." The seminar will be held on May 12, 2009

at the Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 North High Street, in Worthington. The seminar starts at 8:00 a.m. for registration and adjourns at 4:00 p.m.

This program will address some of the hottest human resource issues facing public employers today. Topics: ADA, what and when to use the interactive dialogue; Fitness for Duty Exams; FMLA: using the new medical certification form; new military leave provisions; how much information can you demand in order to justify the use of sick leave; do you choose layoff, or abolishment, and what about police and fire layoffs.

Registration fee: \$189 per person (mention CIDS when you register and receive a 10% discount.) Register three people and the fourth person attends free. For more information, or to register call, Karen Metzger, Program Manager, Clemans, Nelson & Associates, at (614) 923-7700 or (800) 282-0787.

#### UNFAIR LABOR PRACTICES SEMINAR

The law office of Downes, Hurst & Fishel LLP will conduct an "Unfair Labor Practices Seminar" on Wednesday, May 13, 2009 at the Miami Township Government Center, 2700 Lyons Road, in Miamisburg. Course topics include: history of Ohio's Collective Bargaining Act, employer unfair labor practices, responding to unfair labor practice charges, protected activities, and union unfair labor practices.

Please note that 6.0 CLE credit hours have been approved by the Supreme Court of Ohio. Registration fee: \$175 per person or \$145 for two or more people. For more information, contact Bonni J. Auteri, Office Manager, Downes, Hurst & Fishel, LLP, 400 South Fifth Street - Suite 200, Columbus, Ohio 43215, (614) 221-1216, fax (614) 221-8769, or [bauteri@dhflaw.com](mailto:bauteri@dhflaw.com).

## **CLASSIFIEDS**

### ADMINISTRATOR, OHIO REHABILITATION SERVICES COMMISSION

Under the authority of the Commission for Rehabilitation Services, the Administrator functions as chief operating officer for the Agency; exercising the skills and knowledge of management, fiscal accounting, and rehabilitation services, administers and manages multi-geographic jurisdictions and multi-faceted human services programs; makes high level management and administrative decisions regarding the allocation of state/federal funds, compliance with applicable state/federal laws and regulations, human resource accountability and the overall efficiency of consumer/claimant services; reviews monthly, quarterly, and annual expenditure reports; analyzes statistical data based on established performance standards; promotes consumer representation on appropriate agency committees.

Educational requirements: at least a master's degree in the field of vocational rehabilitation, or related discipline in the social services. Professional experience: at least five years of managerial experience in an organization of at least 50 employees with a \$3 million annual budget that delivers vocational rehabilitation services, under the auspices, or related to the State-Federal Vocational Rehabilitation program or equivalent of Minimum Class Qualifications for Employment noted above.

Application deadline: May 17, 2009. For more information go to:

<http://agency.governmentjobs.com/ohio/default.cfm?action=viewjob&JobID=161937>. The State of Ohio is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

#### **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)