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# CIDS

## County Information and Data Service

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### DATES TO REMEMBER

JANUARY 1, 2015	NEW YEARS DAY
JANUARY 14, 2015	<b>PUBLIC RECORDS REQUESTS – DO'S &amp; DON'TS – A CCAO 2<sup>ND</sup> WEDNESDAY WEBINAR</b>
JANUARY 16, 2015	CCAO BOARD OF DIRECTORS, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS
JANUARY 19, 2015	MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY
FEBRUARY 8-10, 2015	NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION SEMINAR, <b>SHERATON COLUMBUS AT CAPITOL SQUARE, COLUMBUS</b>
FEBRUARY 21-25, 2014	<b>NACo LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE, MARRIOTT WARDMAN PARK HOTEL, WASHINGTON, DC</b>
JUNE 24-25, 2015	COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SYMPOSIUM, HYATT REGENCY, COLUMBUS
JULY 10-13, 2015	NACo ANNUAL CONFERENCE, CHARLOTTE CONVENTION CENTER, MECKLENBURG COUNTY (CHARLOTTE), NORTH CAROLINA

### ASSOCIATION NEWS



This will be the last issue of CIDS for 2014. CIDS will resume on January 9, 2015. On behalf of the CCAO staff, we wish you a joyous holiday season and a Happy New Year. Please note that our office will be closing at noon on December 24 and New Year's Eve.

### EARLY JANUARY RESPONSIBILITIES OF A BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Just a friendly reminder that the New Year also brings with it some important tasks:

- Term of one county commissioner begins and individual must be sworn in and take oath of office
- Second Monday (January 12) is the county commissioners annual organizational meeting & election of president
- Time to publish your regularly scheduled meetings for 2015

[Click here](#) for a document explaining the two primary functions of the president:

- Presiding over sessions

- Serve, or appoint a fellow commissioner to serve, on various councils, boards and other entities. Note: While we have tried to make sure this is a thorough list, please let us know if you are aware of other items that should be included.

## PUBLIC RECORDS REQUESTS – DO’S & DON’TS WEBINAR

CCAO is pleased to offer a one-hour “Public Records Requests – Do’s and Don’ts” webinar on January 14, 2015 at 9:30 a.m. This webinar will highlight the following:

- Basic definitions of the who, what and when of public records requests
- How to handle electronic records, notes and drafts
- Rights of the requester and obligations of the public office
- Exceptions to the public records act and common misconceptions about exceptions
- Withholding or redacting information: obligations to requester
- Mandatory and optional clarification of requests
- The obligations, liabilities and schedules of records management and retention

Our speaker is Jeff Clark, a principal attorney for the Constitutional Offices Section of the Ohio Attorney General’s Office. Clark currently provides legal counsel to state agencies, and training to government officials and the general public on Ohio’s Sunshine Laws.

Webinar participants may pose questions to the presenters who will respond during and after the power point presentation. To register for this exceptional educational opportunity, please click on this [link](#). If you experience difficulty in connecting to the link above and wish to register for the webinar, please email [Amanda Jones](#), CCAO Program Assistant, and provide her with your name, title, and email address. **Webinar participation is limited to the first 100 to sign-on to the webinar that morning.** For additional information regarding the topic for this webinar, please contact [Brad Cole](#), CCAO Managing Director of Research. [Read more...](#)

## NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION SEMINAR – FEBRUARY 8-10, 2015

Join your peers on February 8-10, 2015 to learn about county government and your responsibilities as newly elected county officials. Mark your calendar and plan to attend the “New Member Orientation Seminar” for newly elected county commissioners, county executive and county council members, as well as, county administrators and county commissioners’ clerks. Veteran commissioners are invited to attend with their newly elected colleagues.

The two-day seminar will be held at the Sheraton Columbus on Capitol Square Hotel, 75 E. State Street, in downtown Columbus. Registration and program information will be available soon. Sessions start late afternoon on February 8 and end early afternoon on February 10. A block of rooms is being held at the Sheraton. Room Rate: \$106 single/double. For room reservations, call the Sheraton at (800) 325-3535 or [click here](#) by January 17 for the discounted rate. For more information, please contact Public Relations Associate Mary Jane Neiman at (614) 220-7979.

## “LIKE” CCAO ON FACEBOOK



The County Commissioners Association of Ohio has expanded its social media presence onto [Facebook](#)! “Like” us to receive information about our association, photos, policy updates and news affecting your counties. If you have information you would like to share, please contact Communications Coordinator [Andrew Johnson](#) at (614) 220-6759.

## 2015 COUNTY HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

<b>HOLIDAY</b>	<b>LEGAL HOLIDAY</b>
New Year's Day	January 1
Martin Luther King Day	January 19
President's Day	February 16
Memorial Day	May 25
Independence Day	July 3
Labor Day	September 7
Columbus Day	October 12
Veteran's Day	November 11
Thanksgiving Day	November 26
Christmas Day	December 25

## CCAO AD HOC COMMITTEE ON COUNTY RESPONSE TO ADDICTION & MENTAL HEALTH PUBLISHES REPORT

This year, CCAO President Nick Kostandaras created an Ad Hoc Committee on the County Response to Addiction and Mental Health, which was chaired by Tuscarawas County Commissioner Kerry Metzger. The information includes recommendations on workforce and behavioral health, child protective services and behavioral health, county jails and behavioral health, and a marijuana resource guide. [Read more...](#)

## **STATE ACTIVITIES**

### AG MAKES SUNSHINE LAWS TRAINING AVAILABLE ONLINE

Attorney General Mike DeWine on Monday announced that training on Ohio's Sunshine Laws will now be available through an online module. In the past, the [three-hour training course](#) required of public officials has been administered only in person and at regional sites. All Ohio elected officials or their designees are required to attend a session during each term of service.



The free online version of the training is broken down into 13 lessons so that individuals may take the classes at their own pace and in multiple sittings. Upon completion, participants are given a certificate verifying the course completion. The training is the same that attendees receive at in-person lessons because it is a video recording of one of those sessions. The online version would lack the give and take among the audience when the course is taken live. The website does, however, offer an option to email any questions or report technical issues with the site to the attorney general's office. DeWine hopes those who take the course in person continue to do that but the online approach would open it up more widely to the public.

### 'TIS BETTER TO RETURN THAN TO REGRET

The holidays are a time for family, tree trimming, ringing in the New Year and – gifts! That means it is also a

good time of year to review the Ohio Ethics Laws around public servant restrictions on accepting these gifts. The Ethics Law prohibits a public official from accepting a “substantial thing of value” from an “improper” source. Some things that have often been deemed as having substantial value include cash, expensive gifts, exclusive golf outings, expensive event access to theater or sporting events, as well as vacations and jewelry. An “improper” source is an individual or party that is doing or seeking to do business with, interested in matters before, or regulated by the county. Inexpensive gifts that are nominal, such as a coffee mug, tin of popcorn, or a tray of cookies are usually fine to keep (just watch out that you don’t accept multiple items of minimum value from the same source because they are added together for ethics purposes). The [Ethics Commission’s Gift Bulletin](#) may be especially helpful in determining whether or not to accept a specific gift.

## JOBS AND TRANSPORTATION PLAN CONTINUES TO FUEL INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT



Governor John Kasich’s “Jobs and Transportation Plan” enters its second year with a projected \$2 billion investment in the state’s infrastructure, economy and jobs over the next several years.

The state’s Transportation Review Advisory Council (TRAC) Thursday gave preliminary approval to continuing the governor’s plan that – once complete – is expected to create as many as 60,000 new jobs and make a total investment of \$3 billion, most of it coming from money leveraged by the Ohio Turnpike. A complete list of all projects TRAC approved for construction throughout the state in the coming years is located [here](#).

The TRAC now enters a written public comment period which ends Tuesday, January 20, 2015. Written public comments may be submitted [here](#) or sent electronically to [trac@dot.state.oh.us](mailto:trac@dot.state.oh.us) or by mail to the Ohio Department of Transportation, c/o Jim Gates, 1980 West Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43223. The nine-member TRAC was established by the Ohio Revised Code in 1997 and provides guidance for developing a project selection process for ODOT’s largest investments of more than \$12 million.

## OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION FUND

The Ohio Environmental Education Fund’s (OEEF) four grant programs are administered by the Ohio EPA’s Office of Environmental Education. The OEEF [grant guidelines](#) and funding priorities have undergone substantial revision. Electronic letters of intent to apply must be submitted in the online application software no later than 5:00 p.m. on January 8, 2015. Complete applications must be submitted online by 5:00 p.m. on January 15, 2015. Please call (614) 644-2873 or email [oeef@epa.ohio.gov](mailto:oeef@epa.ohio.gov) to be added to the interested parties list for any of these grant programs. [Read more...](#)



## OHIO VOTERS COULD BE ASKED TO LEGALIZE MARIJUANA NEXT YEAR

A group called ResponsibleOhio is pushing for a ballot issue to make marijuana available to adults age 21 and over. The group says marijuana would be regulated and taxed like alcohol, with rights to grow and sell the drug given to ten wealthy individuals.

## **NACo ACTIVITIES**

### NACo BOARD ADOPTS FY15 BUDGET, LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

The NACo Board of Directors approved an \$18.8 million budget for FY15, adopted legislative priorities for the coming year and reviewed a strategic blueprint that will guide future activities for the association during its December Board meeting.

NACo Executive Director Matt Chase outlined the 2015 Strategic Blueprint to 1) increase membership engagement, especially with newly elected county officials, 2) drive relevancy of county government in the federal policy arena, 3) enhance the portfolio of membership benefits and enterprise solutions, and 4) upgrade NACo's communications tools and membership outreach. Chase will be focusing advocacy, leadership, solutions, civic education, and excellence to achieve these goals. [Read more...](#)

**NACo Legislative Priorities 2015**

**Tax Reform:** NACo supports the preservation of the federal deductibility of local property and income taxes and the tax-exempt status of municipal bonds that provide critical funding for public facilities, infrastructure and development.

**Protecting the Federal-State-Local Partnership for Medicaid:** NACo supports maintaining the federal-state-local structure for financing and delivering Medicaid services. Counties continue to be concerned about measures that would further shift federal and state Medicaid costs to counties, including cuts, caps or block grants.

**Transportation Reauthorization:** NACo urges Congress to fix the Highway Trust Fund and pass a multi-year surface transportation bill that would provide funding certainty for counties.

**Marketplace Fairness Act:** NACo supports legislative initiatives that permit the collection of existing sales and use taxes from remote sellers.

**Payment in Lieu of Taxes and Secure Rural Schools:** NACo supports extending full mandatory funding for the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program and legislative efforts to reform and fund the expired Secure Rural Schools (SRS) program.

**“Waters of the U.S.” Proposed Rule:** NACo has raised concerns over the scope of the proposed rule as released by EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers, including its potential impact on county-owned and maintained public safety infrastructure and has called on the federal government to withdraw the proposal until further analysis has been completed.

**Immigration Reform:** NACo supports comprehensive immigration reform that includes a modernized legal immigration system, establishes a temporary worker program, provides an earned path to citizenship and enhances border security.

**CLASSIFIEDS**

CCAO publishes classified ads on our website and in CIDS. Classified ads will be published free of charge as a service to counties. Ads will be published on the website until the application deadline and for several weeks in CIDS. When submitting your ad to CCAO, please provide a link to the online job posting and a deadline date. Email your classified ad to [Mary Jane Neiman](#), CCAO Public Relations Associate.

Title /For More Information. . .	Employer/Application Deadline
<a href="#">Engineer</a>	Geauga County Until position is filled
<a href="#">Business Administrator</a>	Clark County Until position is filled
<a href="#">Assistant Operations Superintendent</a>	Licking County Until position is filled
<a href="#">County Administrator</a>	Franklin County Until position is filled
<a href="#">Technical Study Director</a>	Licking County Until position is filled
<a href="#">Student Help</a>	Clark County Until position is filled