



AFSA - IRS

NEWSLETTER



*A Publication of the Association of Former
Special Agents of the IRS*

Vol. XXVIII No. 3

Fall, 2017

2017 AFSA Convention
The King and Prince Beach & Golf Resort
St. Simons Island, Georgia
October 29-November 2, 2017





A Message from Chief, Don Fort

Thank you for the opportunity to address the Association of Former Special Agents in your newsletter—my first as the new Chief of CI. It has been a whirlwind of energy, excitement, and hard work since I took the job in June. Deputy Chief Eric Hylton and I had the opportunity to visit nearly every field office in the country this summer to take part in specialized trainings and share our vision for CI. Now, I'd like to share that vision with you. I commit to keeping an open dialogue with AFSA as you continue to promote and support our active special agents through programs and services around the country. The connection

between CI and the retired agents should be a strong one and we will do our part to include you in whatever events we can.

One of the first things that Eric and I did when we assumed our new roles was to develop some areas of focus for the organization, but also to develop a simple statement that will serve as CI's Guiding Principles. These guiding principles ensure we constantly keep at the front of our minds the purpose and the reason that we do what we do. It is meant to reinforce all CI employees' efforts to make sure we remain the world's finest financial agency.

CI's Guiding Principles: Honor the badge, preserve the legacy, master your craft, and inspire the future

This statement can mean a lot of different things to each of us. Here is what CI's guiding principles mean to me:

- I will honor the badge by working with a sense of urgency, integrity and professionalism every day.
- I will preserve the legacy by doing all I can to ensure we have a well-trained and well-equipped workforce that is committed to maintaining our place as the World's finest financial investigative agency.
- I will master my craft through continuous learning and interaction with employees at all levels of the organization.
- I will inspire the future through a constant personal commitment to mentor future leaders of the organization.

With a commitment for greater inclusion of all CI employees, we are dedicated to embracing and leveraging the knowledge, skills and backgrounds to continue to cultivate and sustain a high performing organization. We have committed ourselves to fostering an organization full of differing perspectives with one like-minded mission – success!

I encourage each of you to think about what these principles mean to you as you continue to create the legacy that we look to continue as special agents in IRS Criminal Investigation. I also look forward to working with you as we near the celebration of our 100th Anniversary as a law enforcement agency.

Don



Executive Director Corner – Fall 2017

Hello from the beautiful Alamo City - San Antonio, TX! I am enjoying these lovely fall temperatures and looking forward to winter.

Convention 2017, held at the King and Prince on the beautiful Saint Simons Island was a success. Thank you to our convention hosts - Dan and George and everyone else who worked to make it great.

Being there I couldn't help but reflect... WOW! It has been 30 years since I first attended FLETC!! It has certainly changed and improved. While there many of us had the opportunity to meet some of the CI students currently attending FLETC, they are very sharp and impressive. I hope they enjoy their careers as much as I did.

During the Board of Directors Meeting and at the Annual Business Meeting the following board members were nominated and approved for 2018 - 2019:

President – Peggy Thomas

2nd VP – Chuck Taylor

Treasurer – George F. Meyer, Jr.

Regional Director Region 3 – Gail Donaldson

Regional Director Region 6 – Darrell Smith

Regional Director Region 8 – Laurie Harmon Limbert

Big thanks to all of the above for continuing to serve AFSA-IRS.

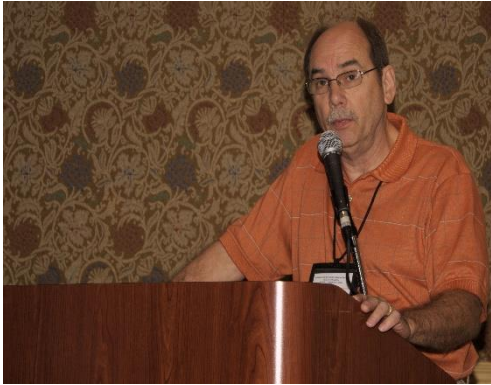
The Board and I always welcome and appreciate your feedback. We strive to make AFSA – IRS stronger and better. If you have any ideas or wish to be involved in AFSA please let me know. I encourage everyone to check our website {www.afsa-irs.org} for news, job postings and to update your contact information.

Thank you, for the opportunity to continue to serve as AFSA-IRS Executive Director. At this time of Thanksgiving I wish you a happy and safe holiday season. I pray 2018 will bring immeasurable blessings and excellent health to each of you and all of your loved ones.

Have a fabulous day.

Adieu,

~ Mary~



A Message from Your President

Best Wishes to each and every one of you as we go into the Holiday Season of 2017. It never ceases to amaze me just how fast the days, weeks, months, and years seem to fly by. Here we are again with winter setting in, already having reports of snow falling in some areas of the country, and now we are starting to constantly hear and see all of the announcements on Radio and TV that we only have XX number of days until Christmas!!! The end of 2017 is quickly drawing to a close, but that is not the only thing that is getting close to the end. We are also the same number of days away from the end

of my second term as your President. I can truly say that it has been a fulfilling term for me and that I appreciate the opportunity that I was given to lead this very fine organization.

So before I go any further, please allow me to give thanks to all of those who helped me throughout the past two years and who inspired me to carry out my duties as your President. First and foremost, let me thank our Executive Director Mary Ruiz, who has been there the entire two years following up on every little thing I requested and also reminding me of all the other tasks that I needed to get done. My thanks to President-Elect Peggy Thomas who agreed to follow me as President and who has been there along the way to help in every way she could. Soon-to-be Vice President Mark Kroczyński and our Secretary Iris Bohannon have been ideal officers as they not only handled their regular positions, but also took on other tasks as well. Mark willingly agreed to chair the CPE Committee and Iris will be hosting our 2018 Convention next year in Branson. And what can I say about our Treasurer George Meyer that hasn't already been said before. George not only handled his Treasurer duties this year...which I learned is basically a daily job...but he was also the BEST-EVER Co-Chair a person could ever have for our 2017 Convention that just concluded this month. Thanks also to Jim Meyers, who served as President before me, and to all of our Regional Directors and Appointed Officials on the Board. I knew I could always count on our Parliamentarian Bob Armentrout to provide extremely prompt and accurate advice and on our Newsletter Editor Ross Brown who always squeezed out two or three extra days for me to submit my articles, despite the deadlines he was facing with our publisher. And finally, special thanks also go to Gerard Dupczak who took on the task of handling all of our reservations for the convention in St. Simons Island. That was a huge help in keeping things together. Without Gerard and George, the convention would have never turned out as good as it did.

Speaking of the convention, thanks to all who attended this year. Although it was a smaller group than I had hoped would come, it was nonetheless a good crowd and I believe everyone had a good time. We received many, many compliments and without a doubt, the main buzz was all about the tour of FLETC. It more than lived up to expectations. We were able to get very, very lucky and not only were we allowed to get off of our tour bus and walk into some of the buildings in Danis City, we were also able to visit the Intermodal Transportation Center and see the subway that was built underground for special transportation training. Then, to top off our tour, we were also treated to an afternoon with all of the CI Instructors who allowed each person on the tour to sit-in briefly on one of their current training classes. My personal thanks go out

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to NCITA Director Domenic McClinton, Assistant Director Denise Rocawich, and Supervisory Academy Instructor Katie Myers for taking the extra steps to make it all work for us.

Before finishing, I would also like to give one last plug for two very important committees that are hard at work. One involves our Scholarship Awards and the other pertains to the upcoming Criminal Investigation 100th Anniversary Celebration. First, allow me to mention our scholarship funds. Check elsewhere in this bulletin and you will be sure to learn about the great work that we do by awarding scholarships to the very deserving kids, grandkids, great grandkids, nieces and nephews of our members. We awarded \$24,000 of scholarships over the past two years, the highest two-year total in our history and for that I am eternally grateful. But there were still many, many applicants who were worthy of a scholarship, but couldn't have one because of a lack of funds. Please consider making a donation today to our scholarship fund. Every dollar donated is awarded to the highest rated students who apply each year. The only disappointing factor that I can find is that we don't receive enough in donations to be able to award a scholarship to every applicant. College is expensive and we've had many very good students who applied for our scholarships and who truly needed help with funding their education. Please consider making a donation today...no matter how small the amount, it will still help. I speak on behalf of Peggy Thomas, our current Scholarship Committee Chair and Mark Kroczyński, our Committee Chair for next year, in thanking you in-advance for whatever donation you make. And, oh yea, remember it's not too late to make a donation before the end of the year and take advantage of the deduction you will receive for donating to such a worthy cause.

The second committee that you will learn about in this newsletter is involved with the upcoming 100th Anniversary that C.I. will be celebrating in 2019. At the request of C.I. Chief Don Fort, the AFSA will be playing a significant role in developing ideas and working hand-in-hand with CI on the best means by which the agency can promote and celebrate their fine 100-year history. It is still more than a year away but as we get closer you will learn more and more about it. Region One Director Dave Nicholson is the Committee Chair of our very competent and capable committee that is already hard at work in developing events and items to commemorate our colorful and productive history. If you have any thoughts or ideas or would like to be a part of the committee, please reach out to Dave and let him know. Many plans are already underway, so keep watching this bulletin in the upcoming months for more information.

Finally, thanks to all of the new members who joined the AFSA during the past two years. If you'd like to be involved, please contact the Regional Director for your area or contact our Executive Director Mary Ruiz. You can be involved as much or as little as you like...or just consider coming to our annual business meeting and convention that will be held in Branson, Missouri next year. I can guarantee that you will have a good time and will enjoy the other members who attend. Once again, thanks for allowing me to serve as your President.
Warm Wishes for the Holidays, Dan

2017 AFSA Convention
The King and Prince Beach & Golf Resort
St. Simons Island, Georgia
October 29-November 2, 2017

Greetings to All...and to those of you who were able to attend last month's convention at the King and Prince Beach & Golf Resort...Thank You for attending. For everyone else...you missed a really good time!!! I might be a little partial in my viewpoint, but I can say with a great deal of confidence that this year's convention will be talked about for a very long time. As I mentioned in my President's Message, we've received many, many, compliments and the main buzz was all about the tour we received from the

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very good folks at FLETC. The tour was everything you could have wanted it to be. But that wasn't the only highlight, just one of them. In fact, let me give you a brief rundown on how things went.

Sunday, October 29, 2017: This was registration day and because of the famed Georgia-Florida football game the day before, everyone had to be a bit patient with getting their room. To accommodate this schedule, we arranged a "Start-My-Trip-Out-Right" trolley tour of St. Simons Island. Several took the tour and it not only passed the time, but it also gave those that took the ride a great 1 ½ hour tour of the island and gave them a heads-up on everyone else as they arrived on the island. It also helped build their appetites for the President's Meet-and-Greet BBQ dinner. Although it was a touch windy on Sunday, we had a great dinner delivered by Southern Soul BBQ (arguably the best BBQ on the entire island.) We had pulled pork, brisket, macaroni and cheese, collard greens, and BBQ-pit-cooked beans. Our "cookout" also gave us a chance to show off our hospitality house which we were able to use in lieu of a regular hotel room. Officially named Wesley Cottage, this one-bedroom cottage next to the hotel (with its living room, dining room, full kitchen and both a front porch and a side deck) was our best-ever hospitality facility. It was open for everyone's use for the entire convention.

Monday, October 30, 2017: The morning started out early with our annual Bob Manzi Memorial Golf Tournament. It was held on 18 of the total of 63 holes of golf on beautiful Jekyll Island. The big trophy winners for the day were Van Carlton, Jim Donaldson, John Helmick, and Dave Swire. All the others are likely already sharpening up their game for next year's competition!!! For all of those that didn't golf, it was a good day for "on-your-own" activities. Only the officers and board members had a commitment for the day and that was our annual board meeting that was conducted later that afternoon in the hotel's "Solarium Room". The day was topped off with a very successful dinner at Crabdaddy's Seafood Restaurant, just a block away from the hotel. We had our own private room and enjoyed much camaraderie and conversation. Their food was great and nearly everyone attended.

Tuesday, October 31, 2017: This was our Okefenokee Swamp Tour day for those that signed up and a totally free day for everyone else. The swamp was about an hour away and the ride out was pleasant and full of history about the area. The day was beautiful and the tour was very interesting. We saw quite a few alligators...some looked to be 8-10 ft long.



Wednesday, November 1, 2017: This year's opening ceremony, presentations, business meeting, and CPE were all held at FLETC in their new Building 912, which was built and dedicated to the memory of the tragedy of 9-11. It includes four memorials and historical displays and is rich in history about FLETC and the Glynco area. It is equipped with a beautiful auditorium that is used for graduations and other formal ceremonies and we were fortunate to be able to use it for our entire day. There were three presentations in the morning session. The first was by Katie Myers, the Acting Director of the National Criminal Investigation Training Academy (NCITA) and the second was by Brandie Murrell, the Public Affairs Specialist for FLETC who gave us a presentation she calls "FLETC 101". The morning was topped off with

a presentation by Don Fort, recently-appointed Chief of C.I., who traveled from C.I. Headquarters to meet with our members and discuss the current status of C.I. and its future. After lunch in the FLETC dining facility, I conducted our Annual Business Meeting where we held elections of officers for next year and conducted our other annual business that was required. Then, AFSA member Chris Gerhart gave us two CPE classes...one was on Financial Investigative Techniques for Bitcoins and the other was about International Public Corruption. Our afternoon was completed with a beer and wine reception that we hosted at the FLETC Student Center in honor of Chief Fort and it was attended by all of the C.I. trainees from Class 707 and several of the NCITA instructors. It was a great time and was quite enjoyable speaking with the future of C.I.

Thursday, November 2, 2017: As previously mentioned, the tour of FLETC was the highlight of the week for most of us and provided an in-depth look at the extent of training that is provided to the special agents of today. We were so very fortunate to have the opportunity to actually enter some of the the businesses in Danis City as well as the Federal Building and even a “Meth House” that was built in the rural area nearby. We were also able to step off the bus a third time and visit the terminal of the Intermodal Transportation Center and go underground to step into their subway car. It is hard to imagine a training scenario that they cannot duplicate or prepare law enforcement to encounter. A huge “Thank You” goes to Public Affairs Specialist Brandie Murrell for putting together such a worthwhile and memorable tour for our members and guests.



Inside of the Coffee Shop in Danis City



Outside the Danis City Airport Terminal

Following lunch, Director Domenic McClinton’s staff at the NCITA then treated us to an in-depth look into the classroom training that is received by every C.I. trainee. Another huge “Thank You” goes out to Assistant Director Denise Rocawich who, along with Supervisory Academy Instructor Katie Myers, arranged our afternoon classroom training. We were flattered that every instructor on staff volunteered to meet with our group and discuss the NCITA training program, requirements of the job, etc. with us. As you can imagine, our group had no shortage of questions. Everyone on tour was also allowed to sit-in for a few minutes and actually witness a training class in session. Everyone on staff took those extra steps to make our visit worthwhile and allow us to have insight that most will never have the opportunity to enjoy. Finally, the last day of our convention ended with our Banquet Dinner. We did things a bit different this year by having a three-entree buffet style dinner and it did not disappoint. The King & Prince put together a well-thought and delicious buffet for us. I heard many members compliment the dinner by saying it was the best Banquet Dinner that we have ever had. My thanks go out to my wife Janet, George and Barbara Meyer, Gerard and Cindy Dupczak, and all the others that helped make this convention such a huge success.

Dan Pieschel, Co-Host

Convention Photos



From the Editor

I was really looking forward to this year's convention in St. Simons Island, Georgia because of its proximity to FLETC. I was a member of one of the earliest classes at FLETC and remembered the conditions we had to endure...from the sparsely furnished townhouses, falling down gymnasium to the trailers where we had our classes. And then, of course, the uniforms. Although I had been back on numerous occasions throughout my CI career, I was interested in seeing the changes that had taken place since my last classes there. The FLETC tour was absolutely the highlight of the convention. It was amazing to see the improvements to the base. The Department of Homeland Security, now the custodian of the base, has done wonders with all of the new buildings, classrooms, dormitories, and other training facilities. I'm glad I had the opportunity to see it all again.

The convention site at the King and Prince Resort was really spectacular with the ocean literally on our doorstep. The hospitality room was in the nearby Wesley Cottage and had plenty of room for all of us to gather and tell or listen to the many stories. It also had an outdoor area and porch. The outdoor area was the site of the President's barbeque. Dan did a great job describing the tours in his column previously. I hope that you will consider joining us at the next convention if you were not able to attend this one, as you will come away connected to the organization that occupied a good part of your life.

I want to thank all of the contributors to this and many of the past newsletters. Dan Pieschal has done a tremendous job as our President for the past two years. His tireless efforts and columns have really been appreciated. Mary Ruiz, our executive director has always been a valued advisor and a constant source of AFSA news. Without her input, there wouldn't be an "In Memoriam" section to the newsletter. She also does a great proofreading job. Peggy Thomas, our incoming President and former Scholarship Committee chairman always goes out of her way to get the scholarship information to me for inclusion in the newsletter. Another valued contributor is Al Selby, our historian. He is always the first to get his article to me and does a wonderful job of researching and writing the Historian's Corner. Gail Donaldson is working on the 100th anniversary committee, wrote the article appearing later in the newsletter, and has been instrumental in getting ideas for commemorative items to be made available celebrating the anniversary. Peter Alvarado, a former agent, wrote an article for Indian Gaming Magazine and was kind enough to allow me to reproduce it here for the membership. I thought it would be of interest to some of you.

Lastly, now that Al Selby has completed the bios of our past Chiefs, I would like to see some of our earlier significant cases highlighted in the newsletter. I know we, as an organization, have a long and storied history. Please think about all of those past cases and bring them back to the forefront. I would be particularly interested in the cases of national interest. Think of Capone, the Lindberg baby, Agnew or any other significant case you can think of. I'll be happy to do some research and remind us of the great work done in the past. Send your information to me at rbrown11@columbus.rr.com. In the meantime, have a safe and happy holiday season!

Frank L. Smith

AFSA COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

AFSA Scholarships - Where Are They Now

The following letter was received from James Martinez who was a recipient of the 2016 Frank L. Smith Scholarship. James Martinez expresses the impact the scholarship had on him. This is the reason why we donate to our scholarship program:

July 11, 2017

Dear Ms. Ruiz,

I am writing to you on my birthday, because today is such a special day in my life as I turn 19 and started thinking of all of the wonderful things that have happened to me during this past year.

One of the biggest things that stood out was the confidence and recognition that your organization gave me when I received the 2016 AFSA Frank L. Smith Scholarship. This gave me such a lift in my new adventure in entering my journey to be a Federal Law Enforcement Agent. I believe you know my dad, and he is such a wonderful person and role model that I want to be just like him when I grow up and what better way than to follow in his professional footsteps.

This past year I took 10 courses in my major of Business Information Systems/Finance at Cal-State Fullerton and was able to earn "A's" in nine of those courses. It wasn't easy, but just when my eyes were closing when I was studying I remembered the scholarships I earned and didn't want to disappoint.

This past summer I interned in a law firm in Oakland, CA, who specialize in litigation against home builders. I learned so much on how to prepare for trial, and making sure all exhibit books were organized and well documented. I was even able to interview some witnesses and prepare memorandums of interviews.

Again thank you for selecting me for this scholarship and wanted to let you know that I am still using it as motivation in continuing to show everyone that the confidence in me you demonstrated has helped me in becoming the best I can be.

Please let me know if I would be eligible for any other scholarships for this year or next.

Thank you,
James Martinez

Please send us information regarding your scholarship recipients so we can share their experiences with our members. Thank you for your continuous support of the AFSA Scholarships.

Peggy Thomas

Scholarship Committee Chairperson

AFSA is proud to announce the 2017 winners of the Frank L. Smith and the James F. Howe Sr. scholarships. The scholarship committee Al Allison, Mark Kroczyński and I reviewed 21 applicants. The 2017 applicants had exceptional grades, participated in extracurricular activities, and were leaders in their communities. AFSA awarded one James F. Howe Sr. scholarship and four Frank L. Smith scholarships as follows:

James F. Howe Sr.

Allison Towey

Frank L. Smith

Avery Elliot

Kayley Hernandez

Naomia Kolb-Untinen

Avery Selby

The biographies and pictures of the above winners are included in this newsletter.

AFSA would like to thank and compliment all of the applicants and wants to encourage everyone to not be discouraged and to apply again next year. AFSA wishes all of the applicants continued success in college and all of their future endeavors.

In order for AFSA to continue their important financial support to the families of AFSA members, it relies on the generosity of our membership. Lead by example and contribute to the AFSA scholarship program. Donations can be made any time online or by completing the information below.

Peggy Thomas

Scholarship Committee

DONATIONS: Anyone may make donations to the AFSA for the Scholarship Fund
Name: _____

Enclosed is my check for \$10.00 _____, \$50.00 _____, \$100.00 _____, or other _____

For the AFSA_IRS Scholarship Fund, Send donations to:
George F. Meyer, Jr., AFSA Treasurer
P.O. Box 2841, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32004

Scholarship Donors Since the last Newsletter

Calvin N. Boyer, Jr.

Patrick W. Brown

Patrick D. Dorsey

Adam N. Torres

Scholarship Awardees and Bios



Naomi Kolb-Untinen

Naomi is attending Portland State University and will be a senior as of this fall. Having earned an Associate's degree while still in high school, Naomi is now majoring in social sciences with an emphasis in gender studies and anthropology, and is minoring in planetary and space science. During Naomi's first year at Portland State University, Naomi was an active member of the Urban Honors College, made the Dean's List every term, and joined the Student Sustainability Center as an EcoRep. On the EcoReps task force Naomi helped promote sustainable living to fellow students through various events and community gardening. Next year Naomi will continue with the Student Sustainability Center as a leadership fellow, will start a new job on campus at the Queer Resource Center, and will be working on their honors senior thesis. In rare moments of free time Naomi loves to interact with animals, drink coffee, watch movies, and is always up for a rousing game of scrabble.



Avery Selby

Avery graduated from Forest Hills High School fifth in her class. She maintained higher than a 4.0 for the duration of her time at Forest Hills, and ended with a 4.8 GPA overall. While in high school, she was involved in many different clubs and organizations. Some of them include historian of Nation Honor Society, Junior and Senior class president, BETA club, National Technical Honor Society, HOSA, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and the math honor society, Mu Alpha Theta. She had the honor of attending North Carolina's governor's school the summer before her senior year with a concentration in math. She also received the titles Miss Junior and Miss Senior Forest Hills. She was a competitive dancer for 14 years, winning various awards at many different competitions. Avery is involved in her youth group at Philadelphia Baptist Church and is also a volunteer in the church's nursery and children's church. She enjoys serving at the Union County

Homeless Shelter feeding the homeless. She is entering her freshman year at East Carolina University. She is an intended nursing major, and is entering her freshman year with nineteen credit hours. She hopes to achieve a masters in nursing to become a neonatal nurse practitioner. She is currently working as a lifeguard, and plans to work as a lifeguard at school as well.



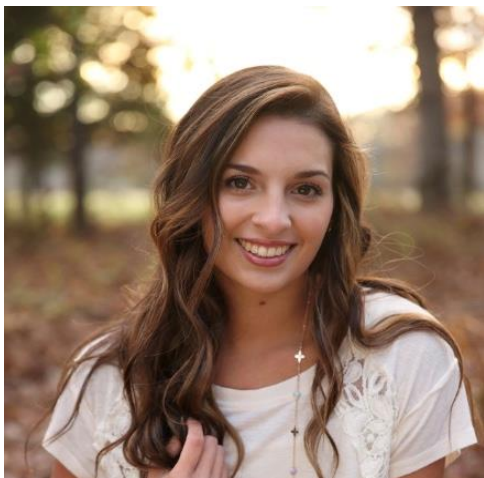
Allison Towey

My name is Allison Towey, and I am a Junior at the University of Notre Dame. I am originally from Prior Lake, Minnesota and attended Prior Lake High School, graduating in 2015. At Notre Dame, I am a Political Science major, with minors in Business Economics and Italian Studies.

I am a part of the Mock Trial Team on campus and won an award for my performance as a Witness at the Regional tournament in the winter of 2017. I am also a part of the Model United Nations club on campus, where I have attended two conferences in Chicago. At school, aside from my academics and extracurriculars, I like to go to sporting events (especially football) and keep up to date with the news.

When I graduate from Notre Dame, I plan on attending law school.

During the summer of 2016, I interned for Senator Amy Klobuchar of Minnesota in her state office in Minneapolis. This summer, 2017, I am an intern for Madel PA, a law firm also located in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Both of these internships broadened my understanding of possible career paths, and they gave me valuable experience for life after graduation.



Kayley Hernandez

Kayley will be a sophomore at Drury University in Springfield, Missouri this upcoming fall. She has always had a passion for medicine so her focus in college is to major in Biology and minor in Chemistry and Behavioral Neuroscience with the hopes of one day entering Physician's Assistant school. Staying involved on a school and community level is important to Kayley. She is a member of the Drury Honors College, Pi Beta Phi Fraternity for Women, the Pre-Health Fraternity for Women, and the Pre-Health Professionals Club. In addition to those organizations, Kayley also donates her time at the Jordan Valley Community Health Center, was selected to be a resident assistant (RA) and works as a server for the Great American Taco Company.

Baking, playing tennis and spending time with her friends and family are some of Kayley's hobbies and interests. Her family is her greatest support system, providing fun and rejuvenation to keep up her busy schedule.



Avery Elliott

Avery is a National Merit Finalist who graduated high school in Cabot, Arkansas with a 4.09 GPA and 43 hours of college credit. She is an active member of the AP Academy, National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta, Key Club, and Junior Civitan. Avery was selected as a Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership Ambassador, Junior Civitan Sweetheart, and delegate to Arkansas Girls State. She placed 1st in the AMC Algebra II Competition and 4th place in the ACTM Algebra II Regional Competition. Avery also performed in the Cabot High productions of *Peter Pan* and *Shrek*.

For the past three years, Avery has served as President of Cabot Junior Civitan as well as Governor of the Junior Civitan Heartland District which encompasses Arkansas, Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, and Missouri. Through these and various other altruistic organizations, she has completed over 300 hours of community service. She has been actively involved with Special Olympics and Sidekicks Club and has raised over \$2500 for the Civitan International Research Center. Avery has been recognized with several community service honors including the Prudential Spirit of Community Service Award, the President's Volunteer Service Award, and the Civitan International Distinguished Service Award. This fall, she will attend the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville where she has been awarded an Honors College Fellowship. Avery plans to seek a degree in biology and attend medical school.

HISTORIAN'S CORNER BY AL SELBY

We are continuing our history lesson over the last 100 years preparing for the big celebration on July 1, 2019. The Bureau of Internal Revenue and its' Intelligence Unit were a straight line Washington to field office type of organization and was basically a patronage system until 1952. There were no civil service rules or a merit system in place. Over time, as new tax laws and additional personnel were added, coupled by low pay and little supervision, we had some "bad apples" begin to show up. At this time the Intelligence Unit was responsible for employee misconduct and internal investigations and it began to take a lot of time away from its' main mission of tax fraud investigations.

Some of the major tax laws enacted prior to 1953 were the 16th Amendment in 1913 establishing a Federal Income Tax, the Revenue Act of 1918 imposed a progressive income tax rate structure of up to 77 percent, the 18th Amendment (Volstead Act) in 1919 with enforcement placed on the Bureau of Internal Revenue (until 1931 when it was moved to the Dept of Justice, and repealed in 1933), the Revenue Act of 1942 which FDR hailed as "The greatest tax bill in American History" raised everyone's taxes and established deductions for medical and investment expenses, the Current Tax Payment Act was enacted in 1943 and set up the withholding tax system, Congress created the Standard Deduction in 1944, and finally around 1949 President Harry Truman determined that the Bureau of Internal Revenue needed to be completely reorganized, decentralized, and cleaned up to restore its' image with the taxpaying public.

From 1949 to 1952, Congress and the Truman Administration batted back and forth several proposals and laws trying to decentralize and make the Bureau of Internal Revenue, and its' divisions, more efficient and provide more taxpayer service. Truman pointed out that the Bureau was comprised of more than 200 field offices that reported directly to Washington, and these 200 offices had more than 2,000 suboffices with 10 divisions. He pointed out that the Bureau needed additional manpower to accomplish its' mission. In 1940

there were 19 million tax returns bringing in \$ 5.3 Billion with 22,000 employees, while in 1951 there were 82 million tax returns bringing in almost \$ 50 Billion with 57,000 employees. Truman's Reorganization Plan 1 of 1952 was enacted March 15, 1952, and became effective August 12, 1952. Among other things, it set up a separate division, the Inspection Service, to deal with employee misconduct, established a civil service system, and changed the Intelligence Unit to the Intelligence Division. A lot of positions changed names and new positions were created. It completely decentralized the Service with Regions and District Directors (no more than 25).

In 1953 President Dwight Eisenhower endorsed Truman's plan and changed the name of our organization to the INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE. It is interesting to note that while Elmer Irey was Chief for almost 24 years, we had 3 Chief's between 12/31/1951 and 8/15/1955. The next four Chief's/Director's are shown below.

A. WALTER FLEMING, DIRECTOR

A. WALTER FLEMING became our 5th leader when he was named Director on December 20, 1953, and he served until August 15, 1955. Mr. Fleming became a Special Agent in 1923 and became a SAIC in several posts of duty. He also served as Regional Commissioner in Buffalo and Dallas. After serving almost 2 years as our Director, he was appointed Regional Commissioner in New York.

J. PERRY AUGUST - DIRECTOR

J. PERRY AUGUST became our 6th leader when he was named Director of the Intelligence Division on October 18, 1955, where he served until his retirement on June 30, 1959. He was born and raised in Dorchester, Nebraska, and graduated from the University of Wyoming. He entered government service in 1934 when he joined the Bureau of Reclamation in Denver. After three years, he transferred to the Bureau of Internal Revenue as a Special Agent in Denver. Mr. August was named SAIC in the Denver office in March 1952, and he became Assistant Regional Commissioner (ARC-CI) of the Dallas region on July 1, 1953. He served there until his appointment as Director in October 1955. He retired from government service on June 30, 1959.

H. ALAN LONG – DIRECTOR – INTELLIGENCE DIV

H. ALAN LONG became our 7th leader when he was appointed Director of the Intelligence Division on June 30, 1959. Mr. Long was born and raised in Burlington, Colorado, and graduated from the University of Colorado with a degree in accounting in 1927. He became a Certified Public Accountant. Mr. Long became a Special Agent in the Denver office in 1940.

In 1950 Mr. Long became a member of the Appellate Staff in New York City. In 1956 he was appointed District Director in Chicago and in June 1959 he was appointed Director of the Intelligence Division where he served until December 31, 1965, when he was named District Director in Pittsburgh, PA.

WILLIAM A. KOLAR, DIRECTOR

WILLIAM A. KOLAR became our 8th Director on December 31, 1965. He was born in Baltimore, Maryland and attended Washington College in Chestertown, Maryland, and received an L.L.B. degree from the University of Baltimore in 1943. He was an F.B.I. Agent from 1943 to 1951. He served as Chief

Investigator for the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on “Trading with the Enemy Act”. In 1954, he joined IRS as a special assistant to the Director of Internal Security. In 1960, he was named Director of the Internal Security Division. In December 1965, he was selected as the Director of the Intelligence Division where he served until his retirement in June 1970.

Planning for IRS-Criminal Investigation’s 100th Year Anniversary

In 2019, IRS-Criminal Investigation (CI) will celebrate 100-years of dedicated service. This momentous occasion will feature commemorative activities, which will include a reflection of the past, update to present, and the AFSA annual convention. Ideally, the 2019 convention will be held in or around Washington D.C. Planning for this milestone is underway. Our work and devotion to CI over the years is exactly what we will be celebrating in 2019. We are a part of CI (Intelligence Division, etc.) history. AFSA encourages ideas and assistance from CI retirees in order to make the 100-year anniversary a memorable milestone. The AFSA committee leader is David Nicholson (Region 1 Regional Director – New England area.) You don’t have to be a history buff to want to know how this organization evolved over the years, before, during, and after your tenure. Instead, you were a part of that evolution, and may want to learn and reflect upon the changes CI has made since 1919.

Criminal Investigation - headquarters, along with input from AFSA and the Treasury Historical Association (THA) will be planning 2019 activities. Some considerations include a challenge coin commemorating our 100-years to be made available for purchase, subject to Chief approval, for manufacture in late 2018. Headquarters plans to update the 75-year anniversary publication in order to incorporate 25 more years. An application was submitted to have a representative from CI ring the opening bell at the New York Stock Exchange in or around July 2019. An application was submitted to have a stamp produced in honor of Elmer Irey. He led this organization during the highly publicized and successful investigations of mobster Al Capone and the Charles Lindbergh child’s kidnapping. He also happened to start his career as a Postal Inspector. These are just a few of the items being discussed. There are journalists and authors of publications/ books who have written about the history of the Treasury Department, as well as CI. Some will be considered for convention speaker(s), as well as to get the word out about their extensive research and products already out in the public domain.

Aside from the commemorative activities noted, reflecting on how CI has looked and operated over the years is worth noting. The placement within Treasury and name of our organization has changed. Organizational structure within CI has changed dramatically, primarily due to shifts in human resources. The makeup of special agents, past and present, looks different. The tools used to conduct investigations have improved with technology and other resources, enabling a more efficient process in evidence gathering and summation. We hope that some of these changes, and more, will be featured over the course of 2019. There is no better way to share stories and reminisce than to do so in person, by participating in the 2019 AFSA convention. Coincidentally, the Washington D.C. Law Enforcement Museum is scheduled to open in late 2018, which could be another good reason to visit the D.C. area. For those who cannot attend, we hope you can participate in whatever activities may be occurring in or around field offices nationwide. In summary, AFSA members are proud special agents who made a choice to stay in touch with colleagues from a highly respected law enforcement career. Your suggestions regarding the 100-year anniversary are welcome. In addition, your attendance at one of the conventions, with or without friends from your former field office, may be a game changer as you have the opportunity to engage with old friends and reflect on a rewarding career. Stay tuned, as you receive subsequent newsletters/ emails, and see how the plans for conventions and the 100-year anniversary activities become reality.

“I filed a Suspicious Activity Report, my job is done . . . or is it?”

An article appearing in Indian Gaming Magazine by Peter Alvarado reprinted with his permission.

Too many times the filing of a Suspicious Activity Report (“SAR”) is thought to be the “end of the process” but, sometimes, it leads to other issues that may require additional action by a casino’s Bank Secrecy Act (“BSA”) Officer. Specifically, the BSA Officer must assess whether the subject of the SAR filing should be excluded (banned) from the casino. This may pose difficult questions for casinos, particularly when it involves a high dollar customer. This is where the gaming operation and BSA compliance meet “head on” and must proceed with the upmost caution to ensure profits do not undermine regulatory compliance.

The standard for filing a SAR is suspicion. Unfortunately, this is a subjective term that requires sound judgment based on a casino’s unique money laundering risks and the particular facts pertaining to each case. The difficulty that arises in making this type of assessment is how far do you go when investigating the facts? A casino is not obligated to investigate beyond the suspicion determination. Going beyond suspicion may cross the line into the investigation of criminal activity, and only law enforcement has the authority to investigate potential criminal violations. Nonetheless, if the activity involves mere suspicion, what happens when the SAR filing is the 10th such filing on the same individual for the same activity? What do you do if the investigation leads to the conclusion that it is more than suspicion but involves known criminal activity? The answer lies in a well written Anti-Money Laundering (“AML”) Exclusion Policy and Procedure to ensure sound consistent application.

While each casino has its own particular set of risk elements, the following are suggested factors a casino may incorporate into their AML Exclusion Policy and Procedure to enhance its effectiveness.

Customer Identification

Whether part of the exclusionary policy or customer identification program, the first issue that needs to be addressed is where a customer refuses to provide identification when required. Typically, this occurs in transactions involving jackpot winnings (\$1,200 or above) and cash transactions of over \$10,000. These types of transactions trigger reporting requirements to the Internal Revenue Service (“IRS”), and Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (“FinCEN”), respectively. Without identifying information including name, address, social security number, and other related information, a casino may not have the data necessary to fulfill its regulatory reporting obligations.

Failure to file or filing incomplete Forms W2-G and Currency Transaction Reports (“CTRs”) are serious violations and can subject a casino to significant penalties. Accordingly, it is not enough to refuse a jackpot payout or complete the cash transaction in excess of \$10,000 (e.g., chip buy-in), the customer should also be excluded from the casino. FinCEN highlighted the failure to identify patrons as a key finding in the penalty case against Hawaii Gardens Casino in July 2016. FinCEN stated:

One such customer—known to The Gardens only by the alternative name of “Michelle”—had been the subject of 15 prior suspicious activity reports and five currency transaction reports, but the Gardens failed to collect any identification on her. . . On at least three separate occasions in 2013, the Gardens staff approached the customer to request identification, but were unsuccessful. Despite this suspicious activity and the customer’s refusal to

provide identification, the Gardens still allowed the customer. . .to game at the Card Club and conduct financial transactions through 2014.

In The Matter Of Hawaiian Gardens Casino, Inc., FinCEN, No. 2016-04, pp 5-6

Gaming with Known Illicit Funds

Under federal law, money laundering is not limited to narcotics trafficking but can include many other violations such as bankruptcy fraud, bank fraud, mail fraud, wire fraud, and a host of others. In addition, money laundering does not only involve intent to conceal or disguise criminal proceeds or promote ongoing criminal activity, but includes knowingly conducting monetary transactions (over \$10,000) with criminally derived funds. This means, for example, if a customer uses cash from narcotics sales to conduct a table buy-in for over \$10,000, it is considered money laundering (18 U.S.C. §1957).

If a casino knowingly allows a customer to use criminally derived funds to gamble, the Department of Justice may view such conduct as aiding and abetting. The same is true if the customer is, in fact, using a casino to launder funds as in transferring (e.g., wires) illicit funds to conceal their true origins. A casino cannot turn a “blind eye” to the activity. To knowingly assist the customer in making these wire transfers could expose the casino to criminal liability. The filing of a SAR is not enough when a casino knows the activity involves criminal conduct. A casino must also take steps to exclude the customer from their casino. These situations go beyond suspicion. They involve known criminal conduct for which continuing to allow the customer to engage in gambling or financial transactions will expose the casino to potential criminal liability.

Multiple SAR Filings

Short of known criminal activity, the filing of a SAR is usually sufficient to meet a casino’s BSA reporting obligation. However, what happens when the suspected activity continues and repeated SARs are filed on the same customer and activity? Arguably, with every subsequent SAR filing, the risk posed by the customer gets higher. Is there a “number” of repeat SAR filings that will trigger exclusion? The cautionary answer is no, but a casino needs to tread carefully in this area. FinCEN has provided the following guidance:

*Nothing in the BSA or the implementing regulations requires a casino to exclude a customer from gaming, even if the casino has filed multiple [SARs] on that customer. However, depending on the circumstances, **the casino should consider whether, in its business judgment, risk that the customer actually is engaged in money laundering or terrorist financing activities warrants exclusion of the customer from the casino.** [Emphasis added].
*FinCEN, Suspicious Activity Reporting Guidance for Casinos, December 2003, page 5.**

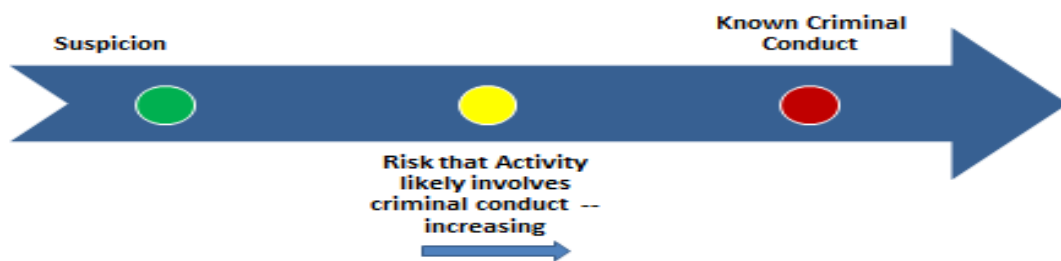
Essentially, this guidance is stating that while 20 SARs may not be enough to exclude a customer, one SAR may be enough. It is a judgment call based on an assessment of the facts and the likelihood that customer is engaged in criminal conduct. A collateral practice that sometimes complicates the issue is “defensive SAR filings.” These are instances where a casino is attempting to avoid regulatory scrutiny by simply filing a SAR despite not conducting an adequate investigation of the facts and or where the investigation results are inconclusive and out of an abundance of caution the casino decides to file the SAR.

The usefulness of defensive SARs to law enforcement is questionable but the more problematic issue is they may result in repeated SAR filings. For example, a customer may have a unique method of playing table games that make it appear they are chip walking. If in lieu of a comprehensive investigation, a defensive SAR is filed, what will happen if the customer continues their unique style of gaming? If subsequent defensive SARs are filed, the number of repeat SAR filings will continue to increase. The casino may find itself defending its decision not to exclude the customer despite repeat SAR filings that may, in fact, be reporting marginally suspicious activity.

For these reasons, investigative guidance needs to be comprehensive so that sound judgment can be exercised in determining whether customer activity is truly suspicious. The filing of defensive SARs should be avoided, whenever possible. In this manner, repeated SAR filings of suspicious activity can be evaluated to assess the money laundering risk (or other illicit activity) posed by the customer. Only then can an accurate assessment be made as to whether the customer should be excluded.

Casino's Risk Appetite

In crafting an AML exclusionary policy, a BSA Officer needs to consider a number of risk factors including size of casino, financial services offered, games offered, geographic location and customer base. All of these are relevant but given the discretionary judgment involved in exclusions, an overarching consideration is the level of risk a casino is willing to take on. The following diagram is a visual description of the risk level:



At the far left are SARs where the activity indicates mere suspicion. As you move to the right the likelihood that activity involves actual criminal conduct begins to increase. At the far right is the point at which a casino knows the customer's activity involves criminal conduct. Consequently, conduct at the far right would require exclusion and not just a SAR filing.

The difficulty is where on the spectrum does a casino set their threshold for excluding a customer? Using FinCEN's guidance, multiple SAR filings for conduct on the far left would be less likely to warrant exclusion, but as the risk moves to the right, FinCEN will likely scrutinize why a casino did not exclude the customer. Accordingly, at what threshold level would a casino feel comfortable? Regardless, the rationale for the standard should be well documented and consistently followed.

Exclusion Decision Maker

An AML exclusion policy needs to clearly state who has the ultimate authority to approve the exclusion of a customer. The following are some suggestions:

- **BSA Compliance Officer:** There is likely no one more qualified to assess the money laundering risk posed by a customer. Vesting the authority to exclude in the BSA Compliance Officer is the safest bet as they also exercise a certain amount of independence from the gaming operation.
- **BSA Committee:** This Committee typically oversees the casino's BSA/AML Compliance Program. Though it usually does not make operational decisions, it can be used to make customer exclusion decisions so long as there are no conflicts of interest.
- **SAR Committee:** Some casinos that utilize SAR committees can also use them to make customer exclusion decisions. However, anyone having a "vote" on exclusion, should not have a conflict of interest. This refers to staff from Player Development, Table Games, Slots and others whose positions are directly related to gaming revenue.

Summary

A sound, risk based, AML Exclusionary Policy should be a component of every AML Compliance Program. Procedures and processes must be in place to ensure effective and consistent application in situations where a customer's activity poses an unreasonable high money laundering risk to a casino. Consequently, the filing of a SAR is just the first step of this process.

Field Office Highlights

Philadelphia FO: Newark Woman Sentenced for Embezzlement and Tax Fraud

On November 13, 2017, Roberta Czap was sentenced to 48 months prison and three years of supervised release. In addition, Czap will be required to forfeit more than \$1 million in assets that represent the proceeds of her crimes. The sentencing came after Czap pleaded guilty to wire fraud, money laundering, and making false statements on tax returns. While employed as the Vice President of Accounting at a financial services company in Newark, Czap made 497 separate fraudulent ACH transactions from the company's accounts into her personal bank accounts. She disguised these transactions, ranging from \$1,000 to \$38,527, as payments to corporate health insurance payments or payments to corporate marketers and altered the company's general ledger to further conceal her actions. In total, Czap obtained more than \$6.1 million through her fraud. Following the misappropriation of funds from the corporation, Czap withdrew the funds in cash via the ATM or through cash advances at several casinos. After gambling, often briefly, defendant would cash out at the casino and receive United States Currency. Lastly, Czap failed to report the proceeds of her fraud on her tax return for years 2013 through 2015.

Boston FO: Former Police Sergeant Sentenced for Embezzling Funds from Disabled Veterans and Preparing False Tax Returns

On November 14, 2017, Glenn P. Pearson, 62, a former Whitman, Massachusetts police sergeant, was sentenced to 48 months in prison and three years of supervised release, for misappropriating funds from the accounts of disabled veterans and preparing false income tax returns for clients of his tax preparation business. Pearson was also ordered to pay \$252,992 in restitution to the VA, and \$826,865 in restitution to

the IRS. In May 2017, Pearson pleaded guilty to wire fraud, misappropriation by a federal fiduciary, preparation of fraudulent tax returns and obstruction of the IRS.

From 2007 to 2012, Pearson was appointed as a VA fiduciary for eight disabled veterans. Pearson took advantage of that position by misappropriating and embezzling VA-issued benefit money out of the accounts of several veterans for whom he served as fiduciary. Pearson used the embezzled funds for, among other things, paying down the mortgage on his house. Beginning in 2012, Pearson operated a tax preparation business called FTS Tax Services, through which he prepared personal income tax returns, and amended returns, for clients. From 2012 to 2016, Pearson prepared numerous returns that included false credits and fictitious deductions in an effort to get his clients larger refunds than they were entitled to receive. When Pearson's clients were audited by the IRS, Pearson took steps to obstruct the IRS – including making false statements to the IRS and preparing false documents for his clients to submit to the IRS during the audits. Pearson also filed his own false income tax returns with the IRS that underreported his income.

Houston FO: Former Attorney and Others Sent to Prison for Money Laundering and Auto Loan Scheme

On November 16, 2017, in Houston, TX, Jason Ryan Hall was sentenced to 18 months in prison to be followed by two years of supervised release. Hall was further ordered to pay restitution to the victim banks of \$484,070.76 and forfeit \$21,000 to the United States. Disbarred former attorney Howard Price Johnson and Ohio resident Anissa Lavon Burdett were previously sentenced to prison time of 12 months and 1 day and six months, respectfully. The three individuals participated in an automobile loan fraud scheme in which Hall held himself out as a used car dealer who sold luxury vehicles through his alleged Houston car dealerships 'EZ Auto Group' and '1st Choice Motors.' Hall's alleged dealerships, however, existed only as websites that Hall created. Acting as 'straw buyers,' Johnson, Burdett and others applied to lenders for auto loans in order to purchase cars from Hall's supposed dealerships. The straw buyers made multiple misrepresentations to prospective lenders and submitted fraudulent documents Hall created and supplied in support of the loan applications. Once the auto loans funded and the funds had been deposited into the bank accounts of the alleged dealerships, Hall kicked-back a portion of the loan funds to the straw buyers. During the scheme, straw buyers applied for a total of 16 fraudulent auto loans with a combined value of approximately \$695,741.

Miami FO: Defendant Sentenced to More Than 11 Years in Prison for Identity Theft Hotel Fraud Scheme

On November 9, 2017, Halima Ouedraogo was sentenced to 11 years and 11 months in prison. Ouedraogo was previously convicted at trial of one count of access device fraud, one count of possession of fifteen or more unauthorized access devices and ten counts of aggravated identity theft. The defendant systematically used other peoples' identities to exploit an electronic reservation and check-in system used by certain hotel chains. Specifically, Ouedraogo stayed at a hotel for three weeks where she ordered several meals, movies, and other incidentals, running up an overall tab of more than \$5,000, all while using a victim's credit card number and other personal information. When charges on the stolen credit card began to be declined, Ouedraogo left without paying and checked into another nearby hotel, again using another victim's name, credit card number and other personal information. When Ouedraogo was arrested, she was in possession of more than 1,500 names, dates of birth, social security numbers, bank account numbers, driver's licenses, checkbooks, tax documents, bank cards, vehicle registrations, student identifications and additional personal information belonging to other people, along with numerous other hotel key cards, receipts, and folios.

Houston FO: Home Health Agency Owner Sentenced for \$17 million Medicare and Medicaid Fraud Conspiracy

On August 17, 2017, in Houston, Texas, Godwin Oriakhi, of Houston, was sentenced to 480 months in prison for conspiring to defraud Medicare and the State of Texas' Medicaid-funded Home and Community-Based Service (HCBS) and Primary Home Care (PHC) Programs of more than \$17 million and laundering the money that he stole. Oriakhi admitted that he, along with his daughter and other co-conspirators, obtained patients for his home health agencies by paying illegal kickback payments to patient recruiters and his office employees. Oriakhi also admitted that he, along with co-conspirators, paid Medicare and Medicaid patients by cash, check, Western Union and Moneygram for receiving services from his family's home health agencies in exchange for the ability to use the patients' Medicare and Medicaid numbers to bill the programs. Additionally, Oriakhi admitted that he, along with other co-conspirators, paid physicians illegal kickbacks payments, which Oriakhi and his co-conspirators called "copayments," for referring and certifying Medicare and Medicaid patients for home health and PAS services. In total, Oriakhi that he and his co-conspirators submitted approximately \$17,819,456 in fraudulent home healthcare and PAS claims to Medicare and Medicaid and received approximately \$16,198,600 on those claims. To date, Oriakhi's daughter, Idia Oriakhi, and Charles Esechie, a registered nurse who was Baptist's primary admissions nurse, each pleaded guilty to one count of conspiring with Oriakhi and others to commit health care fraud. Jermaine Doleman, a patient recruiter, pleaded guilty to conspiring with Oriakhi and others to commit health care fraud and launder money. Doleman was also charged in two other healthcare fraud cases. Esechie was also sentenced on August 17, to 60 months in prison. Idia Oriakhi and Jermaine Doleman are awaiting sentencing.

NYFO: IRS Agents Spend Years Tracking Over 100 Bank Accounts and Tens-of Thousands of Transactions for Conviction

Dale J. Sexton, 48, formerly of Barneveld, New York, was sentenced today in federal court in Syracuse to 33 months in prison in connection with his previous guilty pleas to filing a false income tax return and to obstructing and impeding the IRS in its administration of internal revenue laws, announced US Attorney Richard S. Hartunian and James D. Robnett, IRS-CI NYFO Special Agent in Charge. Sexton's is also required to pay restitution to the IRS in the amount of \$502,639 and spend one year on supervised release after completion of his 33-month prison sentence.

Sexton used bank accounts in the US and Costa Rica to mask and disguise his income and expenses, falsely claiming no income at all in 2008. Sexton financed commercial real estate projects by obtaining loans from banks and investments from private investors. Sexton admitted in the plea agreement that he failed to repay much of the loan money and that he never intended to repay any of the private investors. Several victims filed statements with the Court describing the financially devastating consequences they faced after Sexton defrauded them in order to fund his luxurious lifestyle.

New York FO: Ex-Treasurer Gets Prison for Stealing \$5.7M from Volunteer Firefighters

On June 21, 2017, more than a dozen angry members of the Mahopac Volunteer Fire Department watched in a White Plains courtroom as their former treasurer was sentenced to over six years in prison for stealing \$5.7 million from the department. Federal Judge Cathy Seibel called Michael Klein's thefts — pulled off in 275 transactions over 13 years - "mind-blowing" before sentencing him to 77 months in prison. Klein was also ordered to pay restitution of \$5.5 million - including \$4.5 million to the all volunteer fire department - which had its budget slashed as a result of Klein's thefts. In March, Klein pleaded guilty to using the department's money to buy himself luxuries, including a 1931 American LaFrance antique fire engine and a 55-foot yacht he named "K'Bam." "Mike lied to the department from day one," firefighter Edward J. Scott

told the judge as he called for the maximum sentence of nine years to be imposed. “Our reputation with the town was shattered.” Scott hoped to never again “see or hear Mike’s name again.”

“My greed got the best of me and for that I am truly sorry,” a dry-eyed Klein told the angry men in blue. “As I stand here today I am an outcast and I deserve it.”

LAFO Provides Disaster Assistance



Employees from IRS Criminal Investigation and HSI partnered on daily missions in Puerto Rico to locate missing IRS/HSI employees; deliver much needed items such as gasoline for generators, water, and MREs; and provide a satellite phone to call family members to report their status.

The late summer tropical storms known as Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria brought much destruction and devastation to a number of employees working in the Dallas, Houston, and Miami Field Offices. Some employees had major flooding, while others completely lost their homes. In a show of support, the LAFO graciously gave to the hurricane relief fund, providing a total of \$2,700 in disaster assistance. In response, Miami FO SAC Kelly Jackson wrote, ‘There just aren’t enough words to express how much we appreciate you and your field office’s generosity in support of our employees in Puerto Rico. On behalf of the employees in Puerto Rico, please express our deep gratitude to the employees of the LAFO for their donation. Due to the outpouring of support we have been able to provide everything requested to help get our CI family in PR to some sense of normalcy; even though it may take months before they all have electricity.’

As some of you know, CI sent a team of agents to Puerto Rico in an effort to assist in the relief effort after Hurricane Maria devastated the island a couple of months ago. The following are a couple of letters or notes provided by two of the agents involved in those efforts.

SA Jason Nix returns from Puerto Rico Relief Effort

Portland POD welcomed back [Special Agent Jason Nix](#) who spent several days in Puerto Rico assisting with the relief effort. Jason had the following comment, "Our time in Puerto Rico was short, but filled with experiences and memories that will last forever. Half of us traveled to Puerto Rico on Monday (10/01) and after meeting up with the rest of our team and getting settled, we went straight to work on the primary mission of locating missing employees. For the next week and a half, our missions involved carrying enough food and water to give to those we located as well as any neighbors who were in need. In almost every corner we explored we found extreme damage. [Power poles](#) in the roads. Trees and debris toppled and scattered. There was not enough time in the day or room for supplies for all the people we wanted to help. Although we were successful in locating everybody on our list, that effort was just a small part of the source of pride in our work. Instead, greater satisfaction came from the reverent pause after handing a SAT phone to an elderly parent so they can report to their worried child that they were fine. It was repairing the roof of an [orphanage](#) where 14 girls ages 5 to 15 lived and clearing their living area of 4 inches of water from the rain. It was seeing a neighbor in need direct me to an elderly couple a few houses down who were in greater need than her. Our pride came from being part of repairing a community that, short on resources but full of determination, was attempting recovery despite the damage, the bleak outlook, and the exodus of people to the main land. There is no greater opportunity in life than to serve others. Being part of this team of outstanding people and partnering with HSI to serve the people in Puerto Rico will always be one of the proudest efforts of my career."

SA Ryan Rickey on his experience in Puerto Rico helping citizens affected by Hurricane Maria

Going to Puerto Rico was quite the experience. In the many years I have been working for the IRS, I have never seen our agency approve something like this where we were tasked with responding to a natural disaster in an effort to do welfare checks on IRS employees.

I think the most rewarding part of the entire experience was knowing that we were bringing water and food to people who were not getting it from any other source. And I don't say that as a dig on any other government or private entity that was down there helping out, because all of us were working together, truly. But knowing that you were providing life sustaining resources to people who didn't know where they would or could obtain it on a daily basis was truly eye opening.

It was also amazing to see all of the volunteers (both private and government) working together. From celebrity chef Jose Andres organizing outdoor kitchens with a goal to feed millions, to teaming up with HSI and our own local [CI agents](#) to feed hundreds of people daily in the most affected areas, everyone worked with one goal in mind—to take care of the people in Puerto Rico.

The most rewarding personal experience I had down there happened later in the evening one night in an area called Corozal.

We did a welfare check on an elderly man who had become ill from drinking the stagnant water in a fountain in his back yard. By the time we got to him, we did not have any clean/bottled water left to give him. We provided him with food and were trying to think of a way we could get him some much needed

water. We remembered that the three of us (me, SA Sonia Hurtado, and HSI SA Jesus Martin) had water in our own personal Camelbacks in the car. I retrieved them and we emptied our water into containers for him so he would have at least a gallon and a half of clean water for the next 24 hours.

Thinking about that experience, huddled in his small kitchen using only flashlights for light while carefully pouring water from our packs, so as not to spill or waste any of it, is a sweet reminder of the good that many can do for just one person in need. We were literally able to give him everything we had. And although that act alone did not scratch the surface of getting the entire island of Puerto Rico back on its feet, I think it meant something to him.

New Members

Charlene S. Lawson	Neptune	NJ	07753	lcharlene@aol.com
Mark P. Kahler	Venice	FL	34275	Mpk3@roadrunner.com
John Weeks	San Diego	CA	92127	Johnweeks4@gmail.com
Kenneth H. Teele	Seattle	WA	98116	pugetsoundcrab@gmail.com
Timothy Chase	Aurora	CO	80014	jimmychase@gmail.com
Cary Rubenstein	Allentown	NJ	08501	CRubes68@yahoo.com
Teri Alexander	Spokane	WA	99208	terialexander@msn.com
Raymond Scott Sabin	Mesilla Park	NM	88047	Gizmokia3@hotmail.com
Rita Ann Gousman	Indianapolis	IN	46205	rita_gousman@yahoo.com

In Memoriam

Jerry Lee Stamps
Lubbock, TX

James L. Wilson
Surprise, AZ

John Jones
Fairfax, VA

William Carroll Ryan
Birmingham, AL

Michael Edward Rentch
Ennis, TX

John Patrick Lafferty
Quitman, TX

George Allen Kelt
Navarro County, TX

Robert C. Sawyer

AFSA-IRS Officers and Appointed Officials

<u>Officers</u>		<u>Appointed</u>	
Daniel Pieschel (KY)	President	Mary Ruiz	Executive Director
Peggy Thomas (MD)	VP/President Elect	Bob Armentrout	Parliamentarian
Mark Kroczyński (FL)	2 nd Vice President	A. Jack Fishman	Attorney
Iris Bonannos (AZ)	Secretary	Ross Brown	Newsletter Editor
George Meyer (FL)	Treasurer	Chuck Taylor	Tech Advisor
Jim Meyers (SC)	Past President	Arthur A. Selby, Jr.	Historian

AFSA Regional Directors and Regional Representatives

Region	Regional Director	Regional Representatives	
1	David Nicholson Dunstable, MA	Steven Hickey John Fahey Matthew Cola Robert Galbraith Charles Franssen	Gloucester, RI Providence, RI Babylon, NY E. Amherst, NY Huntington, NY
2	Robert Schmus 609.790.4627 Voorhees, NJ	Alan Fogel John Gagliardo Robert McDugall	Manalapan, NJ Lincoln Park, NJ Blue Bell, PA Ellicott City, MD
3	Gail Donaldson Upper Marlboro, MD	Jim Holloway	
4	Elizabeth Fleaher Cincinnati, OH	Lee Mohs Tom Brandon Ted Boomershine John Fettes	Carmel, IN Avon Lake, OH Kettering, OH Little Rock, AR
5	Cynthia Fish Charlotte, NC	Bill Ryan Terry O'Brien David W. Jansen	Birmingham, AL Raleigh, NC Tulsa, OK
6	Darrell G. Smith 904.825.0802 St. Augustine, FL	Angelo Troncoso Michael Stephens Dave Beitzel Orlan Smith Robert McLaughlin Jeff Karsh Larry Sands	Clearwater, FL Melbourne, FL Naples, FL Orlando, FL Ponce Inlet, FL Plantation, FL Keystone Heights, FL
7	Gerard Dupczak Schererville, IN	Robert Schweitzer Inar "Smitty" Morics Ronald Cipolla Tom O'Halloran Diane L. Schuchardt	Des Moines, IA Eagan, MN St. Louis, MO West Fargo, ND Elkhorn, WI
8	Jacque Riordon Denver, CO	Georgia Taylor Ed Martin Joel Lanoux Iris Bohannon Dennis Carey Mike Mayott	Dallas, TX Austin, TX Richardson, TX Phoenix, AZ Glenwood Springs, CO Billings, MT
9	Richard Malone Los Angeles, CA	Art Royce Alex Seddio	Boise, ID San Francisco, CA

Reginald Norberg

Seattle, WA



AFSA – IRS Membership Application

We STRONGLY encourage members to apply on line: www.afsa-irs.org, however you may mail completed application with \$50 check payable to AFSA for first year dues to:

AFSA-IRS

P.O. Box 761869
San Antonio, TX 78245

Name: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____ Telephone: () _____

Home Email Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Place of Birth: _____

IRS-CI Special Agent Service Dates: From: _____; To: _____ Are you a current Special Agent? _____

Retirement Date: _____; Spouse's Name: _____

Current or Last Post of Duty: _____ Current or last Supervisor & Ph #: _____

Current Employment (type of work): _____

Business Name: _____

Address: City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone: () _____ FAX: () _____

Business Email address: _____ Cell Phone () _____

As an AFSA member, I am interested in:

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| Doing investigative work | Yes ___ No ___ | Being a member of an AFSA committee | Yes ___ No ___ |
| Serving AFSA in other positions | Yes ___ No ___ | Being an AFSA Representative | Yes ___ No ___ |
- (Representatives assist Regional Directors)

Place a check mark in the blank for the items that apply to your skills, training, accreditation, or interest:

- A. Attorney _____
- B. Certified Public Accountant _____
- C. Certified Fraud Examiner _____
- D. Enrolled Agent _____
- E. Foreign languages _____
Specify: _____
- F. Instructor training experience _____
- G. Foreign: _____
Teaching experience _____
Consulting assignments: _____
- H. Computer forensics _____
- I. Investigative equipment training experience _____
- J. Licensed or certified private investigator _____
- K. Management training experience _____
- L. Other skills or investigative interest: _____
Specify _____

AFSA receives requests from various sources for members who may be interested in performing different types of work. If you desire to have this type of information available for AFSA to assist in matching your skills, expertise and abilities to a particular request, please complete this part of the membership form.

Membership is open to all retired, former and current IRS special agents with at least five years IRS special agent service. Current special agents are admitted as non-voting associate members. I am applying (or submitting changes) for membership in the Association of Former Special Agents of the Internal Revenue Service. I am either a retired special agent, a former special agent, or a current special agent. I have neither been convicted of a felony nor left the IRS under any adverse circumstances.

Signed: _____ Date _____

AFSA REGIONS AND AREAS OF COVERAGE

Region	Area of Coverage
1	Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont
2	New Jersey and New Jersey
3	Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia, U.S. Territories and International
4	Arkansas, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, Tennessee, and West Virginia
5	Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, North Carolina and South Carolina,
6	Florida
7	Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin
8	Arizona, Colorado, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Texas, Utah, and Wyoming
9	Alaska, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington

AFSA Regional Directors are listed on page 2 of this Newsletter

**ASSOCIATION OF FORMER SPECIAL AGENTS
OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE (AFSA)
P.O. Box 761869
San Antonio, TX 78245**

1,235 AFSA members as of December 4, 2017. Help recruit new members for AFSA