DATES TO REMEMBER

FEBRUARY 8-10, 2015  NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION SEMINAR, SHERATON COLUMBUS AT CAPITOL SQUARE, COLUMBUS

FEBRUARY 11, 2015  THE BASICS OF THE PREVAILING WAGE LAW – A CCAO 2nd Wednesday Webinar

FEBRUARY 11, 2015  CCAO METROPOLITAN & REGIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, CONFERENCE CALL

FEBRUARY 12, 2015  CCAO GENERAL GOVERNMENT & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS

FEBRUARY 13, 2015  CCAO BOARD OF DIRECTORS, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS

FEBRUARY 17, 2015  CCAO SMALL COUNTY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, CONFERENCE CALL

FEBRUARY 20, 2015  CCAO JUSTICE & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS

FEBRUARY 21-25, 2015  NACo LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE, MARRIOTT WARDMAN PARK HOTEL, WASHINGTON, DC

FEBRUARY 25, 2015  CEBCO AFFORDABLE CARE ACT REGIONAL SEMINAR, HOWARD JOHNSON INN, LIMA

FEBRUARY 27, 2015  CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING, RED PIG INN, PUTNAM COUNTY (OTTAWA)

FEBRUARY 27, 2015  CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING, BASS PRO SHOP, WOOD COUNTY (ROSSFORD)

MARCH 2, 2015  CCAO WATER QUALITY TASK FORCE MEETING, TOLEDO AREA (LOCATION TO BE ANNOUNCED)

MARCH 2, 2015  CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING, PUMP HOUSE CENTER FOR THE ARTS, ROSS COUNTY (CHILlicothe)

MARCH 3, 2015  CEBCO AFFORDABLE CARE ACT REGIONAL SEMINAR, THE GALAXY RESTAURANT, WADSWORTH

MARCH 9, 2015  CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING, EAGLE STICKS, MUSKINGUM COUNTY (ZANESVILLE)

MARCH 9, 2015  CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING, THE BRIDGE, SHELBY COUNTY (SIDNEY)
ASSOCIATION NEWS

COUNTY DATA EXCHANGE BULLETINS ON COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE COMMISSION APPROPRIATIONS, EXPENDITURES AND ASSISTANCE PROVIDED TO NEEDY VETERANS IN 2013 PUBLISHED

This week, CCAO published three county data exchange (CDE) bulletins which provide data on county Veteran Service Commission (VSC) appropriations, expenditures and assistance provided to needy veterans and their families for each county in 2013. CDE Bulletin 2015–01 details VSC financial assistance expenditures, total expenditures and financial assistance expenditures as a percentage of total expenditures for each county. CDE Bulletin 2015–02 reports the dollar value of .5 mills of inside millage, total budget requested by each VSC, total appropriation by the board of commissioners, total VSC expenditures, percentage of .5 mills expended, and percentage of appropriation expended for each county. CDE Bulletin 2015–03 reports the average cost of financial assistance provided to needy veterans and their families utilizing information on county veteran population, number of individuals assisted and financial assistance expenditures for each county.

This information is derived from the Ohio State Association of County Veterans Service Commissions and County Veterans Service Officers, Annual Report of Statistics in 2013, and the data was shared with CCAO by the Ohio Department of Veterans Affairs. For additional information regarding these bulletins, contact Brad Cole, Managing Director of Research, at (614) 220-7981.
THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT – WHAT'S NEXT?

CCAO/CEBCO invites you to attend one of our 2015 ACA training sessions on the “Cadillac Tax” and some specific, new employer reporting requirements of the Affordable Care Act. These provisions will affect what you do in 2015 and beyond. Marc Fishel of Fishel Hass Kim Albrecht LLC will present and answer your questions on these and other ACA-related topics.

Sessions will begin at 10:30 a.m. We welcome staff and elected officials from all counties to participate. Choose the location and date that works for you:

- February 25  Howard Johnson Inn, 1920 Roschman Avenue, Lima
- March 3  The Galaxy Restaurant, 201 Park Centre Drive, Wadsworth
- March 10  Ohio University Inn, 331 Richland Avenue, Athens
- March 17  The Roberts Center, 123 Gano Road, Wilmington
- March 24  CCAO, 209 E. State Street, Columbus

There is no charge to attend the training sessions. Lunch will be served following the session. To help us have proper seating and refreshments, please RSVP your attendance five days before the session to Melissa Bodey at (614) 220-7997 or Wendy Dillingham at (614) 220-7992.

REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFINGS IN THE WORKS

As the 131st General Assembly convenes, we are again planning to hold regional legislative briefings for commissioners and legislators at locations across the state that have been organized around legislative district lines. These events are designed as an opportunity to allow you to meet with your legislators and your fellow commissioners to articulate and explore the common problems and concerns that county and state government have in serving their constituents, the people of Ohio.

The 11 events which have been scheduled as of this date are listed above in Dates to Remember. CCAO will be sending an invitation to each legislator, and commissioners will be receiving a packet of information regarding the events in the near future which will include an RSVP form. We also encourage you to invite other county elected officials and your key staff to attend. Read more…

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): $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
The Sheraton Hotel is full – there are no more rooms. Blocks of rooms are available at the Holiday Inn (located one block from the Sheraton) Room rate: $106 single/double. Call the Holiday Inn at (614) 221-3281 and mention CCAO to get this rate.

THE BASICS OF THE PREVAILING WAGE LAW WEBINAR – FEB 11

CCAO is pleased to offer a one-hour “The Basics of the Prevailing Wage Law” webinar on February 11, 2015 at 9:30 a.m. This webinar will highlight the following:

- What are prevailing wages?
- What are prevailing wage thresholds for new construction and reconstruction?
- What are public authority responsibilities?
- What are the responsibilities of the prevailing wage coordinator?
- What are the requirements for certified payroll reports?
- What are contractor responsibilities and requirements?

Our speakers are Stephen Clegg, Bureau Chief, Wage and Hour Administration, Division of Industrial Compliance, Ohio Department of Commerce; Michael D. Allen, J.D., Chief, Labor Relations Section, Ohio Attorney General’s Office; and Aaron William Johnston, J.D., Assistant Attorney General, Labor Relations Section, Ohio Attorney General’s Office.

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 here. 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…

COUNTY ACTIVITIES

RESTORATION PROJECTS AT OHIO COUNTY COURTHOUSES

County courthouses are prominent public buildings in our county seats. They serve as the center for political and commercial life and are important anchors in the heart of our Ohio communities. Sixty-nine of Ohio’s county courthouses are listed on the National Register of Historic Places and many of the other courthouses are just as significant. But each public building comes with challenges to meet public needs. The Butler, Coshocton, Hancock, Logan, and Wayne County Courthouses are in various stages of restoration - click here for more information. Last year, CCAO co-
sponsored a [County Courthouses Symposium](#) which discussed courthouse renovation.

**STATE ACTIVITIES**

**TRANSITIONAL REINSURANCE FEE CHALLENGED**

A lawsuit has been filed jointly by Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine, Warren County, and four State universities challenging the Transitional Reinsurance Fee as established by the Affordable Care Act (ACA). The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is named as defendant. The suit challenges the authority of the Executive branch of the federal government to assess broad tax assessments against State and local governments and their instrumentalities. The suit follows letters contesting the validity of the Fee, written by the Warren County Commissioners on November 18, 2014 and the Ohio Attorney General on January 8, 2015.

The Transitional Reinsurance Fee is a per covered life “contribution” through 2017 that, while initially identified as a means to fund certain components of the ACA, is also now recognized as being partially directed to the general fund. The per life fee is $63 per year for the 2014 calendar year and $44 for the 2015 calendar year. This has resulted in payments so far in excess of $5 million by the Ohio Department of Administrative Services and ranging from approximately $100 thousand to in excess of $300 thousand by the remaining plaintiffs. The parties have all made the requisite payments, and are suing for the return of all monies paid, and seeking relief from payments in subsequent years.

CCA0 will continue to monitor these proceedings and report updates as they occur.

**SOS REMINDS VOTERS THAT EVERY VOTE MATTERS**

Ohio Secretary of State Jon Husted offered more reasons why every vote matters and can often have a significant impact on the outcome of an election.

Based on a review of recounts conducted following the 2014 General Election on November 4th, seven local issues were decided by one vote or tied. In each of these instances, one person could have made the difference in deciding whether local taxes would go up, bond issues passed or an area restaurant or store could sell liquor. Secretary Husted also noted why these findings reinforce the emphasis his administration places on making it easy to vote and hard to cheat.

A total of 70 local issues and races have been decided by one vote or tied (based on a review of recounts conducted by the Secretary of State’s Office following the 2013 General, 2014 Primary and 2014 General elections). Read more...

**CELEBRATE STATEHOOD DAY ON MARCH 4**

Ohio’s first constitution was approved by Congress, and then signed by President Thomas Jefferson on February 19, 1803. By then, the January elections had been held, with the mild-mannered doctor and legislator Edward Tiffin – Thomas Worthington’s brother-in-law – elected governor. Official "state" business was conducted for the first time on March 1, 1803, when Tiffin and members of the first Ohio General Assembly convened in Chillicothe.

In commemoration of Ohio’s founding and becoming the 17th state, the Ohio History Connection and its partners invite you to join a broad coalition of history advocates for its annual Statehood Day event that begins at 9:00 a.m. in the Statehouse Atrium in Columbus. Registration fee: $30 (includes
lunch and program). Registration deadline: 12:00 noon on Friday, February 27. To purchase more than 5 tickets, please call the Government Relations Office at (877) 393-4369. Click here for more information and to register for this special event.

FEDERAL ACTIVITIES

ONE IN FIVE CHILDREN RECEIVE FOOD STAMPS

The number of children receiving food stamps remains higher than it was before the start of the Great Recession in 2007, according to the U.S. Census Bureau’s annual Families and Living Arrangements table package. The rate of children living with married parents who receive food stamps has doubled since 2007. In 2014, an estimated 16 million children, or about one in five, received food stamp assistance compared with the roughly 9 million children, or one in eight, that received this form of assistance prior to the recession.

These statistics come from the 2014 Current Population Survey’s Annual Social and Economic Supplement, which has collected statistics on families and living arrangements for more than 60 years. The table package delves into the characteristics of households, including the marital status of the householders and their relationship to the children residing in the household. The historical data on America’s families and living arrangements can be found on census.gov.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

DENYING CELL TOWER SITING APPLICATIONS

In T-Mobile South v. City of Roswell, the Supreme Court held that when a local government denies a cell tower application, it must provide the applicant with written reasons for the denial, and those written reasons must be available contemporaneously with the local government’s written denial of the application. Join the State and Local Legal Center on February 13, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. to discuss the practical implications of this case with Tim Lay, Spiegel & McDiarmid, who wrote the SLLC’s amicus brief. Register here…

SHARED SERVICES FOR WATER AND SEWER SEMINAR

The Toledo Areas Metropolitan Council of Governments (TMACOG) will host the first “Shared Services for Water and Sewer Seminar” on Friday, February 27, 2015 at Owens Community College, 30335 Oregon Road, in Perrysburg. Seminar topics include: working with multiple funding agencies, options for regional collaboration, and examples of how local governments can ease barriers to shared water and sewer services.

Registration fee: $30 (includes breakfast, lunch, and take-home training materials). Registration deadline: February 23. Click here for more information.

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.
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<td>Social Service Worker</td>
<td>Fairfield County February 6, 2015</td>
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<td>Job Developer I</td>
<td>Clark County February 6, 2015</td>
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