



CIDS

County Information and Data Service

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DATES TO REMEMBER

JANUARY 14, 2015	PUBLIC RECORDS REQUESTS – DO'S & DON'TS – A CCAO 2ND WEDNESDAY WEBINAR
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, SHERATON COLUMBUS AT CAPITOL SQUARE, COLUMBUS
FEBRUARY 21-25, 2014	NACo LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE, MARRIOTT WARDMAN PARK HOTEL, WASHINGTON, DC
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

NEW MEMBER TRAINING SEMINAR: SETTING THE STAGE FOR SUCCESS

All newly elected and current county commissioners, county executive and county council members, administrators and clerks are invited to attend the "New Member Training Seminar: Setting the Stage for Success" to be held February 8-10, 2015 at the Sheraton Columbus Hotel at Capitol Square, 75 East State Street, in downtown Columbus.

Seminar topics:

Introduction to CCAO

- Welcome and Introduction
- Getting to Know Your Association and NACo
- Legislative Advocacy
- Resources: Research, Data and Webinar Training
- CCAO Insurance Programs
- CCAO Service Corporation Programs

County Employment Basics

County Procurement

Open Meetings and Public Records



County Budgeting Basics
Ethics Laws and Regulation of Campaign Contributions
Human Services and Workforce Development
Justice and Public Safety
County Economic Development Essentials Lunch and Learn
Visit your Legislators and Statehouse Tour

Registration fees (includes sessions, handouts and all meal functions and breaks): \$125 (by January 30) or \$145 (after January 30). [Click here](#) for more information. For more information, please contact Public Relations Associate [Mary Jane Neiman](#) at (614) 220-7979.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS – Deadline January 21, 2015

Make your room reservations at the Sheraton Columbus Hotel at Capitol Square, 75 E. State Street, Columbus, OH 43215 by January 21, 2015 to get the discounted room rate of \$106 single/double. Hotel guests receive complimentary wifi in sleeping rooms. For reservations call (800) 365-4500 or [click here](#). The cost of your hotel room is not included in the registration fee.

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...](#)

2015 CCAO ROSTER UPDATES

Yes, it’s that time again...time to update information for the *2015 CCAO Roster*! Thanks to the 25 counties that have updated their information! The accuracy of the data in the *Roster* is of utmost importance. Please update the information after reorganization of the Board of County Commissioners.

Commissioners that want to update their photos should e-mail them in a high resolution, jpg format. If you send an actual photo, please write the name of the person and their county on the back of the photo. Please

do not staple, fax, or send photos from the newspaper, because the reproduction quality is poor. **All information updates and photos should have been returned to CCAO by Tuesday, January 6, 2015.** If you have any questions, please contact [Mary Jane Neiman](#), CCAO Public Relations Associate, at (614) 220-7979 or (888) 757-1904.

REMINDER: ALL MEMBERS WELCOME TO ATTEND CCAO BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

This is a reminder that all county commissioners, county executives and county council members are welcome and invited to attend the CCAO Board of Directors Meetings. The next CCAO Board of Directors Meeting will be held on Friday, January 16, 2015 at the CCAO Office. So that we may include everyone who plans on attending in the lunch count, please RSVP [Kathy Dillon](#), Office Manager & Boards' Liaison, on or before January 12. Also, please feel free to contact Kathy should you have any questions.

"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.

CCAO STAFF NEWS

CCAO WELCOMES RYAN MUZZARELLI – CCAO INTERN IN JANUARY



The CCAO staff welcomes Ryan Muzzarelli, who is an intern for the month of January. Ryan currently is a senior at Miami University with dual majors in public administration and diplomacy and global politics and minors in finance and supply chain management. Following graduation in May, Ryan plans to attend the U.S. Marine Corps Officer Candidate School in Quantico, Virginia.

CCAO is keeping Ryan busy compiling information about veteran's issues and assisting the policy team with various projects.

IN MEMORIUM

JOSEPH HAINES

Former Greene County Commissioner Joe Haines, a former member of the Ohio House of Representatives and deputy director of the Department of Agriculture, died on Monday, January 5 at the age of 91. A graduate of The Ohio State University with a degree in Rural Economics and Farm Management, Haines was a farmer his entire life and advocated for farmers as a public servant on the state and county level. He served from 1968-76 as Greene County Commissioner prior to his election in 1981 to the Ohio House, where he served for 19 years. [Click here](#) to leave a note of sympathy for the Haines Family.



STATE ACTIVITIES

ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES FUNDING APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE

In late December, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) made available information on

both planning funds and innovation funds available to county departments of job and family services for purposes of adult protective services (APS). (Click [here](#) to view the full packet.) Note – the deadline to apply for program innovation funds, the largest available award, is February 16th.

The two types of funds are the result of a recommendation made by an APS workgroup created in HB 483 charged to both recommend the expenditure of \$10M for APS appropriated in HB 483, as well as to identify long-term program improvements.

In addition to information around the funds and their respective application processes, the packet contains the workgroup report as well as proposed statutory language that is designed to create a core minimum service level in every county in order to ensure an appropriate response to cases of elder abuse. [Read more...](#)

VOLUNTEER COUNTIES NEEDED FOR JFS EMPLOYEE INCENTIVE PILOT

Are you interested in piloting a program centered around incentivizing your county department of job and family services (CDJFS) employees to help elevate individuals off of public assistance? Do you believe that a private sector model of employee incentives can improve performance by helping to further motivate staff?

If so, your county may be interested in volunteering for a legislatively-created pilot program, as these were the goals of legislative leaders who created in Section 751.35 of HB 483 of the 130th GA the “Ohio Works First Employment Incentive Pilot Program”. Five counties are to participate in a three-year program that will award cash incentives to CDJFS staff who place Ohio Works First (OWF) cash assistance recipients into employment that elevates them from program eligibility.

The legislation provides that each participating county is to receive \$50,000 in SFY15 for administration of the program, including the payment of bonuses to caseworker. (ODJFS has defined in rule the bonus payment is \$300 per former recipient.)

Such a program does of course have civil service implications. While boards of commissioners do have the authority to institute such a pilot or merit pay program if they so choose. Bonuses or merit pay may be reflected in some existing contracts, but if not the contract may need to be reopened to do so.

Due to the nature of the pilot program being mandatory, ODJFS has interpreted the law to mean that if five counties do not volunteer, five counties will be selected to participate in the program.

For additional information from ODJFS on the program, please click [here](#). To volunteer your county for the pilot program, your CDJFS director should contact [Kara B. Wente](#), ODJFS Deputy Director of the Office of Family Assistance, by January 23.

If you would like to discuss the program or have any questions, please contact CCAO policy staff [Laura Abu-Absi](#) or [Cheryl Subler](#) at (614) 221-5627 or (888) 757-1904.

HUSTED ANNOUNCES 5 KEY TAKEAWAYS FROM 2014 ABSENTEE VOTING REPORT

Ohio Secretary of State John Husted has announced that the 2014 General Election Absentee and Provisional Ballot Reports are now available. Following is some helpful information on absentee voting and provisional ballots.

1. Ohio has one of the most expansive absentee voting schedules in the nation and all voters, no matter where they live, have the same opportunity to cast a ballot.

2. From the 2010 gubernatorial election to the 2014 gubernatorial election, 79 of Ohio's 88 counties saw an increase in the rate of absentee voting (both in person and by mail). The largest increases in overall absentee voting rates were Licking (8%), Medina (7.8%), Lorain (7.8%), Fairfield (7.5%), Stark (7.2%) and Summit (7%).
3. From a statewide perspective, absentee voting rates went up by about 1%. This increase was fueled solely by the increase vote-by-mail rates. In 2014, 22.8% of Ohio voters cast ballots by mail up from 21.6% in 2010. The rate of voters who cast ballots early in-person remained the same in 2014 as it was in 2010 at about 4.6% of the total vote.
4. Despite 20% lower turnout in 2014 as compared to 2010, 31 counties had more absentee ballots cast overall (as a raw number) and 51 counties saw more absentee ballots cast by mail. The increases in voting-by-mail were likely spurred by the fact that registered voters in EVERY county received an application to vote by mail from Secretary Husted. Only 16 counties saw more absentee ballots cast in-person.
5. The county with the highest rate of absentee voting in 2014 was Belmont (46.8%). The lowest rate of absentee voting was Preble (16.5%). (See rankings of all 88 counties here). The county that voted by mail at the highest rate was Belmont (41.4%) and the lowest vote-by-mail rate was Miami (9.4%). The county with the highest rate of voting early in person was Van Wert (15.9%), while the lowest early in-person rate was Cuyahoga (1.75%).

[Click here](#) for more information and a copy of absentee and provisional ballot reports.

NEW OHIO DRIVER LICENSE & IDENTIFICATION CARDS IN CIRCULATION STATEWIDE

Effective January 5, the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) will issue a new format for Ohio's Driver License (DL) and Identification Cards (ID) to customers renewing their DL or ID. The old formats are still valid until expiration. Customers are not required to obtain a replacement if they have the old format. Anyone with questions regarding the new format should contact the Ohio BMV at (614) 752-7500. [Read more...](#)

OHIO SAFE ROOM REBATE PROGRAM ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS UNTIL JANUARY 31

The Ohio Emergency Management Agency announced that the [Ohio Safe Room Rebate Program](#) is accepting applications. The program provides a rebate for the purchase and construction/installation of tornado safe rooms for Ohio homeowners. A safe room is an extreme-wind shelter or space that provides protection to people during a tornado. Residents selected for the program are eligible for a rebate up to 75 percent of the cost to install or construct a safe room – up to a maximum of \$5,250. To apply for the Ohio Safe Room Rebate Program, homeowners have until 5:00 p.m. on January 31, 2015 to register. [Read more...](#)

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS SERVICE NEWSLETTER

Linked to this article is the January issue of the Ohio Department of Veterans Services e-newsletter, a key source of information about issues of interest and benefits to our community of veterans in Ohio. Articles of interest included: Employment Information for Veterans, Ohio Veterans Homes Care, and Combat Action Badge May Be Retroactive to Prior Conflicts. Veterans should contact their County Veterans Service Office at www.ohiovet.gov, by calling 877-OHIO-VET (877/644-6838), or by downloading their free [mobile app](#). [Read more...](#)



FEDERAL ACTIVITIES

WIOA PROPOSED REGULATIONS DELAYED

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) was enacted on July 22, 2014 to provide opportunities

to advance a customer-centered workforce investment system driven by the needs of job seekers and employers, to support strong regional economies, and to provide individuals with career pathways. The law set a January 18, 2015 deadline to publish proposed regulations to support implementation of WIOA.

However, the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) posted an update on Wednesday stating the publication of the proposed regulations is anticipated to occur in Spring 2015, rather than on January 18, 2015. Because many of the provisions of WIOA go into effect July 1, 2015, the Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration (ETA) will also issue operating guidance, as well as targeted guidance documents, in the Spring 2015.

The ODJFS Office of Workforce Development has shared an update on WIOA implementation in light of the new timeframe around DOL guidance:

Without any federal guidance until Spring 2015, Ohio will continue to move ahead with implementation activities using available information and resources. The Office of Workforce Development will continue outreach activities with the core programs and other stakeholders as well as implementation activities within the Office of Workforce Development and the local areas. The work that has begun will continue with the flexibility of knowing that the draft regulations and other DOL guidance will not be available until a later time and changes along the way may be necessary. It is expected that local areas continue to focus on and prepare for transitional activities as well. The goal continues to be that the transition from WIA to WIOA is logical and smooth and that WIOA is implemented in Ohio in a timely manner.

WIOA information, including legislative and technical assistance tools to support initial WIOA transition and updates on the upcoming draft regulations, is available at www.doleta.gov/wioa. For workforce development-related information or questions, contact CCAO Policy Analyst [Laura Abu-Absi](#) at (614) 220-7996 or (888) 757-1904.

NACo ACTIVITIES

2015 NACo INTERIM RESOLUTIONS PROCESS BEGINS



In preparation for the National Association of Counties (NACo) 2015 Legislative Conference to be held February 21-25 in Washington, D.C., NACo members are invited to submit interim policy resolutions. The NACo resolutions process provides members with the ability to participate in national policy decisions affecting county governments. During the Legislative Conference, NACo's ten policy committees and Board of Directors consider legislative and policy resolutions that will be active until the NACo Annual Conference in July 2015.

The [American County Platform](#) and the association's policy resolutions are carefully considered statements of the needs and interests of county governments throughout the nation. These policy statements serve as a guide for NACo members and staff to advance the association's federal policy agenda before the White House, Congress and federal agencies. Please also refer to the comprehensive overview of [NACo's Policy Process](#) and work with appropriate steering committee [staff liaison](#). [Read more...](#)

RESOLUTION TO LEAVE NO GRANT OPPORTUNITY UNEXPLORED

Both public and private sector grant partners can be an important resource for county government to fund creative approaches to better serve taxpayers. Here is a reminder about some free and easy ways to search for grant opportunities as well as some new requirements that recently went into place for receiving federal grant awards.

Some important free sources to search for grants:

- [NACo's Grants Clearinghouse](#), a new one-stop shop for grant information, with enhanced searching features and up to date listings of federal, state, corporate and foundation grants available to counties and community-based organizations
- [Ohio Governor's Office List of Foundations Serving Ohio](#), which shows private foundation partnership opportunities as well as the county or counties which can apply.
- [Grants.gov](#) provides a centralized location for grant seekers to find and apply for federal funding opportunities

It may also be helpful to share with existing grant partners that OMB released [interim requirements](#) that will go into effect for new federal awards beginning December 26, 2014. The OMB Uniform Grant Guidance sets new requirements for financial management of federal awards. They include new performance for accountability provisions, standardized business systems and processes requirements, and consistency requirements around how cost information is managed. For more information and frequently asked questions, visit the [COFAR website](#).

2015 NACo LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE



The NACo Legislative Conference will take place February 21-25, 2015 at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, 2660 Woodley Rd NW, in Washington, D.C. NACo is excited to announce confirmed speakers Jason Grumet, founder and president of the Bipartisan Policy Center, and David Gregory, journalist and former moderator of Meet the Press. Grumet is respected on both sides of the aisle for his innovative approach to improving government effectiveness. His first book *City of Rivals: Restoring the Glorious Mess of American Democracy* — just released in September 2014 — will be his focus. Gregory will reflect and share a look at the Obama Administration, Congress and politics in America. [More information...](#)

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

[SYLLABUS - 2014-045](#)

Because the Director of the Belmont County Department of Job and Family Services (BCDJFS) oversees the position of chief financial officer of the department, the Director of BCDJFS may not hold simultaneously the chief financial officer position. A director of a county department of job and family services is, however, required by law to perform certain fiscal and budgetary functions on behalf of the department and may assume additional fiscal and budgetary responsibilities as local officials deem appropriate.

[SYLLABUS - 2015-001](#)

1. An employee whose regular hours of service “for a county” total forty hours per week, divided between two, separate county agencies, is a “fulltime employee,” as defined in R.C. 325.19(K)(1).
2. An employee who is a “full-time employee,” as defined in R.C. 325.19(K)(1), is subject to the terms of R.C. 325.19(A)(1) granting vacation leave with full pay to “[e]ach full-time employee in the several offices and departments of the county service.”

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
Waste Treatment System Operator	Warren County January 15, 2015
Finance Director	Medina County January 16, 2015
Engineer	Geauga County Until position is filled
Business Administrator	Clark County Until position is filled
Assistant Operations Superintendent	Licking County Until position is filled
Technical Study Director	Licking County Until position is filled
Student Help	Clark County Until position is filled
Building Code Inspector	Wayne County Until position is filled