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# CIDS

## County Information and Data Service

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NOVEMBER 4, 2011

### DATES TO REMEMBER

NOVEMBER 9, 2011	PERSONAL LIABILITY OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES – CCAO 2 <sup>ND</sup> WEDNESDAY SEMINAR SERIES, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS
NOVEMBER 17, 2011	CCA O GENERAL GOVERNMENT & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS
NOVEMBER 18, 2011	CCA O BOARD OF DIRECTORS, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS
DECEMBER 11-13, 2011	CCA O/CEAO ANNUAL WINTER CONFERENCE, GREATER COLUMBUS CONVENTION CENTER, FRANKLIN COUNTY (COLUMBUS)

### ASSOCIATION NEWS

#### CALLING FOR HELP: MORE RESPONSE NEEDED ON 9-1-1 SURVEY!!!

CCA O and the Ohio 9-1-1 Council are seeking help in getting more responses to the 9-1-1 survey, in order to collect vital data about every county's 9-1-1 system, PSAP's, and the disbursement of funding that has been received from the state Wireless 9-1-1 Assistance Fund.

This information is necessary for the Ohio 9-1-1 Council to prepare the report required by law to be submitted to the Ohio General Assembly. **Moreover, complete, accurate data is being sought because of the upcoming sunset of the 9-1-1 fee on wireless phones and our advocacy efforts to continue this critical funding source. Inaccurate or incomplete reporting by counties risks painting a false or vague picture of Ohio's 9-1-1 system.**

Commissioners are urged to follow-up with their county's 9-1-1 coordinator in getting this information submitted to the Council, via the staff at the Public Utilities Council of Ohio (PUCO). **Below are the counties that have not responded**, according to the Council/PUCO: Brown, Clark, Clinton, Columbiana, Coshocton, Guernsey, Harrison, Highland, Holmes, Jackson, Logan, Madison, Montgomery, Morgan, Morrow, Muskingum, Paulding, Sandusky, and Vinton.

**Below are counties that have submitted incomplete data and additional information still is needed:** Carroll, Henry, Mahoning, Monroe, Pickaway, Seneca, Scioto, and Perry.

For more information about the survey, please contact one of the following: CCAO Staffers John Leutz at [jleutz@ccao.org](mailto:jleutz@ccao.org) or Cheryl Subler at [csubler@ccao.org](mailto:csubler@ccao.org) at (614) 221-5627 or (888) 757-1904 or contact Marianne Townsend, Ohio Interim 9-1-1 Coordinator, at (614) 728-2855 or [marianne.townsend@puc.state.oh.us](mailto:marianne.townsend@puc.state.oh.us)

## 2<sup>nd</sup> WEDNESDAY SEMINAR SERIES: PERSONAL LIABILITY OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS & EMPLOYEES

CCAO encourages commissioners and other county officials to attend the next CCAO 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday Seminar Series on “Personal Liability of Public Officials and Employees” on November 9, 2011 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday Seminar Series is held at the CCAO offices, 209 East State Street, in Columbus.

Mark Landes and Derek Haggerty of the law firm of Isaac Brant Ledman and Teetor LLP will provide an in depth discussion of public official liability for public money, the extent of individual liability of public officials to lawsuits, and the limitations of officeholder’s bonds in protecting officeholders from liability. Other topics handled by these experienced lawyers include how audit findings for recovery may expose public employees to the loss of their job, savings, and in limited circumstances their public pension when money has been illegally expended, not collected, misappropriated or stolen; procedures for removal of officeholders from office; and defense and indemnification of office holders. Ginny Shrimplin, Marketing Manager for the County Risk Sharing Authority will discuss insurance options to protect public officials from liability.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday sessions are designed to be very interactive, allowing ample opportunity for attendees to ask questions and have dialogue directly with speakers. All sessions are free and parking is available in the lot adjacent to the CCAO office. Program details are posted at [www.ccao.org](http://www.ccao.org) Coffee will be served during the morning and lunch will be on your own. Best of all, no registration fee will be charged! To register contact Tanya McComas, CCAO Administrative Assistant, at [tmccomas@ccao.org](mailto:tmccomas@ccao.org) Please include the name and title of those attending and the county, agency or company they represent.

## CAB 2011-04: COUNTY CENTRALIZED SERVICES

The state biennial budget bill for SFY 2012-2013 authorizes county commissioners to establish centralized service programs for a number of administrative and operational functions that are often common to multiple county offices. The concept is that by combining certain function into a centralized service, taxpayer dollars would be saved and greater efficiency would result from centralized services. The County Advisory Bulletin provides a detailed explanation of the new authority, a list of services and offices to which centralized services may apply, exemptions to centralized services, and procedures for adopting a centralized service policy, including a sample resolution of intent and a resolution establishing centralized services.

This week, County Advisory Bulletin (CAB) 2011-04 “County Centralized Services” was published on our website ([www.ccao.org](http://www.ccao.org)). Click on the article on the front page or go to Publications>County Advisory Bulletins. For more information, contact Larry Long, Executive Director, at (614) 220-7977 or [llong@ccao.org](mailto:llong@ccao.org) or Cheryl Subler, Managing Director of Policy, at (614) 220-7980 or [csubler@ccao.org](mailto:csubler@ccao.org) or call via our toll free number at (888) 757-1904.

## COUNTY COMMISSIONERS RING

In 1986, CCAO authorized the creation of an official ring for county commissioners. The ring was designed at the request of current and former county commissioners under the guidance of CCAO. To order a ring, please contact Mike Miller at Miller’s Jewelers in Mansfield at (419) 522-2793 or [www.millersjewelry.com](http://www.millersjewelry.com). It takes about six weeks for delivery of the rings.

## STATE ACTIVITIES

### AUDITOR OF STATE LAUNCHES TOOLKIT ON SKINNYOHIO.ORG; RESOURCES TO HELP LOCAL GOVERNMENTS COPE WITH DWINDLING DOLLARS

Local governments will find the help they need to “skinny down” their operations through two new additions to [www.skinnyOhio.org](http://www.skinnyOhio.org). This week, Auditor of State Dave Yost launched the “Local Government Toolkit” and the “Performance Audit Database” on his website devoted to smarter, streamlined government. “It’s one thing to say governments ought to share services,” Auditor Yost said. “It’s another thing to give them the tools they need to do it.” Following the passage of the biennial budget, Auditor Yost committed to providing local governments with information and resources to creatively address their financial challenges.

The new Local Government Toolkit on [www.skinnyOhio.org](http://www.skinnyOhio.org) offers examples, templates, reference documents and other resources to help Ohio communities who are looking for ways to provide the best possible service at the lowest cost to their citizens. Information is available concerning shared services and voluntary mergers. The Performance Audit Database is a catalog of performance audits conducted by the Auditor of State’s office. The database is searchable by topic, entity type, or entity name.

SkinnyOhio.org shares ideas and best practices from performance audits conducted across the state and nationally. Subject areas range from staff and facility planning to vehicle fleet operations and maintenance to financial forecasting, energy management and technology. The website is regularly updated with the latest news and information concerning performance audits, shared services and cost-saving initiatives.

### OHIO EPA SEEKS PUBLIC COMMENTS ON DRAFT GENERAL PERMIT TO PROTECT AIR AROUND SHALE GAS PRODUCTION SITES

With shale gas production from Ohio's Marcellus and Utica shale deposits projected to increase, Ohio EPA wants to make sure the air around production sites is safe while providing business with the most efficient option to get operations up and running. To meet this objective, the Agency has developed a draft general air permit for shale gas production sites and is seeking public comments prior to finalizing the permit.

The **draft general permit covers** a variety of emissions sources found at most shale gas production sites including internal combustion engines, turbine-powered generators, dehydration systems, storage tanks, flares and unpaved roadways. It contains emissions limits, operating restrictions, and monitoring, testing and reporting requirements.

The **draft general permit does not cover** activities that occur during the drilling and fracturing phases as the resulting air emissions are considered temporary and exempt from air pollution permit regulations. The drilling and fracturing phases are regulated under federal rules. In addition, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (Division of Mineral Resources Management) is the primary regulatory authority over oil and gas drilling activity in Ohio, including regulations for well construction, siting, design and operation.

The **draft general permit contains** air pollution control standards applicable to most shale gas production sites, providing consistency and efficiency to the permitting process. Once finalized, applicants will apply for and receive the permit in as little as two weeks. Ohio EPA's air division currently offers 47 general permits which serve a variety of business sectors.

In July, an initial draft of the general permit was provided to interested parties for review and comment. Ohio EPA considered all comments received and modified the draft to better define the types of equipment covered under the permit (natural gas-fired turbine generators were added, truck-loading racks were removed) and increase the allowable number of on-site storage tanks and size of natural gas-fired compressor engines.

The draft general permit's terms and conditions, qualifying criteria and related information are available at [www.epa.state.oh.us/shale.aspx](http://www.epa.state.oh.us/shale.aspx) Public comments may be submitted to Ohio EPA Division of Air Pollution Control, Attn: Cheryl Suttman, P.O. Box 1049, Columbus OH 43216-1049 or emailed to [cheryl.suttman@epa.state.oh.us](mailto:cheryl.suttman@epa.state.oh.us) The public comment period ends November 28, 2011. The permit is expected to be finalized and made available to applicants by the end of the year.

### BWC CUTS RATES FOR PUBLIC EMPLOYERS, CONSIDERS PLAN TO REVISE BASE RATES

The Bureau of Workers' Compensation Board of Directors plans to cut premium rates for public employers. Ohio's 3,900 public employer taxing districts will pay an estimated \$22 million less for workers' compensation coverage next year as a result of the board's vote to reduce overall rates by 5% starting Jan. 1, according to the bureau. BWC Administrator/CEO Stephen Buehrer pitched the proposal to the board last month. "Local communities need additional tools, as well as ways to cut costs in these tough economic times," he said in a statement. "This reduction in workers' compensation rates should help communities across the state."

BWC said certain public employer industry groups will see even greater reductions: rates for counties and school districts will decrease by an overall 6%; villages by an overall 9%; and special districts, excluding transit authorities, by an overall 18%. However, workers' compensation base rates for township workers and public works relief employees (PWRE) would increase. The latter change would primarily affect counties that administer work programs for individuals receiving public assistance. Rates for individual entities will vary based on several factors, and some employers may even experience slight increases based on their own claims history and other changes that BWC staff also proposed this month. Under the new staff proposal, base rates for 12 of the 14 employee classifications for public employer entities would decrease. Those seeing potential cuts include counties, cities, villages, schools, transit authorities, and other jurisdictions. **The base rate changes announced this week will impact premiums paid by public employers in 2013.**

### EMS AMBULANCE STAFFING REVISIONS

A new law (Substitute H.B. 128) revising the requirements for staffing ambulances in an effort to improve driver safety and reduce the number of emergency vehicle-related crashes took effect on September 23, 2011. The bill:

- Revises the requirements for staffing ambulances.
- Revises the priorities for distributing grants for emergency medical services, including giving priority to paramedic programs seeking national accreditation.
- Allows entities that provide ambulance, emergency medical, and nonemergency patient transport services on behalf of townships to collect and retain any fee that the township may charge for each run involving such services.
- Add new national certification level titles to the existing certification titles.

A complete synopsis of Substitute H.B. 128 can be found at <http://www.lsc.state.oh.us/analyses129/11-hb128-120.pdf> Frequently asked questions have been added to the Ohio Department of Public Safety, Division of EMS website as an additional source at [www.ems.ohio.gov](http://www.ems.ohio.gov) If you have any questions, contact the Division of EMS at (800) 233-0785 or (614) 466-9447.

### BIRTHDAY EXTRAVAGANZA FOR OHIO STATEHOUSE JUST TWO WEEKS AWAY

The long-anticipated Ohio Statehouse 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration Open House and Capitol Artists Fair will be held on Tuesday, November 15, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. A public cake-cutting ceremony will take place at 12:00 noon in the Statehouse Rotunda. In conjunction with the year-long Sesquicentennial Celebration, the event will serve as the official birthday party of the Ohio Statehouse, as the great institution of

American democracy celebrates its 150<sup>th</sup> birthday. The day's activities will include: The Capitol Artists Fair; a cake-cutting ceremony; unveiling of the Ohio Civil War Governors portraits which will be on display for a period of time in the Rotunda; and tours throughout the day. The third annual Capitol Artists Fair will be a focal point of the day-long birthday party at the Ohio Statehouse. The events are free to attend and open the public!

On November 15, 1861, construction on the Ohio Statehouse was finally completed after 22 years of construction. Now, 150 years later, Ohioans will commemorate this historic birthday of their Statehouse and its worthy contributions to American democracy. Ohioans across the state are invited to exhibit their state pride by taking part in this birthday extravaganza. Detailed information is available at [www.statehouse.org](http://www.statehouse.org)

**2012 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**

<b>HOLIDAY</b>	<b>LEGAL HOLIDAY</b>
New Year's Day	January 2
Martin Luther King Day	January 16
President's Day	February 20
Memorial Day	May 28
Independence Day	July 4
Labor Day	September 3
Columbus Day	October 8
Veteran's Day	November 12
Thanksgiving Day	November 22
Christmas Day	December 25

**FEDERAL ACTIVITIES**

**HHS PROVIDES MORE THAN \$1.8 BILLION TO STATES TO HELP LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS WITH ENERGY COSTS**

The U.S. Department of Health & Human Services announced the release of more than \$1.7 billion to help low income citizens with their heating and home energy costs. These funds will go to states, tribes and territories under the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) block grant. Ohio will receive \$75,050,540.

LIHEAP assists qualified families with their home energy needs such as heating in the winter, cooling their homes in the summer, and insulating their homes to make them more energy efficient and reduce their energy costs. The result of this funding lessens the chance of families having to choose between paying their energy bills and other necessities, such as food or medicine. States are receiving \$1.7 billion now for their immediate needs, but may currently access an additional \$136 million, if needed. Application information: [www.development.ohio.gov/community/ocs/heap.htm](http://www.development.ohio.gov/community/ocs/heap.htm)

## CONGRESS POISED TO MAKE DEEP CUTS TO JUVENILE JUSTICE FUNDING

Congress is poised to make the deepest cuts to federal juvenile justice funding in over a decade, and that would result in increased use of incarceration, including placement of kids in adult jails, and run counter to public opinion research that shows the public supports rehabilitation and treatment for youth. The modest federal investment in these programs pay huge dividends by helping keep juvenile crime rates low, communities safer and at-risk youth on the right path.

In September, the Senate Subcommittee on public safety appropriations approved a bill that would provide \$108 million for federal juvenile justice programs in fiscal year 2012 (FY12), \$54 million less than FY11. Under the Senate proposal, Title II of the JJDPa would receive only \$45 million, Title V of the JJDPa would receive only \$33 million (all earmarked), and JABG would receive only \$30 million. The measure passed with bipartisan support, and no Members spoke up to protect important juvenile justice and delinquency prevention programs.

While the Senate proposal makes significant cuts to juvenile justice investments, the House proposal approved in July is much worse. The House bill nearly eliminates all federal funding for juvenile justice, providing just \$40 million for Title II and zeroing out JABG and Title V. Talk your Members of Congress about how the juvenile justice programs operate in your county. For questions or comments, contact Dalen Harris, NACo Associate Legislative Director, at (202) 942-4236 or [dharris@naco.org](mailto:dharris@naco.org)

## COBURN AMENDMENT DEFEATED! THANK SENATORS BROWN & PORTMAN FOR VOTING AGAINST THE AMENDMENT!

NACo says thanks to all counties for your hard work to oppose Coburn Amendment No. 800, which would have cut USDA Rural Development funding by \$1 billion or 40% in the Senate's version of the FY 12 Agriculture Appropriations bill. The Amendment was defeated by a very strong vote of 85-13 on Tuesday morning due to the hard work of NACo members and the coalition of rural groups that NACo helped to organize against this amendment. Contact Ohio Senators Brown and Portman to thank them for voting against the amendment!

## EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM TO BE TESTED NATIONWIDE ON NOVEMBER 9

The Emergency Alert System (EAS) nationwide test will take place on Wednesday, November 9, 2011 at 2:00 p.m. This system, commonly tested at the local level, will be tested across the entire country. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) wants all members of the public to be aware of this test next week and understand that it is only a test. Spread the word in your county! For more information, go to [www.fcc.gov/encyclopedia/emergency-alert-system-nationwide-test](http://www.fcc.gov/encyclopedia/emergency-alert-system-nationwide-test)

## **NACo ACTIVITIES**

### BUILDING RESILIENT COMMUNITIES: GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE FOR COUNTIES

Trees, wetlands, greenways, parks and other natural elements provide innumerable benefits to counties across the U.S. These natural elements, known collectively as "green infrastructure," save energy, absorb floodwater, provide vital ecosystems, protect community health and boost local economies. Green infrastructure refers to a planned and managed system of green spaces, greenways and natural lands that offer benefits of water conservation, filtration and absorption as well as air particle removal and heat relief. Natural spaces also contribute to the health and quality of life of our communities.

Last month, the National Association of Counties (NACo) published "Building Resilient Communities: Green Infrastructure for Counties" that introduces green infrastructure principles and presents county successes in

managing green spaces, greenways and natural lands for public benefit. To read a copy, go to [www.naco.org/research/pubs/Documents/Infrastructure%20and%20Sustainability/FINAL\\_Green\\_Infrastructure\\_IB\\_10.11.pdf](http://www.naco.org/research/pubs/Documents/Infrastructure%20and%20Sustainability/FINAL_Green_Infrastructure_IB_10.11.pdf)

## UPDATED JUVENILE DETENTION REFORM GUIDE HIGHLIGHTS ALTERNATIVE PRACTICES

NACo has published the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of “Juvenile Detention Reform – A Guide for County Officials.” It captures alternative practices to juvenile detention that counties can implement in their respective communities. As more troubled youth are being placed in juvenile detention centers, many counties are at a crossroads for how to solve the problem of juvenile detention overcrowding. In facing these problems in the past, the solution has been to simply add more detention beds. However many counties are now taking a major step towards improving local juvenile detention practices by closely examining current practices and searching for proven alternatives.

Research shows that the juvenile crime rate across the country has decreased, yet reliance on secure detention is up. In order to make dramatic and influential reforms in the juvenile justice system policymakers and practitioners will need clear guidance about how to develop programs that are appropriate to the needs of youth families and communities. This guidebook captures alternative practices to juvenile detention that counties can implement in their respective communities. To ready a copy, go to <http://admin.naco.org/programs/csd/Pages/Justice.aspx>

## **CLASSIFIEDS**

### COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Clermont County (Population: 197,363), located 20 miles East of Cincinnati on the Ohio River, is seeking candidates with proven executive management and leadership experience to serve as the next county administrator. The current county administrator is retiring after ten years. The County has a \$243 million budget (\$50 million General Fund). Position will function as the chief administrative officer of the County. Requirements: -ten years senior management/executive experience with a high degree of responsibility, autonomy, and accountability, ideally in local/county government. Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration or Public Administration or related field (Master's preferred). Compensation will be commensurate with experience. For more information and to download a mandatory application or to complete the application electronically; visit our website at [www.clermontcountvohio.gov](http://www.clermontcountvohio.gov) (Careers in Clermont). For submittals that are not transmitted electronically, a completed application and resume should be directed to Clermont County Human Resources, 101 E. Main Street, Batavia, OH 45103. Contact (513) 732-7110 with any questions. Application deadline: **November 30, 2011**. EOE.

### **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 at [mjneiman@ccao.org](mailto:mjneiman@ccao.org)