

THE NATURAL STATE OF ACCOUNTING



Issue 10/October 2022

Arkansas Federal Tax Institute
November 3-4

ARCPA Day of Service
November 18

Emerging CPA Spotlight





Arkansas Society of
Certified Public Accountants

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(Per ASBPA Group Study,
Rule 13 Definition)

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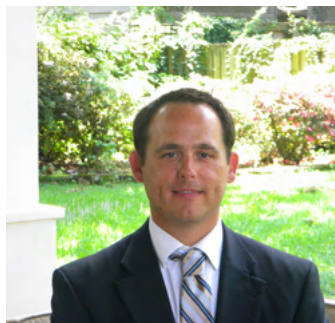
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of Accounting
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08

UPCOMING CONFERENCES



21

MEET ROCKY GOODMAN 2022-23 CHAIR-ELECT

34

IRS RELIEVES PENALTIES FOR 2019 AND 2020



CONTENTS

CONTINUING EDUCATION

- 05** 2022 Conference & seminar schedule
- 08** Conference group pricing

MEMBER NEWS

- 13** DeGray chapter meeting
- 16** 2022 ARCPA Elite Firms list
- 17** Welcome new ARCPA members
- 19** New CPA certificate ceremony
- 21** Meet Rocky Goodman 2022-23 Chair-Elect
- 22** Member spotlights. Addison Scott, CPA and Krista Ferguson, CPA
- 25** Minzhi Chen selected to attend AICPA's 2022 Leadership Academy
- 27** Members on the move. HCJ CPAs & Advisors, FORVIS, HoganTaylor LLP
- 31** Charles Warren receives AICPA Outstanding CPA in Government Impact Award

FEATURE ARTICLES

- 34** IRS relieves penalties for 2019 and 2020
- 35** Tax Standards (SSTS) exposure draft and invitation to comment
- 36** 5 Cybersecurity best practices for business
- 38** The relationship between cybersecurity and SOC 2 audits

ARCPA DAY OF SERVICE

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2022

Join us as we give back to our communities!

Join with ARCPA and the rest of your profession on Friday, November 18, and make a difference! You can choose ANY volunteer activity you want! Some ideas include helping out at an animal shelter, assembling care packages for deployed troops, or cleaning up a neighborhood park. The volunteer options are endless. For a list of possible volunteer opportunities, please contact Robin Harris, rharris@arcpa.org.



HOW IT WORKS:

1. Choose an organization to volunteer for and contact them directly to make arrangements for you or your group to volunteer on November 18th.
2. Register your volunteer activity plans with us.
3. Receive a FREE ARCPA Day of Service t-shirt upon registering! T-shirts are free to ARCPA members while supplies last, and can be purchased by non-members at a nominal fee.
4. On November 18th, wear your t-shirt and be sure to take photos of your activity and send them to us; or share them on social media using **#ARCPAvolunteer**, or **#ARCPADayofService** so we can showcase your volunteerism on our website and Facebook page.

ARCPA members will receive a FREE t-shirt when signing up by November 1st or while supplies last. Non-members may purchase a shirt for \$10 each, if ordered by November 1st or while supplies last, by calling Robin Harris at (501) 664-8739 to order.

SIGN UP AS AN
INDIVIDUAL

SIGN UP AS A
GROUP






October-November Seminars

CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

Date	Course Title (Acronym) of Study	Field CPE	Hours	Location	Early Bird Fee	Standard Fee
OCTOBER						
20-21	Two-Day Federal Tax Update: Individuals, Corporations & Partnerships (FTU-2DY)	TX	16	VIRTUAL-ONLY	Member \$390 Non-member \$490	Member \$450 Non-member \$550
24	Social Security and Medicare: Planning for You and Your Clients (SSRB)	TX	8	VIRTUAL-ONLY	Member \$245 Non-member \$345	Member \$175 Non-member \$375
24	You Have a SOC 1 Report - Now What? (8:30am-12:00pm) (CL4SOC1)	AA	4	VIRTUAL-ONLY	Member \$165 Non-member \$215	Member \$175 Non-member \$225
24	Preparation, Compilation, and Review Engagements: Update & Review (1:00pm-4:30pm) (CL4COMP)	AA	4	VIRTUAL-ONLY	Member \$165 Non-member \$215	Member \$175 Non-member \$225
25 	What Fraud Schemes Exist in Your Organization (FSEO)	AA	8	ARCPA	Member \$245** Non-member \$345**	Member \$275** Non-member \$375**
26	Leases: Mastering the New FASB Requirements (LEAS)	AA	8	VIRTUAL-ONLY	Member \$245** Non-member \$345**	Member \$275** Non-member \$325**
26 	Critical Business Risks - Identifying Your Blind Spots (CBRU)	OT	8	ARCPA	Member \$245** Non-member \$345**	Member \$275** Non-member \$375**
31	This Year's Top Tax and Financial-Planning Ideas (8:30am-12:00pm) (IEF4)	TX	4	VIRTUAL-ONLY	Member \$165 Non-member \$215	Member \$175 Non-member \$225
31	Required Minimum Distributions: Compliance and Planning (1:00pm-4:30pm) (RMD4)	TX	4	VIRTUAL-ONLY	Member \$165 Non-member \$215	Member \$175 Non-member \$225
NOVEMBER						
1	Accounting and Auditing Update for Not-for-Profits (NAU)	AA/GOV	8	VIRTUAL-ONLY	Member \$245** Non-member \$345**	Member \$275** Non-member \$375**
1	The Complete Guide to Payroll Taxes and 1099 Issues (CGPT)	TX	8	VIRTUAL-ONLY	Member \$245 Non-member \$345	Member \$275 Non-member \$375
7	Annual Tax Update: Corporations and Pass-Through Entities (ATCP)	TX	8	VIRTUAL-ONLY	Member \$245** Non-member \$345**	Member \$275** Non-member \$375**
8	Business Ethics: Cases from the Real World (8:30am-12:00pm) (BE)	ET	4	VIRTUAL-ONLY	Member \$165 Non-member \$215	Member \$175 Non-member \$225
8	Critical Thinking Skills: For Financial Professionals (1:00pm-4:30pm) (CTS)	OT	4	VIRTUAL-ONLY	Member \$165 Non-member \$215	Member \$175 Non-member \$225
8	Annual Tax Update: Individuals and Sole Proprietors (TSUI)	TX	8	VIRTUAL-ONLY	Member \$245** Non-member \$345**	Member \$275** Non-member \$375**
9 	Annual Update for Accountants and Auditors Organization (AUAA)	AA	8	ARCPA	Member \$245 Non-member \$345	Member \$275 Non-member \$375

October-November Seminars

CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

Date	Course Title (Acronym) of Study	Field CPE	Hours	Location	Early Bird Fee	Standard Fee
NOVEMBER						
11	Succession Planning for the Small Business Owner: Finding the Exit Ramp (8:30am-12:00pm) (BSP4)	TX	4	VIRTUAL-ONLY	Member \$165 Non-member \$215	Member \$175 Non-member \$225
11	Four Tiers of Loss Limitations: A Guide to the New Rules for Pass-through Entities (1:00pm-4:30pm) (FTL4)	TX	4	VIRTUAL-ONLY	Member \$165 Non-member \$215	Member \$175 Non-member \$225
14	U.S. GAAP: Review of New Guidance and Hot Topics (GAAPR)	AA	8	VIRTUAL-ONLY	Member \$245** Non-member \$345**	Member \$275** Non-member \$375**
14	The Most Critical Challenges in Not-for-profit Accounting Today (8:30am-12:00pm) (CNA4)	AA/GOV	4	VIRTUAL-ONLY	Member \$165 Non-member \$215	Member \$175 Non-member \$225
14 	Government and Nonprofit Frauds and Controls to Stop Them (1:00pm-4:30pm) (FCS4)	AA/GOV	4	VIRTUAL-ONLY	Member \$165 Non-member \$215	Member \$175 Non-member \$225
15	Compilations, Reviews, and Preparations: Engagement Performance and Annual Update (CRAU)	AA	8	ARCPA	Member \$245 Non-member \$345	Member \$275 Non-member \$375
17 	Fiduciary Income Tax Returns – Form 1041 Workshop with Filled-in Forms (1041)	TX	8	VIRTUAL-ONLY	Member \$245** Non-member \$345**	Member \$275** Non-member \$375**
29	AICPA's Annual Federal Tax Update (PTU)	TX	8	ARCPA	Member \$245** Non-member \$345**	Member \$275** Non-member \$375**
30 	Form 990: Best Practices for Accurate Preparation (FORM9)	TX	8	VIRTUAL-ONLY	Member \$245** Non-member \$345**	Member \$275** Non-member \$375**
DECEMBER						
1 	Professional Ethics Overview (8:30am-12:00pm) (PEO)	ET	4	ARCPA	Member \$165 Non-member \$215	Member \$175 Non-member \$225
1 	Risk Management (1:00pm-4:30pm) (RM)	ET	4	ARCPA	Member \$165 Non-member \$215	Member \$175 Non-member \$225
1	Securing a Comfortable Retirement in the Age of Spending (SCRT)	OT: 4 TX: 4	8	VIRTUAL-ONLY	Member \$245 Non-member \$345	Member \$275 Non-member \$375
2	Assessing the Risk of Fraud In a Financial Statement Audit (ARF8)	AA	8	VIRTUAL-ONLY	Member \$245 Non-member \$345	Member \$275 Non-member \$375
5	2022 FASB and AICPA Update (FAU)	AA	8	VIRTUAL-ONLY	Member \$245 Non-member \$345	Member \$275 Non-member \$375
6	Compilation and Review Practice Guide (CRP)	AA	8	VIRTUAL-ONLY	Member \$245 Non-member \$345	Member \$275 Non-member \$375
6	Reviewing Individual Tax Returns (1:00pm-2:40pm) (CL2RIR)	TX	2	VIRTUAL-ONLY	Member \$90 Non-member \$115	Member \$100 Non-member \$125
6	Individual Income and Tax Compliance Annual Update (8:30am-12:00pm) (CL4IIT)	TX	4	VIRTUAL-ONLY	Member \$165 Non-member \$215	Member \$175 Non-member \$225
7	Hottest Tax Topics for 2022 (HOT)	TX	8	VIRTUAL-ONLY	Member \$245** Non-member \$345**	Member \$275** Non-member \$375**

December Seminars

CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

Date	Course Title (Acronym) of Study	Field CPE	Hours	Location	Early Bird Fee	Standard Fee
DECEMBER						
7	Disclosure - The Key to Financial Statements (DKFS)	AA	8	VIRTUAL-ONLY	Member \$245 Non-member \$345	Member \$275 Non-member \$375
8	Compliance Auditing from Start to Finish (CAS)	AA	8	VIRTUAL-ONLY	Member \$245 Non-member \$345	Member \$275 Non-member \$375
8	Tax Planning for Small Businesses (8:30am-12:00pm) (TSE.TPSC)	TX	4	VIRTUAL-ONLY	Member \$165 Non-member \$215	Member \$175 Non-member \$225
8	IRS Disputes (1:00pm-4:30pm) (TSE.IRS)	TX	4	VIRTUAL-ONLY	Member \$165 Non-member \$215	Member \$175 Non-member \$225
9	Accounting and Auditing Update (8:30am-12:00pm) (AAU4)	AA	4	VIRTUAL-ONLY	Member \$165 Non-member \$215	Member \$175 Non-member \$225
9	Advanced Cybersecurity Awareness in Accounting (1:00pm-4:30pm) (CYBA4)	AA	4	VIRTUAL-ONLY	Member \$165 Non-member \$215	Member \$175 Non-member \$225
9	Ethics and Professional Conduct: Updates and Practical Applications (8:30am-12:00pm) (CL4GRE)	ET	4	ARCPA	Member \$165 Non-member \$215	Member \$175 Non-member \$225
9	Estate & Trust Primer (1:00pm-4:30pm) (TSE.ETP)	TX	4	ARCPA	Member \$165 Non-member \$215	Member \$175 Non-member \$225
12	Multistate Income Tax (TSE.MST)	TX	8	VIRTUAL-ONLY	Member \$245** Non-member \$345**	Member \$275** Non-member \$375**
12	Advanced Taxation LLCs & Partnerships (TSE.APL)	TX	8	VIRTUAL-ONLY	Member \$245** Non-member \$345**	Member \$275** Non-member \$375**
13	CFO Series: 360 Degree Budgeting (CFOS2)	AA	8	VIRTUAL-ONLY	Member \$265 Non-member \$365	Member \$295 Non-member \$395

H Indicates Hybrid event; offering in-person and virtual attendance options.

FIELD OF STUDY KEY:

AA: Accounting & Auditing
ET: Ethics (general)
GOV/AA: Governmental Accounting & Auditing
OT: Other
TX: Taxation

ARCPA
 Introducing the
Knowledge Hub
 from the
 Arkansas Society of CPAs

ARCPAHub.org

The Knowledge Hub consists of vendor-sponsored content designed to be helpful in your organization.

Arkansas Federal Tax Institute

November 3-4, 2022

ARCPA Conference Center
16 Hours CPE

Early Fee: \$275 M, \$375 NM
*increases \$30 after 10/20/22



Fraud Conference

November 10, 2022

ARCPA Conference Center
8 Hours CPE

Early Fee: \$225 M, \$325 NM
*increases \$30 after 10/27/22



Agriculture Conference

November 16, 2022

Virtual Only
8 Hours CPE

Early Fee: \$250 M, \$350 NM
*increases \$30 after 11/2/22



Indicates Hybrid event; offering in-person and virtual attendance options.

ARCPA CONFERENCE GROUP PRICING

Have multiple people from your firm/company wanting to attend the same conference?

Register three or more people from the same firm/company for the same conference and receive a group discount! To take advantage of the ARCPA's Conference Group Pricing just fax, mail, or email your registration form with the list of attendees. Questions? Please contact Stephanie Tanner at 501-664-8739 or stanner@arcpa.org.

Arkansas Federal Tax Institute	\$25 off / person
Fraud Conference	\$25 off / person
Agriculture Conference	\$15 off / person

Group Pricing Terms & Conditions:

- To receive the group discount, all individuals must be registering for the same conference.
- Payment is required with registration to receive the group discount.
- Group discount is only valid for ARCPA Conferences.
- Only ARCPA members may qualify for the group discount.
- Non-members may apply for membership to receive the group discount.
- All individuals must be listed at the time of registration.
- Programs excluded: Educators' Conference

Group Pricing Registration

Conference Name _____

Firm Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ Email* _____

**Payment receipt will be sent to this valid email address*

Employee Information:

Name	Email Address	Fee	Group Discount
1. _____	_____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____	_____
8. _____	_____	_____	_____
9. _____	_____	_____	_____
10. _____	_____	_____	_____

Subtotals _____

The Early Bird Price applies only when registering at least 14 days prior to the course or conference.

Total Amount Enclosed _____

Group Pricing Terms & Conditions:

- To receive the group discount, all individuals must be registering for the same conference.
- Payment is required with registration to receive the group discount.
- Group discount is only valid for ARCPA Conferences.
- Only ARCPA members may qualify for the group discount. Non-members may apply for membership to receive the group discount.
- All individuals must be listed at the time of registration.
- Programs excluded: End of Busy Season CPE & Fish Fry, Educators' Conference

Cancellation Policy:

Full refund, less a \$10 service charge will be made if notice of cancellation is received at least 60 days prior to the course or conference date. Full refund, less a \$25.00 service charge will be made if notice of cancellation is received between 10 and 60 days prior to the course or conference date. NO REFUND WILL BE MADE IF NOTICE OF CANCELLATION IS RECEIVED LESS THAN 10 DAYS PRIOR TO THE COURSE OR CONFERENCE DATE.

Registration with Payment by mail: ARCPA, 11300 Executive Center Drive, Little Rock, AR 72211-4352

Registration with Credit Card payment:

☐ Master Card ☐ Visa ☐ American Express

FAX: (501)664-8320

PHONE: (501)664-8739 or

WEB SITE: www.arcpa.org

(800)482-8739 in Arkansas

Card # _____ Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

Looking for more CPE?



Webinars and Webcasts

ARCPA partners with several CPE vendors to offer a wide variety of webinars & webcasts throughout the year. To search the listing of webinars & webcasts, visit our Online Course Catalog.

Self- Study

If you enjoy the convenience of earning CPE at your own pace and on your own schedule, Surgent's Self-Study CPE courses are the perfect choice. To browse Surgent's Self-Study courses or to register, please visit the Self Study section of the ARCPA website.

Surgent CPA Packages

Choose which package suits you best and enjoy unlimited access! For complete details or to buy a CPE package, please contact Stephanie Tanner at stanner@arcpa.org

Surgent's Unlimited Webinar Package

ARCPA Member Price: \$425

- Unlimited 2020 access to 1200 live webinars

Surgent's Unlimited Self Study Package

ARCPA Member Price: \$299

- 12 months of unlimited access to 200+ downloadable PDF courses

Surgent's Unlimited Plus Package

ARCPA Member Price: \$595

- 12 months of unlimited access to all live webinars, PLUS unlimited access to all self-study courses



WAYS TO SAVE ON CPE

Save \$30: Early Bird Discount



Register early and save! To qualify for the Early Bird discount, your registration (with payment) must be received by the ARCPA 14 days prior to the program.

Save \$30: AICPA Member Discount



Are you an AICPA Member? You can save \$30 on all eight-hour AICPA courses! Look for the notation ** on eligible courses.

Save up to \$200: ARCPA Member Discount



ARCPA Members save big on CPE! Members can save \$50 on four-hour CPE, \$100 on eight-hour CPE, and \$200 on sixteen-hour CPE.

Call for NOMINATIONS

ARCPA Nominations Committee Needs Your Help!

As directed in Article VIII of the ARCPA Bylaws, the Nominations Committee will begin its work in the coming months to consider recommendations of members for future positions on the ARCPA Board of Directors and for a future appointment to the Arkansas State Board of Public Accountancy (ASBPA). Positions to be considered during 2022 include:

- Vice Chair – serves a four-year term beginning April 1, 2024 (Chair in 2026)
- Secretary – serves a two-year term beginning April 1, 2024
- Treasurer – serves a two-year term beginning April 1, 2024
- Three Directors – serves a three-year term beginning April 1, 2024
- Recommendations for appointment to ASBPA (2023 Governor appointment, term begins in September 2023)

Candidates must be active members of the Society to be considered for a position on the Board of Directors or to be considered for a recommendation to the Governor for ASBPA appointment. The Nominations Committee will make recommendations to the Board of Directors in February 2023 before bringing a final slate of Officers and Directors to the membership for a final vote at the Annual Business Meeting (2023 date TBD).

If you have an interest in serving on the Society Board or the ASBPA, or if you would like to recommend a fellow member for one of these positions, please contact Marsha Moffitt at mmoffitt@arcpa.org. For more information on the nominating process, and for descriptions and responsibilities of Officers and Directors, please refer to the [ARCPA Bylaws](#) and the [ARCPA Leadership Guide & Yearbook](#).



Have you logged in to Connect yet?

Collaborate, socialize, and celebrate with your fellow members via the ARCPA website with Connect- the ARCPA's private community. The Connect platform gives you the ability to find and chat with members from across the state, collaborate within various groups, or quickly ask for advice from this community of more than 2,500 members. If you haven't already done so, take a moment to visit Connect today!

Visit <https://connect.arcpa.org/home/>

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

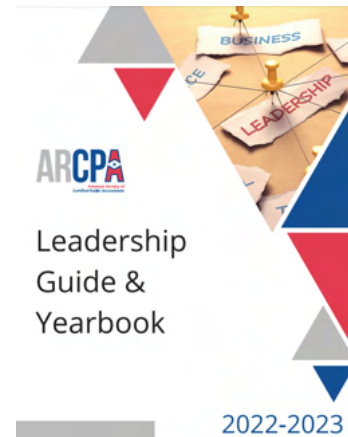


CRYSTAL WILLIS

Crystal Willis is the owner of South Arkansas CPA Services PLLC in El Dorado, Arkansas. Before becoming a CPA, Willis served in The United States Air Force. Once out of the service, she opted to use the Montgomery GI Bill to go to college at The University of Phoenix.

In her spare time, she serves as the treasurer for her local Girl Scout Troop, Habitat for Humanity, and the South Arkansas Art Center. She also enjoys reading, doing crafts, camping, and spending time with her husband and children.

The best advice she ever received was to “be objective and look at things from other peoples’ point of view.” Willis has been a member of ARCPA since 2012 and we appreciate her determination and leadership skills she brings to the profession.



The Leadership Guide and Yearbook is an informative resource for ARCPA Board Members, Chapters, and Committees.

The publication contains information and a list of members serving in leadership roles committees, and chapters of the current year.

View or Download now: www.arcpa.org/publications

To request a printed copy of the booklet, please contact Robin Harris by email to rharris@arcpa.org

ARCPA Advertiser Index

<i>Accounting BizBrokers.....</i>	18
<i>Accounting Practice Sales.....</i>	20
<i>Arkansas PBS.....</i>	14
<i>CPA Charge.....</i>	33
<i>McGriff Insurance.....</i>	24
<i>Paychex.....</i>	29
<i>Classifieds.....</i>	40



The DeGray Chapter of CPAs will meet on Zoom on **Tuesday, October 18.**

Presentations will include:

- 1 pm - Bill Kerst and Merek Rowe - Trust
- 2 pm - Tim Montgomery ASBPA - Ethics
- 3 pm - Chris Brown - Leadership Blind Spots
- 4 pm - Chamber of Commerce – Gary, Cole and Michelle- Economic Development

The last meeting of the year on November 15 will be held in person with more details to come.

For additional information or to register to attend, contact Susan Ashmore, CPE Rep.
SAshmore@garlandcounty.org

Did You Know...



There are 10 local ARCPA chapters across Arkansas

To find your local chapter and get involved, please visit our website or contact us!

<https://www.arcpa.org/chapters>
membership@arcpa.org

Help potential clients find you at our...

FIND-A-CPA DIRECTORY

The Find-A-CPA Directory is an online referral database available to the public free of charge. This directory allows individuals to search for CPA members by city/zip code, industry expertise, or by keyword.

If you're a certified member of the ARCPA and you work in public accounting, you can enroll through the ARCPA website via your profile.

SIGN UP TODAY



Before casting your ballot this fall, get to know the candidates and their stances on important issues.

Twenty-four candidates in nine races will participate in "Election 2022: Arkansas PBS Debates," which will livestream at youtube.com/arkansaspbs and air live on Arkansas PBS daily Oct. 17-21. Debates will also be rebroadcast during primetime beginning Oct. 17.

All debates will be held at the Donald W. Reynolds Performance Hall, 223 Beatrice Powell St., on the University of Central Arkansas campus in Conway. Admission is free, and the public is invited. Seating is available on a first come, first served basis. Doors will open one hour prior to taping times.

For event rules and details visit myarpbs.org/elections



Major funding for is provided by AARP Arkansas.



Business matters.

Additional funding provided by Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce.

Arkansas PBS DEBATES 22

MONDAY, OCT. 17

U.S. House of Representatives - District 4

Live at 10 a.m., reairs at 7 p.m.

Gregory Maxwell
L

Bruce Westerman
R

John White
D

U.S. House of Representatives - District 3

Live at 1 p.m., reairs at 8 p.m.

Michael Kalagias
L

Lauren Mallett-Hays
D

Steve Womack
R

TUESDAY, OCT. 18

Lieutenant Governor

Live at 10 a.m., reairs at 7 p.m.

Frank Gilbert
L

Kelly Krout
D

Leslie Rutledge
R

Secretary of State

Live at 2 p.m., reairs Wednesday, Oct. 19, at 8 p.m.

Anna Beth Gorman
D

John Thurston
R

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 19

Attorney General

Live at 10 a.m., reairs at 7 p.m.

Jesse Gibson
D

Tim Griffin
R

THURSDAY, OCT. 20

U.S. House of Representatives - District 1

Live at 10 a.m., reairs at 7 p.m.

Rick Crawford
R

Monte Hodges
D

U.S. House of Representatives - District 2

Live at 2 p.m., reairs at 8 p.m.

Quintessa Hathaway
D

French Hill
R

Michael White
L

FRIDAY, OCT. 21

Governor

Live at 10 a.m., reairs at 7 p.m.

Ricky Dale Harrington
L

Sarah Huckabee Sanders
R

Chris Jones
D

U.S. Senate

Live at 1 p.m., reairs at 8 p.m.

John Boozman
R

Kenneth Cates
L

Natalie James
D

AR PBS SPORTS



Arkansas PBS is proud to partner with the Arkansas Activities Association to broadcast the Centennial Bank Volleyball Championships presented by Everett Buick GMC statewide.

SATURDAY, OCT. 29

CLASS 2A · 11 A.M.

CLASS 3A · 1 P.M.

CLASS 4A · 3 P.M.

CLASS 5A · 5 P.M.

CLASS 6A · 7 P.M.

HOW TO WATCH

- Tune in, check local listings
- Watch on demand the following week at youtube.com/arkansaspbs

FOLLOW ALONG

Engage Arkansas PBS App
myarpbs.org/engageapp

myarpbs.org/sports

The most up-to-date programming schedule is available at myarpbs.org/schedule.

Never miss an update. Scan to sign up.



2023 FEDERAL TAX HANDBOOK

Special Pricing \$60 per copy for ARCPA Members

Order your copy from
ARCPA and
**Save over 55% off the retail
price!**
(Retail cost \$144.00)
Limited quantity available.
Softcover printed book



The **Federal Tax Handbook, 2023 Edition** by Thomson Reuters will help you prepare 2022 federal income tax returns. It offers comprehensive, insightful guidance on federal tax law, including the latest regulations, rulings, and revenue procedures, as well as precise explanations about changes that could impact your business or your clients.

Don't miss out on authoritative guidance from Thomson Reuters. Pre-order your Federal Tax Handbooks today and be ready for tax season.

Designed to provide quick and easy answers to critical tax questions, the *Federal Tax Handbook* offers comprehensive, insightful guidance on federal tax law, including the latest regulations, rulings, and revenue procedures as well as precise explanations about changes that could impact your business or your clients.

You'll get specific guidance on key tax topics, including individual, trust, partnership and corporate taxation, coronavirus/COVID-19 relief provisions, deductions, credits, capital gains, IRAs, SIMPLE and pension plans, education incentives, passive activity losses, the Code Sec. 199A "pass-through" deduction for qualified business income, employee benefits, estate and gift taxes, and more. And, you'll be able to quickly navigate any tax questions that arise with:

- Detailed coverage of the latest tax legislation
- A tax calendar
- Income tax rates, current estate, gift and excise tax rates, and Social Security tax thresholds
- Advice on which forms to use to report transactions
- Depreciation and inclusion amount tables
- Extensive professional guidance from an expert editorial team

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** Joined the Elite Program in 2022*

Welcome New Society Members!

The Arkansas Society of CPAs welcomes the following new members. Please take the time to welcome these members and invite them to society and chapter events.

To find members, visit <https://www.arcpa.org/my-arcpa/member-directory>

Learn more about our society and the benefits of membership at <https://www.arcpa.org/>

CPA MEMBERS

Tami A. Bean, Rasco Winter Thomas Group, Little Rock
Alan L. Bender, Bender CPA & Advisors, Bentonville
Daniel W. Bowie, FORVIS, Rogers
Catherine S. Breedlove, Landmark PLC, Fort Smith
Dallas C. Forbes, Northern Arkansas Telephone Company, Flippin
Terry Foust, Breashears & Foust, Sallisaw, OK
Donald J. Harris, Riser Ford Lincoln, Hot Springs
Carla A. Jennings, Ballard & Company Ltd, Mountain Home
Darren S. McCrillis, Loan Simple Inc, Englewood, CO
Melanie S. Peddicord, John Brown University, Siloam Springs
Matthew Perrin, Thomas Speight & Noble CPAs, Blytheville
John-Michael C. Regan, John M Regan CPA LLC, Rogers
Laura R. Shook, Frost PLLC, Little Rock

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Marcie L. Fisher, Pierce Firm PLLC, Fayetteville
Collin Prather, Erwin & Company PA, Little Rock
Sherry L. Spille, Pierce Firm PLLC, Fayetteville

STUDENT MEMBERS

Samantha L. Collins, University of Arkansas Little Rock
Alexandra Coulson, University of Arkansas Fayetteville
Macey Dennis, Arkansas Tech University
Jazmin N. Garcia, University of Arkansas Little Rock
John L. Kellar II, University of Arkansas Little Rock
Connor S. Lawson, University of Arkansas - PTC
Shannon Maddock, University of Arkansas Fayetteville
Carmen Y. Marquez, University of Arkansas Little Rock
Mayra Ramirez, University of Arkansas Little Rock
Estephany P. Roman Aguilar, University of Arkansas Monticello
Dinah H. Soderling, University of Arkansas Little Rock
Marcella Stallings, University of Arkansas Little Rock
Santresa Tartt, University of Arkansas Little Rock
Nhu Tran, University of Arkansas Fayetteville
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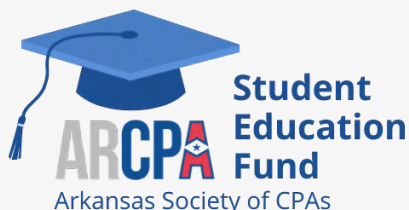
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Christy Hudson, CBI
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The Arkansas Society of CPAs accepts contributions to the Student Education Fund in memory of deceased members. To submit a memorial contribution, please send the name of the member in whose memory you are donating, along with payment to ARCPA Student Education Fund, 11300 Executive Center Drive, Little Rock, AR 72211-4352. For information, please contact Robin Harris rharris@arcpa.org

IN MEMORIAM The Arkansas Society of Certified Public Accountants deeply regrets the loss of the following members:

Cynthia Gulley

Associate Member
Jonesboro

Lamar F. Moore

Certificate #2703 (1982)
Lamar F. Moore CPA PA
Camden

Steven Lawrence

Certificate # 9290 (2014)
Batesville

Marsha C. Mitchell

Certificate #841 (1968)
Retired Member
Royal

Marsha D. Ruth

Certificate #1958 (1978)
Marsha D Ruth CPA
Mt Ida

The CPA Certificate Ceremony was held by the Arkansas State Board of Public Accountancy (ASBPA) on August 13, 2022, at 10 am at the Arkansas State Capitol.

The welcome and introductions were given by Jimmy Corley, ASBPA Executive Director, followed by remarks from Arkansas Society of CPAs (ARCPA) Gina Moran, Chair, and Marsha Moffitt, Executive Director. The keynote address was given by Deana Infield, ASBPA President. The certificate presentation recognized 46 new licensees. Corley issued concluding remarks which was followed by a reception hosted by ARCPA.



New Licensees Recognized

Reynolds Beckham
Victoria Belkin
Joshua Brown
Jane Brown
Mei-Mei Brown
Daniela Buhayevska
Jennifer Burks
Christina Daniels
Morgan Darling
Peggy Flood
Dallas Forbes
Robert Geary
Trevor Gibbons
Bryan Golden
Ashlynn Haller
Jonathan Hill

Sloane Holzhauer
Carla Jennings
Emily Jett
Ricky Johnson
Jeremy Keen
Megan Mathews
Brooke Million
Jason Moseley
Robbie Nieman
Trevor Nix
Christopher Phillips
Alexa Ramirez
Rachel Reynolds
Kallesta Roberts
Nathan Rogers
Beverly Sanford

Alyssa Shanklin
Heather Solano
Yi Stansel
Noah Styles
Adam Styles
Joshua Sykes
Valerie Thompson
Andrea Torres
Aleesha Walker
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Amon Wynn
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Meet Rocky Goodman



ARCPA Board of Directors Chair-Elect

We would like to welcome Rocky Goodman, CPA as our 2022-23 ARCPA Board of Directors Chair-Elect. He is a Partner for Garland & Greenwood CPAs and Advisors, PLLC in Little Rock. Goodman is a native of North Little Rock and an alumnus of The University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

What is your first experience or favorite memory of your involvement with ARCPA?

My favorite memory is a lunch and learn CPE in which I reunited with an acquaintance who later became my wife!

What favorite activities/hobbies/volunteerism do you do in your spare time?

Travel, running, golf, tennis (which is becoming more pickle ball as I get older)

Best advice for students about becoming a CPA, or taking the CPA Exam?

There is no such thing as too much education. Passing the CPA exam is the biggest achievement in our profession - strive for excellence!

Why did you become a CPA?

I became a CPA because I earned my accounting degree and wanted to reach the pinnacle of our profession. The CPE license will help you reach your goals and dreams.

The ARCPA member spotlight recognizes emerging CPAs 35 and younger who have notable professional achievements, ARCPA accomplishments on the state or chapter level, community contributions and/or dedication to the CPA profession. If you would like to be featured in our member newsletter and social media pages, please contact us at membership@arcpa.org.



Meet Addison Scott, CPA

We are excited to spotlight one of our emerging CPA members, Addison Scott. She is a Senior Manager and Professional Practice Audit Resident for EY in Rogers. Scott has been a member of the ARCPA since 2017. She is a native of Little Rock and an alumna of The University of Arkansas Fayetteville.

What is your first memory of your involvement with ARCPA?

My first experience with the ARCPA was joining as a student member while I was still in the accounting program at the University of Arkansas. I had just decided to pursue a career

in accounting and appreciated the opportunity to connect early on with a community of individuals within the profession.

What favorite activities/hobbies/volunteerism do you do in your spare time?

I enjoy spending time with my husband and our dog, Beau. We love to travel and do pretty much anything outside (hiking, backpacking, fly fishing, etc.), which is a great combination! I am also an avid reader and love to bake and decorate cakes, macarons, and other desserts.

Best advice for students on taking the CPA Exam?

Treat studying for the CPA exam like a full time or part time job. Set your “working hours” and use that time to study. It’s also helpful to establish a plan with mini milestones to work toward and celebrate along the way.

Why did you become a CPA?

When I was in high school, I took a career aptitude test, the results of which suggested very specifically that I should be an accountant. I completely rejected this idea at the time. Admittedly as a high school student, I did not have a real appreciation for the accounting profession or what it meant to be a CPA. Later, I went to college to study economics and was required to take some introductory accounting courses. I quickly realized that I had rejected the idea of being an accountant prematurely. The basic accounting concepts came naturally to me and were even interesting. As time went on, I decided to add a major in accounting and pursue a career in public accounting after I graduated. Becoming a CPA was a natural next step in my education and experience.

Meet Krista Ferguson, CPA



We are excited to spotlight one of our emerging CPA members, Krista Ferguson. She is a Tax Manager for Landmark CPAs in Little Rock. Ferguson has been a member of the ARCPA since 2014. She is a native of North Little Rock and an alumna of Hendrix College.

What is your first memory of your involvement with ARCPA?

My first experience with the ARCPA was going to one of the annual CPE and fish fry events. I remember talking to a lot of local CPAs and really enjoyed networking with everyone. This is what led me to want to be more involved with the ARCPA.

What favorite activities/hobbies/volunteerism do you do in your spare time?

I love anything art related- drawing, painting, creating art in just about any medium. I assisted with founding and opening Central AR Montessori in NLR. Keeping Montessori education in our community is incredibly important to me and I assist there with volunteer work and as a member of the board.

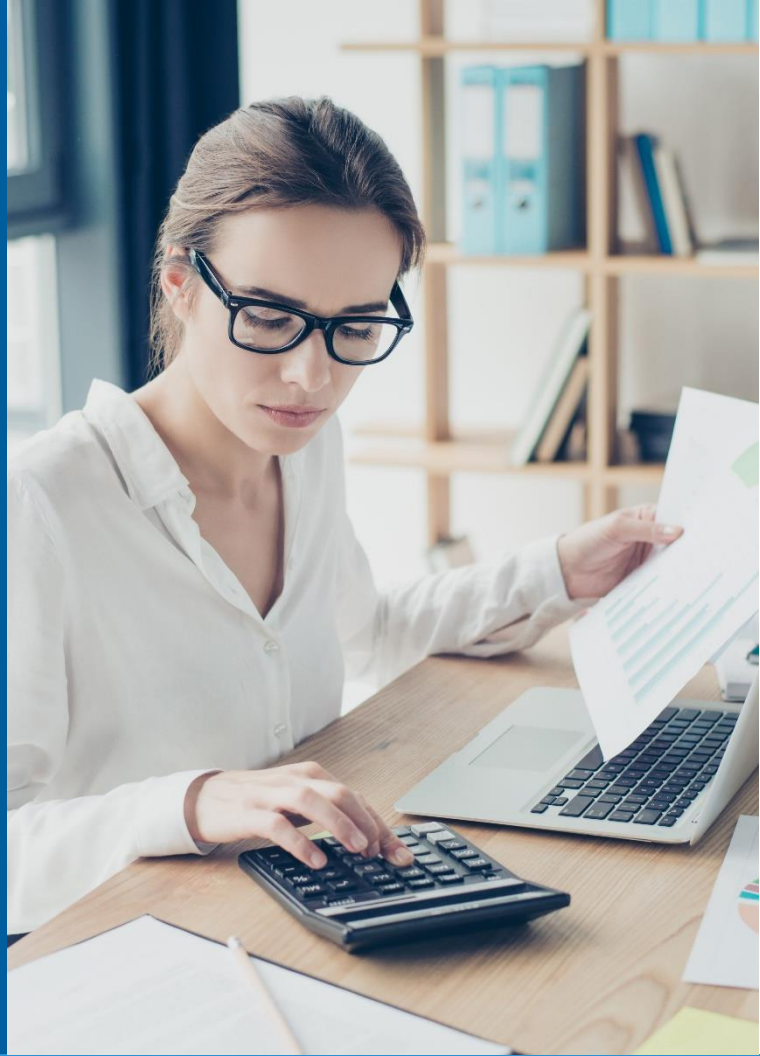
Best advice for students on taking the CPA Exam?

Study and take the exam shortly after graduation. I know taking a break sounds nice to most, but it is absolutely worth completing while you are still in that routine of setting aside time to study.

Why did you become a CPA?

I have always enjoyed math and economics, but it wasn't until I had my first accounting courses in college that I decided to pursue accounting as my major. I actually was an art major prior to changing! I knew accounting was a steady, dependable career field but that getting my CPA license would open far more opportunities. I did not know exactly what my future looked like at the time, but I knew if I wanted to be a partner at a public accounting firm, CFO for a private business, or even an entrepreneur, that becoming a CPA was an important step to achieving those goals.

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Minzhi Chen Selected to Attend AICPA's 2022 Leadership Academy

Minzhi Chen was one of only 36 CPAs honored by the American Institute of CPAs (AICPA) as a member of the Leadership Academy's 14th graduating class. Chen was selected based on her exceptional leadership skills and professional experience for the four-day Leadership Academy program, which will be held October 23-27th.

Chen is a Tax Manager with Berdon, LLP based in New York, New York, and she resides in Cave Springs, Arkansas. She is a member of Arkansas Society of CPAs and AICPA.

The AICPA Leadership Academy was designed to strengthen and expand the leadership skills of promising young professionals while they network with a peer group of talented and motivated CPAs.

The Leadership Academy features career-development workshops and sessions with some of the accounting profession's most prominent influencers. Participants were selected from public accounting firms of all sizes, business and industry, government, and consulting firms.

The 2022 Leadership Academy attendees were recommended by their employers, state CPA societies, and/or volunteer organizations. Candidates submitted resumes and a statement explaining how participating in the Leadership Academy would impact them personally and professionally.

To date, more than 445 CPAs have participated in the AICPA Leadership Academy, many of whom have gone on to take on leadership positions in their firms, businesses, and volunteer organizations.

For more information about the AICPA Leadership Academy, visit [AICPA.org/Leadership](https://aicpa.org/Leadership).




HURRY! ONLY ONE LEFT!

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Reserve your backpack today by emailing Marsha Moffitt at mmoffitt@arcpc.org.



ARCPA will hold Leadership Academy in 2023

As you know, the AICPA has held a leadership academy, now in its 13th year, exposing the next generation of CPAs to a strong ethic of leadership and service, providing young CPAs with strategies to become leaders within their organizations, communities, and the CPA profession.

The ARCPA has been blessed to have ten Leadership Academy graduates every year since 2011. These individuals come back home, ready to be involved in leadership positions within the ARCPA, some of which currently serve, or have already served, in positions on the ARCPA Board of Directors, as well as other committee positions.

Professionals in Arkansas have several opportunities to participate in similar leadership programs around the state, but none are geared specifically toward the accounting profession. In September 2018, the ARCPA Board of Directors voted unanimously to support a similar biennial program called **LEAD: Leadership Exploration and Development** for our own Emerging CPAs, investing in society leaders for the future and launching the first program in June of 2019. **LEAD** is intended to:

- Provide a member service for leadership development and training for emerging members
- Develop a strong pipeline of leadership for the ARCPA
- Expand the reach of a national leadership program to more ARCPA members
- Promote ARCPA membership and engagement
- Enhance the careers of **LEAD** participants

The 2019 **LEAD** program graduated 14 members the first year. Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, the program was held again in 2021, with 7 emerging leaders graduating from the program. **Plans are underway now for the 2023 program to kick off May 31-June 2, 2023, at the Inn at Carnall Hall, located on the campus of the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, with an additional session being planned for September 2023 in Little Rock.**

LEAD is open to ARCPA members, ages 25-35, or those who have been in the profession less than 10 years. Applicants must be licensed CPAs, have the full support of their employer and commit to attending both the May and September sessions. For more information, contact Marsha Moffitt at the ARCPA Office. Applications will be available soon.

HCJ CPAs & Advisors Announces New Promotions



The local accounting firm of HCJ CPAs & Advisors PLLC has announced the promotions of Kayla Easley, CPA, Sarah King, and Stephanie Murry, CPA. The announcement was made by the firm in late August.

Easley and Murry joined HCJ CPAs & Advisors in 2015 as staff accountants in the firm's Little Rock office. King started in 2017 as a staff accountant in the firm's Jonesboro office. Prior to their recent promotions, these three professionals held the position of senior accountant. Each now takes on new responsibilities as managers—Easley and Murry in the Audit Department and King in the Client Account Services (CAS) Department.

"I am thrilled to congratulate Kayla, Sarah, and Stephanie as they step into their new roles," said Karen Garrett, CPA, Managing Partner of HCJ CPAs & Advisors. "All three have shown great dedication to the firm and their clients. Their professionalism and enthusiasm are exactly what we look for in team members. I am excited to see them flourish in their new positions."

A 2014 graduate of Arkansas Tech University, Easley earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. She is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AIPCA) and the Arkansas Society of Certified Public Accountants (ARCPA). Easley grew up in Charleston, Arkansas, and now lives in Little Rock with her husband and their two sons.

King graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Accounting and Finance from Arkansas State University in 2014. She holds memberships in the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AIPCA) and the Northeast Arkansas Society of Certified Public Accountants. Raised in West Helena, she now lives in Jonesboro with her husband and son.

An alumna of the University of Central Arkansas, Murry earned both a Bachelor of Business Administration with a focus in Accounting and a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics in 2014. In 2015, she earned a Master of Accountancy from the same university. She is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AIPCA) and the Arkansas Society of Certified Public Accountants (ARCPA). Murry resides in Greenbrier with her husband and their two miniature dachshunds.

About HCJ CPAs & Advisors PLLC

HCJ CPAs & Advisors PLLC was formed by the 2021 merger of Hudson, Cisne & Co., LLP and Jones & Company, LTD. The firm has over 30 years' experience providing accounting, tax, and audit services to closely-held businesses and nonprofit organizations of all sizes. With more staff and four offices throughout Arkansas, HCJ CPAs & Advisors PLLC is able to offer a greater depth of services, including management consulting, retirement plan administration, payroll, sales tax, QuickBooks, outsourced accounting, business advisory, and business valuation.



Kayla Easley



Sarah King



Stephanie Murry



FORVIS, the public accounting firm created after the merger of BKD and DHG earlier this year, recently announced its first-ever class of promotions to partner, principal, and managing director.

"I extend my sincere congratulations to each of these individuals on this special milestone. These leaders have played a critical role in the success of our legacy firms and now will help us drive our combined forward vision," CEO Tom Watson said in a written statement. "We are committed to providing a high-touch, personalized approach to client service with deep access to leaders and advisors across our firm. Continually developing our new leaders who are passionate about providing unmatched client experiences is a strategic priority for FORVIS."

This inaugural class of FORVIS promotions included 21 new partners, two new principals, and 38 new managing directors:

- **Michelle Hurst**, Rogers, AR has been promoted to Partner/principal.
- **Stacey Atchison**, Little Rock, AR has been promoted to Managing director.

The firm has approximately 5,500 team members, including more than 700 partners, principals, and managing directors.

FORVIS is the eighth largest firm in the U.S. in terms of revenue, according to INSIDE Public Accounting's top 100 firms ranking for 2022.

HoganTaylor LLP Announces Promotions



HoganTaylor LLP, one of the largest business advisory and public accounting firms in Oklahoma and Arkansas, is pleased to announce the following recent promotions:

Jessica Elliott, Manager, Assurance, Fayetteville

Elliott joined the Firm 2010. She earned a bachelor's degree in accounting and a Master of Accountancy from the University of Arkansas.

Catherine Kennedy, Manager, Assurance, Little Rock

Kennedy joined the Firm 2018. She earned a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from Henderson State University.

Evan McKinnon, Manager, Assurance, Little Rock

McKinnon joined the Firm 2017. He earned bachelor's degrees in accounting and finance from Ouachita Baptist University.

Blake Hood, CPA, Senior, Assurance, Little Rock

Hood joined the Firm in 2020. He earned a bachelor's degree in accounting from the University of Central Arkansas.

Hannah Peeples, CPA, Senior, Assurance, Fayetteville

Peeples joined the Firm in 2020. She earned a bachelor's degree in accounting and a Master of Accountancy from the University of Arkansas.

Julie Reed, Senior Accountant, Integrated Services, Little Rock

Reed joined the Firm in 2018. She earned a bachelor's degree business administration and management from the University of Central Arkansas.

Carson Smith, CPA, Senior, Assurance, Little Rock

Smith joined the Firm in 2020. He earned a bachelor's degree in accounting and finance from the University of Central Arkansas.

HoganTaylor is one of the largest business advisory and public accounting firms in Oklahoma and Arkansas. The Firm has more than 300 employees and provides tax, assurance, risk, business advisory, accounting, technology and many specialty and industry-focused services. HoganTaylor is an independent member firm of PrimeGlobal, one of the five largest associations of independent accounting firms in the world. Learn more at hogantaylor.com.



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2022 ARCPA AWARDS

Call for Nominations—by December 30



Each year the Arkansas Society of CPAs conducts an awards program to recognize and honor individual members' accomplishments in various areas of the accounting profession. ARCPA is now seeking nominations for its annual awards. Your input is needed to help us identify these exemplary leaders who may qualify to receive these awards. Nominations for the awards are accepted from the membership. Help us pay tribute to your fellow colleagues for their contributions to education, business and industry, or government, or who are active public service volunteers.

DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT IN ACCOUNTING EDUCATION

This award recognizes full-time college accounting educators distinguished for excellence in teaching and for prominence in the accounting profession. The nominee should be a recently retired, or current accounting educator at a post-secondary educational institution.

OUTSTANDING CPA IN BUSINESS & INDUSTRY

This award recognizes the achievements of CPAs who work in business and industry who have worked to blend information technology, financial decision making and progressive management techniques, helping his or her business move forward.

OUTSTANDING CPA IN GOVERNMENT

This award recognizes the achievements of individual CPAs employed in federal, state, or local government. Through this award, the ARCPA recognizes an outstanding CPA who strives to promote the CPA designation as the premier professional credential for accounting, auditing and finance professionals in government.

OUTSTANDING EMERGING CPA

This award recognizes a young CPA that is 40 years of age or younger, and/or that has passed the CPA Exam within the last ten years, who has made significant contributions to the accounting profession as well as the community at large. Service on at least one ARCPA committee is required. Exemplary leadership qualities and skills must be demonstrated, as well as volunteer service within the ARCPA, local chapter or community.

PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD

This award recognizes CPAs who have distinguished themselves in public service activities at the local, regional, state or national level, and through this service have reflected credit upon the CPA profession.

PUBLIC SERVICE FOR FIRMS

This award recognizes firms for their public service contributions on the local, state, or national level, to encourage more CPA firms to initiate or increase their community service activities, and reinforce the profession's reputation for commitment to public good.



2022 AWARD NOMINATION FORM

Name of Award: _____

Nominee: _____

Firm or Company of Nominee: _____

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Little Rock, AR 72211-4352
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rharris@arcpa.org

or [Submit Online](#)

Once we receive the nomination, we will send instructions and a form for listing the nominee's various accomplishments.

Charles Warren Receives AICPA Outstanding CPA in Government Impact Award



The American Institute of CPAs (AICPA) and The Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA), representing the unified voice of the Association of International Certified Professional Accountants (Association), recently presented awards to three exceptional CPAs for their outstanding work in government. The

awards were conferred virtually on Monday, August 15, 2022, during the AICPA-CIMA National Governmental Accounting and Auditing Update Conference.

The AICPA Outstanding CPA in Government Awards recognizes the achievements of individual CPAs employed in government at the local, state, and federal levels. Through their accomplishments, award recipients and nominees demonstrate the importance and contribution of CPA skills and competencies to the effective performance of the organizations that they serve.

Charles W. Warren, CPA, CGMA, of Fort Smith, Arkansas, received the 2022 Outstanding CPA in Government Impact Award at the local level. The Outstanding CPA in Government Impact Award recognizes the impact of significant contributions of the CPA to the efficiency, effectiveness, or innovative service delivery of their respective local, state, or federal employer organization. Current or recent accomplishments (3-5 years) are the focus of this award.

Charles Warren is the Chief Financial Officer for the Fort Smith Public School District. He is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) and earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in Accounting from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville. He earned a Master of Business Administration degree from Capella University. Warren has over 34 years of experience, beginning his career as a CPA in Fort Smith with Baird, Kurtz & Dobson CPAs. He also worked for ERC Properties, Inc. for 15 years and two years for Hankins & Company, CPAs in Fort Smith.

Warren began working for the Fort Smith Public Schools District (FSPS or the District) in 2009. His tenure with

FSPS over the past decade has been impactful. In collaboration with the Arkansas Department of Education, he managed the conversion of the District's accounting software. Warren also successfully converted the District's independent audit from a GASB audit to a regulatory audit a year before the state law changed to require all Arkansas school districts to use the regulatory audit. He transitioned a substantial portion of expenditures to allow payment with a corporate credit card. Since the program's creation, almost one million dollars in credit card rebates have been collected by FSPS.

He also obtained funding to support a 1:1 (one laptop computer for every student) initiative at FSPS. The program was finalized in 2019, with a computer assigned to every student in the District. When the COVID-19 pandemic hit and the entire nation had to pivot away from campus teaching, FSPS was well-positioned to continue virtually.

Warren has provided significant support to FSPS to successfully pass a millage increase for the first time in over thirty years. Moreover, his management of the financing and spending of the Vision 2023 Capital Improvement Program created from the millage has had a real impact on FSPS. His financing timeline has saved thousands of dollars in interest expenses and generated millions of dollars in interest earnings. He directly oversees the expenditures (\$127 million) of the entire program.

Warren has served as President of the Arkansas Association of School Business Officials (AASBO). While on the Board of Directors of AASBO, he established a CPE sponsorship license with the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA). Warren conducts numerous classes for AASBO on school revenue and human resource compliance issues. AASBO administers the Certification of Arkansas School Business Officials (CASBO) program for the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) to ensure District Business Managers of all Arkansas school districts complete the certification process. Warren completed the NASBA application for Arkansas AASBO and converted fourteen of the two-hour CASBO courses to qualify for continuing professional education (CPE) credits. As a result of Warren's efforts, AASBO is now better positioned to encourage other CPAs to consider working in the public education field.

As a member of the Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO International), Warren successfully passed a comprehensive, competency-based exam. He received the Certified Administrator of School Finance and Operations (SFO) designation in 2019. He is the first and only SFO in the State of Arkansas. He is also a member of the Financial Resources Management AASBO Task Group, and in 2020 helped to review and update the AASBO International Professional Standards and Code of Ethics.

Warren is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) and the Arkansas Society of Certified Public Accountants (ARCPA). He was the recipient of the Arkansas Society of CPAs Outstanding Public Service Award in 2010. Warren was the 2020 recipient of the Arkansas Society of CPAs Outstanding CPA in Government Award. He is active in the Western Chapter of ARCPA and serves as its Treasurer. Elaine M. Howle, CPA, of El Dorado Hills, California, received the 2022 Outstanding CPA in Government Career Contribution Award. Howle began her career with the

California State Auditor's office over 35 years ago and was appointed California State Auditor in 2000, where she served for 21 years until her retirement last year. Joseph R. Morrisette, CPA, of Bismarck, North Dakota, received the 2022 Outstanding CPA in Government Impact Award at the state level. Morrisette is the Director of the Office of Management and Budget for the state of North Dakota.

"Elaine, Joseph, and Charles are among the most talented and prominent leaders in government accounting and auditing today," said Anoop Mehta, CPA, CGMA, chair of the AICPA and the Association. "We are delighted to recognize and celebrate these outstanding individuals for their significant contributions and exceptional leadership to our governments and communities."

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IRS Relieves Penalties for 2019 and 2020

A broad range of tax and information returns for 2019 and 2020 tax years will receive automatic relief from failure-to-file penalties, under [Notice 2022-36](#) recently released by the IRS.

The estimated 1.6 million taxpayers who have already paid these penalties will automatically receive an estimated \$1.2 billion in refunds or credits, the IRS said in the notice and [announced in a news release](#). Abatement of the penalties is also automatic.

Taxpayers do not need to request this relief, and the IRS said it will pay most of the refunds or apply credits by the end of next month. However, any return still unfiled for the two tax years must be filed by Sept. 30, 2022, to be eligible for the relief.

Also, the notice abates penalties for failure to timely file any information return (as defined in Sec. 6724(d)(1)), such as those in the Form 1099 series, for the two tax years. To be eligible, information returns for 2019 must have been filed on or before Aug. 3, 2020, and 2020 information returns by Aug. 2, 2021.

In addition, various international information returns such as those reporting transactions with foreign trusts, receipt of foreign gifts, and ownership interests in foreign corporations will receive similar relief. However, to qualify for the relief, any eligible tax return must be filed on or before Sept. 30, 2022.

The relief measure is intended “to help struggling taxpayers affected by the COVID-19 pandemic” and to allow the Service to “focus its resources on processing backlogged tax returns and taxpayer correspondence to help return to normal operations for the 2023 filing season,” the IRS said in the release.

Another reason for the relief is that additions to tax or penalties for failure to timely file returns continued to accrue during periods of postponed filing dates for returns for both years, under the presidential emergency declaration in March 2020 in response to the pandemic, the IRS acknowledged in the notice.

The AICPA Form 3520 Penalties Task Force had requested penalty relief for Forms 3520, Annual Return to Report Transactions With Foreign Trusts and Receipt of Certain Foreign Gifts, and 3520-A, Annual Information Return of Foreign Trust With a U.S. Owner, especially in light of the backlog, and is pleased the IRS listened and provided some blanket relief, the task force chair, Hank Alden, said Wednesday.

Tax returns eligible for the relief include specified returns in the Form 1040, 1041, and 1120 series. Also eligible are Form 1066, U.S. Real Estate Mortgage Investment Conduit (REMIC) Income Tax Return; Form 990-PF, Return of Private Foundation or Section 4947(a)(1) Trust Treated as Private Foundation; and Form 990-T, Exempt Organization Business Income Tax Return (and Proxy Tax Under Section 6033(e)).

In addition, Form 1065, U.S. Return of Partnership Income, and Form 1120-S, U.S. Income Tax Return for an S Corporation, may have penalties forgiven for failure to timely file and for failure to show required information.

The notice also covers certain international information returns, such as Form 5471, Information Return of U.S. Persons With Respect to Certain Foreign Corporations, and Form 5472, Information Return of a 25% Foreign-Owned U.S. Corporation or a Foreign Corporation Engaged in a U.S. Trade or Business, attached only to Forms 1065 and 1120. It does not provide relief for taxpayers filing returns with certain international information returns, e.g., Form 5471, attached to returns other than Forms 1065 and 1120, such as Form 1040 or 1041.

Penalties for fraudulent failure to file under Sec. 6651(f) or the penalty for fraud under Sec. 6663 are not eligible for relief. Any penalties included in an accepted offer in compromise, settled in a closing agreement under Sec. 7121, or finally determined in a judicial proceeding are also ineligible.

The AICPA and other groups and firms have repeatedly advocated that the IRS provide failure-to-file and other penalty relief under procedures similar to those for a first-time abatement administrative waiver but based upon the COVID-19 pandemic as reasonable cause for the failure.

“As the coronavirus is an extraordinary event unlike anything faced in recent history, penalty relief based on a coronavirus effect should not be considered first-time abate,” the AICPA said in a May 17, 2021, letter to IRS Commissioner Charles Rettig and Acting Assistant Secretary for Tax Policy Mark Mazur.

In the IRS news release, Rettig acknowledged such input.

“We’ve been working on this initiative for months following concerns we’ve heard from taxpayers, the tax community, and others, including Congress,” Rettig said.

— To comment on this article or to suggest an idea for another article, contact Paul Bonner at Paul.Bonner@aicpa-cima.com.

Q: Will the waiver of the late fee announced by the IRS in Notice 2022-36 apply to not-for-profits that file forms 990, 990-EZ, 990-T or 990-PF?

A: The IRS notice includes Forms 990-T and 990-PF forms, but is silent on penalties associated with Forms 990 or 990-EZ. See this [Journal of Accountancy article](#) for more information. The AICPA is considering asking the IRS for relief for additional filers, including those filing Forms 990 and 990-EZ.

Q: Does the IRS Notice 2022-36 late fees relief only apply in late filing situations, or does it also apply to late payment penalties?

A: The notice provides relief from late filing penalties specifically listed in the [notice](#) for 2019 and 2020 tax returns that will be filed on or before Sept. 30, 2022, and notes that penalties that are not listed for relief do not apply. Since the late payment penalty (or underpayment of estimated tax penalty) is not listed, the relief does not apply under this notice. The AICPA continues to advocate for late payment relief as well.

Tax Standards (SSTS) Exposure Draft and Invitation to Comment



AICPA has issued an exposure draft on changes to the [Statements on Standards for Tax Services](#) to ensure the highest ethical standards for members to support the public's view that CPAs are the premier providers of tax services.

Exposure Draft and Invitation to Comment

The combined Exposure Draft (ED) and Invitation to Comment (ITC) presents the findings and conclusions of the SSTS Revision Task Force as approved by the Tax Executive Committee (TEC). The document is divided into two sections: Part 1: ED and Part 2: ITC.

The ED presents changes the AICPA proposes to make to the SSTSs. Following consideration of comments received, the changes outlined in the ED, if adopted, are expected to be included in a revised SSTSs document to be approved no later than May 31, 2023, and effective Jan. 1, 2024.

The ITC is separate and independent from the ED

and presents items for consideration that will require additional research and investigation regarding the concept of quality management in tax.

View the Tax Standards (SSTS) Exposure Draft and Invitation to Comment here:

<https://www.aicpa.org/resources/download/tax-standards-ssts-exposure-draft-and-invitation-to-comment>

Feedback needed

Respondents are asked to provide comments on the proposed SSTS changes and questions listed in the ED and the ITC. Comments are most helpful when they refer to specific questions and include the reasons for the comments. When a respondent agrees with proposals in the ED or ITC, it will be helpful for the AICPA to be made aware of this view.

Please complete the Comments Form or email feedback to SSTScomments@aicpa-cima.com by Dec. 31, 2022.



Cybersecurity Best Practices for Business

By Randy Johnston
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[Cyber-attack statistics](#) indicate that businesses face sustained cyber-attacks, which are only increasing. Applying cybersecurity best practices for business will reduce your risk. Last year, such attacks cost the global economy \$1 trillion, fifty percent more than predicted in 2018. Moreover, the cost of an attack has risen steadily over the years, with medium and large businesses now incurring \$6.3 million per attack.

Of these attacks, the top five attack threats that all businesses face, whether large or small, are:

1. Phishing
2. Malware
3. Ransomware
4. Cloud jacking
5. Insider compromise

Over the next decade, businesses will face increasingly sophisticated threats like deep fakes and AI attacks. While the enemy might be at the door, businesses can undertake [cybersecurity best practices](#) to batten the hatches and secure the company.

Cybersecurity Best Practices

1. Look Out for Suspicious Emails

Email phishing is the number one cyber-attack vector that criminals use. After all, why break the door down when you can ask someone inside to let you in? Using anti-phishing software and training employees to identify suspicious emails can help prevent phishing incidences in your organization.

2. Use Antivirus and Antimalware

Antivirus and antimalware software might be as old as computers, but they are far from outdated. In addition, more sophisticated attacks can easily bypass this software, updated antivirus and antimalware prevent 99%

of attack vectors from compromising your computers and networks.

3. Keep All Software Updated

Outdated software allows criminals to run [Zero-Day attacks](#), which exploit software vulnerabilities before a security update has been issued or installed. Consequently, keeping software updated ensures all known vulnerabilities are secured, denying attackers a chance to exploit known vulnerabilities.

4. Enable 2-Factor Authentication for All Logins

[Two-factor authentication](#) or 2FA secures logins by adding an extra layer of security on top of password security. Enabling 2FA, especially for admin accounts, guarantees no one will access the accounts without the second authentication factor. For example, 2FA options include authenticator apps, a physical device, and biometrics.

5. Do Not Trust Public Networks

Public networks like mall or airport Wi-Fi are hotspots for man-in-the-middle, eavesdropping, and packet sniffing attacks. Avoid using public networks whenever possible and opt for mobile networks like tethering the computer to your mobile phone. In addition, public network safety also applies to plugging your laptop into an ethernet at a public cyber cafe.

6. Set Strong Passwords

[Weak passwords](#) are behind many cybersecurity lapses and continue haunting most companies. Setting strong passwords can ensure that, at the very least, brute force attacks will not work. However, strong passwords must also remain confidential. Most importantly, investing in a password management service like LastPass, Bitwarden, and 1Password can be helpful.

7. Schedule Training for All Employees

Enlightened employees are the first line of defense against cyber-attacks. If they are not aware of cyber threats, they may take actions that expose the company. Further, [train your employees](#) on cybersecurity, [cyber hygiene](#), password security, and other safety practices so they remain vigilant as they conduct their daily duties.

8. Use Secure Cloud Backup for Important Data

Locally stored files and data are like a sitting duck for cybercriminals. If they manage to breach your network, they will have a field day exploiting this data. Secure cloud backup solutions like OneDrive and Google Drive make it more difficult for criminals to gain access. In addition, they can help reinstate files lost to a ransomware attack, saving the company thousands of dollars in ransom fees.

9. Use HTTPS On All Internet Connections

An HTTPS connection encrypts all data traveling from one Internet server to another, ensuring no one intercepting the data can see its contents. If you run an [eCommerce](#) store or any other [online](#) business that relies on sending information via the Internet, ensure all connections, including your website, have an SSL certificate installed and HTTPS enabled.

10. Consult A Cybersecurity Company or Professional

Although most in-house IT professionals can complete all the measures above, working with a cybersecurity company or professional can be helpful. They can provide a threat analysis, offer an action plan, and even help implement it. Subsequently, they can conduct periodic audits of the cybersecurity measures and ensure the company remains secure.

Last Words

Applying cybersecurity best practices for business is not a project done once and completed. Cybersecurity is an ongoing process owing to the constant threat of attack. Therefore, staying safe and secure remains a matter of vigilance alongside a sense of urgency in implementing the cybersecurity best practices outlined above.

As a rule of thumb, the three principal areas to remain vigilant in are: people, processes, and technology (PPT). If you can cover these three fronts, you will keep your organization safe from most threats and even thwart emergent attacks.

To learn more about cybersecurity, consider one of our [K2 security](#) courses. In addition, we have a variety of security courses at our [K2 Technology Conferences](#). Sessions include Security Risks And Solutions Roundtable, [Safeguarding Taxpayer Data – A Guide For Your Required Security Plan](#), [Implementing Data Loss Prevention For Better Security And Privacy](#), and more.

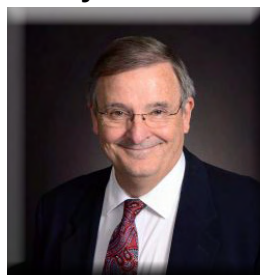
Ashley Lukehart



Many of the ideas in this article are from Ashley Lukehart. Ashley has been writing about the impact of technology and IT security on businesses since starting Parachute in 2005. Her goal has always been to provide factual information and an experienced viewpoint to empower business leaders to make the right IT

decisions for their organizations. By offering both the upsides and downsides to every IT solution and consideration, expectations are managed, and transparency yields better results.

Randy Johnston



Randy is one of the partners at K2 Enterprises (www.k2e.com). In his role at K2 Enterprises, Randy helps to create and deliver technology-focused training to business professionals throughout North America. You may reach Randy at randy@k2e.co

The Relationship Between Cybersecurity and SOC 2 Audits

By Randy Johnston
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As technological advancements continue to break new ground, data increasingly becomes the most valuable currency in the world. The relationship between cybersecurity and SOC 2 audits improves your security profile while decreasing risks. As such, organizations need to protect against data breaches and theft. Therefore, [cybersecurity](#) and [SOC 2](#) audits are essential.

Cybersecurity programs protect sensitive information, personal information, intellectual property, information systems, and other essential data categories.

SOC 2 audits demonstrate evidence that a particular organization has implemented high IT security standards and that the services they provide are secure. As a result, this article looks at the relationship between cybersecurity and SOC 2 in more detail.

What Is Cybersecurity and Why Is It Important?

Simply put, cybersecurity exists to protect against cyber-attacks. A cyber-attack is any threat that can harm information systems, networks, programs, or devices, thus negatively affecting business processes. Today, cybercrime has grown in sophistication to target highly sensitive data. Subsequently, traditional data security controls are no longer effective. As a result, many businesses have fallen prey to cyber-attacks. The resulting losses have been significant. For instance, when you think of the biggest cyber-attacks in history, you have the [NASA cyber-attack](#), the [WannaCry ransomware attack](#), and the [SONY Pictures Entertainment Hack](#). However, these examples are only the tip of the iceberg.

Cyber-attacks cost businesses all over the world billions of dollars annually. So, cybersecurity is more important than ever, especially as society increasingly becomes more reliant on technology and information. If your business deals with sensitive information, like social security numbers and credit card information, you must protect this information from data leaks. In addition, keep in mind the risks of using services as convenient as they may be

(e.g., cloud technology). Cybersecurity is critical because it identifies security risks and prevents cybercrime by implementing robust cybersecurity measures.

How Do SOC 2 Audits Work and Why Are They Important?

A SOC 2 audit generates a SOC 2 report. As a service organization, a SOC 2 report can demonstrate to stakeholders that you have cybersecurity measures in place. That is to say that the services you provide are secure. In addition, a SOC 2 audit can incorporate any of the five trust services criteria: security, availability, confidentiality, processing integrity, and privacy.

Trust Services Criteria:

- **Security** - The security criteria determine whether you have controls to protect against logical and physical access.
- **Availability** - The availability criteria check whether the system is available as advertised.
- **Confidentiality** - The confidentiality criteria determine whether business-to-business interactions and exchanges are kept confidential.
- **Processing Integrity** - Demonstrates whether your company's transaction processing is complete, accurate, and authorized. These criteria are not relevant to every service organization.
- **Privacy** - The privacy criteria apply when a company collects personal information from end users. These criteria are not relevant to every service organization.

Under AICPA guidance, a SOC 2 audit must be performed by a licensed CPA firm specializing in cybersecurity audits. This helps ensure that the reports can be trusted and contain recommendations from only trusted and skilled experts. In addition, by including criteria such as availability, confidentiality, privacy, processing integrity, and security, SOC audits have become an essential step in protecting against data breaches and hacks that continue to increase by the day.

What is the Relationship Between Cybersecurity and SOC 2 Audits?

We have talked about how cybersecurity can help [prevent cyber-attacks](#). For service organizations, SOC 2 audits demonstrate your cybersecurity posture to your stakeholders. During a SOC 2 audit, your IT controls that meet each applicable SOC 2 requirement are identified and tested to validate the controls' design and operation. If something needs to be improved, exceptions are noted within the report. In addition, these corrective actions should be remediated.

When you are SOC 2 compliant, you will have all the adequate controls to meet the SOC 2 criteria included in your report. In addition, a SOC 2 report will demonstrate to your clients that your controls are sufficient to meet the in-scope SOC criteria. Overall, this will help (not guarantee) you stay ahead of cyber criminals who are always on the lookout for any weak links in your [information security](#) environment that they can target. The popularity of cloud computing and outsourcing has put a greater focus on tightening cybersecurity measures. This explains why clients in particular markets always request a SOC 2 audit before they can do business with you.

Why Should You Invest in SOC 2 Audits?

As mentioned, it is best to show your clients that you have all the necessary IT controls if you are a service organization. Today, we have many businesses that outsource operations to third-party vendors. These businesses want to know that sensitive data, such as client information, is not at risk of a cyber-attack. One way that you can provide your shareholders and clients with evidence that your IT security controls are effective and operational is through a SOC 2 audit.

According to the latest trends, cybersecurity crime is rising, costing businesses a lot of money. Cybercriminals are becoming better and better at what they do, and organizations should also aim to raise the bar in cybersecurity if they want to keep the bad guys out. Fortunately, there are many ways to protect against cybercrime, and one crucial part is obtaining a SOC 2 audit.

Benefits

When you look at the top benefits of a SOC 2, increased security is one of the most significant benefits. The rise of cyber-attacks and the terrible consequences are well documented. So, organizations must show evidence they have implemented [effective security measures](#) to keep their data secure and prevent breaches. Remember, a SOC 2 audit incorporates security criteria that determine whether your system is protected from unauthorized

access. This is a significant component of cybersecurity. As a result, the relationship between cybersecurity and SOC 2 audits is strong.

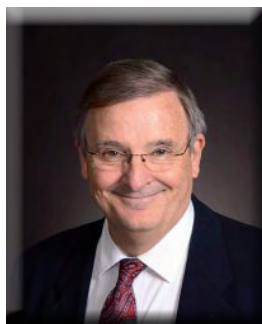
Summary

Today, as more and more clients demand to see SOC 2 reports, it has become the de facto standard in demonstrating security if you are a service organization. Being SOC 2 compliant is one of the significant components of cybersecurity. It involves risk analysis that helps you identify any cyber risks that can damage the integrity of your data and services. It enables you to answer the question, is my business at risk of a data breach? Getting the answer you need allows you to take the necessary steps to strengthen your cybersecurity. This is crucial considering the impact of cybercrime on many businesses.

Cybercrime can lead to substantial financial losses, loss of reputation, regulatory fines and penalties, and other negative consequences that could impact your business. The bottom line? The relationship between cybersecurity and SOC 2 audits is crucial and should never be overlooked.

To learn more about cybersecurity, consider one of our [K2 security](#) courses. In addition, we have a variety of security courses at our [K2 Technology Conferences](#). Sessions include [Security Risks And Solutions Roundtable](#), [Safeguarding Taxpayer Data – A Guide For Your Required Security Plan](#), [Implementing Data Loss Prevention For Better Security And Privacy](#), and more.

Many of the ideas in this article came from Rob Pierce. Rob is a certified information systems auditor (CISA) and a certified information system security professional (CISSP). Rob provides SOC 2 audits at Linford & Company LLP. He is also a member of the Information Systems Audit and Control Association and the Institute of Internal Auditors.



Randy is one of the partners at K2 Enterprises (www.k2e.com). In his role at K2 Enterprises, Randy helps to create and deliver technology-focused training to business professionals throughout North America. You may reach Randy at randy@k2e.co

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