

MSCPA ADVOCATES FOR TAX RELIEF FOR MISSISSIPPI FOLLOWING HURRICANE IDA

Mississippi Now has until November 1 to File Various Individual and Business Tax Returns and Make Tax Payments

Thanks to the persistent efforts of members of our Taxation and Legislation Committees, MSCPA leadership, and AICPA Tax Executive Committee Chair Jan Lewis, MSCPA was successful in advocating for tax relief for the citizens of Mississippi and our members. We could not have achieved this victory without Congressman Steven Palazzo and his staff who worked tirelessly meeting with FEMA, Treasury, and IRS Commissioner Rettig to bring their attention to the recently adopted regulations under IRS Final Regs IRC Section 7508A, entitled "Mandatory 60-Day Postponement of Certain Tax-Related Deadlines by Reason of a Federally Declared Disaster" published on June 11, 2021. These regs state that counties in a Federally Declared

continued on page 5

EDUCATION FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES

2021 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS









GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS

KHYLAR CAIN Mississippi State University Rhyne E. Neubert Scholarship

REID CUDD Delta State University

HANNAH HOLMAN University of Mississippi James W. Davis Scholarship

LAURYN RAWLINS

Mississippi College Gary E. Thornton Memorial Scholarship

HUNTER REED

University of Southern Mississippi Ralph F. Neely Scholarship

ABIGAIL TEW Millsaps College Edward A. DeMiller, Jr. Scholarship

IN MEMORIAM

MICHAEL A. EARREY Troy, Alabama Died January 8, 2021

BRENDA ANDREWS HOLLIDAY

Greenwood Died May 25, 2021

J.H. "KEN" KENNEDY JR. Columbus Died September 3, 2021

CLAYTON GRIMES MOORE Tupelo Died September 3, 2021



MEMORIAL GIFT

To the

EDUCATION FOUNDATION

In memory of

J.H. "Ken" Kennedy Jr. Columbus By EMMITTE HADDOX Jackson

> also By MIKE HAWKINS Columbus

also By JERRY LEVENS Long Beach

DUES DEADLINE OCTOBER 1 TO AVOID LATE FEE





















CASEY CAMERON University of Mississippi University of Southern Mississippi

> KAITLYN DORTCH Mississippi College

ADDISON MILLS Delta State University

HUNTER PIERCE William Carey University

CAROLINE SAMSON Millsaps College

JAMERIA STOKES

Jackson State University

SAMUEL W. WILLIAMS Mississippi State University

JOSEPH HARRIS University of Mississippi Bill Rush Mosby, Jr. Scholarship



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Opinions expressed are not necessarily the official policy of the MSCPA. Advertising is accepted in good faith that the product/services are of value stated.

Welcome New Members

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Change Healthcare Nashville, TN

BRADLEY SMITH

Rea, Shaw, Giffin & Stuart, LLP Meridian

Member News

J.H. "Ken" Kennedy, Jr. of Columbus March 15, 1933 – September 3, 2021

The MSCPA family is saddened by the loss of Ken Kennedy, 88, 1986-1987 MSCPA President.

Ken graduated from Mississippi State University in 1955 where he earned his bachelor's degree in accounting. While at MSU, he was a member of Sigma Chi Fraternity, Scabbard and Blade Military Society, Cadet Colonel of Air Force ROTC and the MSU Tennis Team.



Following his military service with the United States Air

Force, Ken joined T.E. Lott & Company as an accountant where he contributed 61 years assisting businesses and individuals. During his time at the company, he would be named partner and serve as President, Chief Operating Officer and a board member. In addition to serving the MSCPA as President, he was also a governing Council member of the AICPA.

As a lifelong resident of Columbus, Ken fully invested in his community by serving as a member, and often an officer, of the Columbus Lowndes Development Foundation, Kiwanis Club, United Way of Columbus, the Order of the Daedalians, Magnolia Tennis Club, Salvation Army and Sons of the American Revolution. He was also a passionate supporter of the Frank Phillips Memorial YMCA, having served as a Trustee and President of the Board of Directors locally.

Ken was an avid tennis player, a staunch Mississippi State Bulldogs fan and a competitive golfer. While he was an accomplished man, his greatest passion and pride was his family to whom he devoted all his life and love. We will miss him dearly.

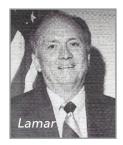


MEET OUR MEMBERS

Legacy Spotlights

As a tribute to the 100th Anniversary of the MSCPA, we have spotlighted members during our Centennial Celebration who are legacies of the profession – MSCPA members whose family is or was also a MSCPA member CPA, accountant, or accounting student.

E. Howard Lamar



Meridian CPA E. Howard Lamar was the 1984-85 MSCPA President. After serving in the U. S. Navy, he graduated from Mississippi State University in 1951

and passed the CPA Exam in 1956. He began his career in 1952 with the Meridian firm of Ward, Rea & Shaw. At the time of his MSCPA presidency, he was a senior partner in the Meridian firm of Lamar, Kemp & Swain. He had previously served as the MSCPA Treasurer in 1962-63, on the Insurance Trust Committee, and as the 1973-74 President of the MSCPA East Central Chapter. Lamar hosted his 1985 annual meeting and convention at the Broadwater Beach Hotel in Biloxi; unknown at the time, it would be the last MSCPA annual meeting at the Broadwater. The 1980s was a time of major growth for the MSCPA. Lamar suggested that the MSCPA purchase its own building. The Board declined to go along with the suggestion, but did approve the concept of the Society working toward owning its own office space in the future—a concept that would remain on the sidelines for two decades before reaching fruition.

In terms of civic activities, Lamar was active with the Meridian Chamber of Commerce and

the First Baptist Church in Meridian where he was a deacon and church leader. He was also active with the Girl Scouts, the Salvation Army, the Jaycees, the United Way, and was a trustee of the Choctaw Council of the Boy Scouts of America and chairman of the Council's Trust Fund. In 1995, he served on the MSU-Meridian Advisory Council as the University opened its branch campus in Meridian. Lamar died in 2004 at the age of 75. His son, R. Alan Lamar is also a CPA who practiced with his father during the 1990s in the Meridian firm of Lamar & Lamar, CPAs.

R. Alan Lamar



Howard's son, Alan Lamar, graduated from Mississippi State University with a Bachelor of Accountancy in 1992 and the University of Mississippi with a Master of Accountancy in 1993. He passed

the CPA exam in 1995 and became a Certified Private Wealth Advisor in 2021. Alan began his accounting career with KPMG Peat Marwick in Memphis and joined his father as Partner with Lamar & Lamar, P.A. CPAs in Meridian in 1996. After his father's death in 2004, he joined Rea, Shaw, Giffin & Stuart, LLP as Partner. He transitioned from public accounting to financial services in 2008 when he joined Stifel

Nicolaus. Alan is currently managing director and investment officer at Wells Fargo Advisors in Meridian having joined the firm in 2010.

Alan is a former member of the MSCPA Taxation Committee and now serves on the newly formed Agricultural Committee. He is former Treasurer of United Way of East Mississippi and was awarded volunteer of the year. Alan currently serves as Treasurer of the Meridian Community College Foundation, Treasurer of Mississippi Arts + Entertainment Experience, and Treasurer of the Lamar School Foundation. He is also Commissioner of the Meridian Airport Authority and is an active deacon at First Baptist Church.

Alan and his wife, Lou Ann, have a daughter, Ann Morgan, and twin sons, Logan and William. Logan is a junior at Ole Miss and William is a junior at Mississippi State—both studying accounting.



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MSCPA ADVOCATES FOR TAX RELIEF FOR MISSISSIPPI FOLLOWING HURRICANE IDA – continued from cover

Disaster Area (either major disaster declaration or emergency declaration) for which FEMA is providing either individual or public assistance mandatorily receive the 60-day extension of time to file/pay. As we know, currently no MS counties have been approved for individual assistance, but all 82 counties were approved by FEMA for public assistance under Emergency Declaration 3569-EM-MS.

This victory is important now and for future disasters. IRS leadership is now acutely aware of the effect of the regs. Consequently, following both FEMA major disaster declarations & emergency declarations, we should not be left hanging for days/weeks wondering if we get the mandatory 60-day filing/paying relief.

The IRS announced Thursday, September 9, 2021, in their IR-2021-180 release that victims of Hurricane Ida in Mississippi now have until November 1, 2021, to file various individual and business tax returns and make tax payments. On Friday, September 10, 2021, the IRS released MS-2021-02 which included additional information on affected returns and taxpayers and other relief instructions.

The IRS is offering relief to any area designated by the Federal Emergency
Management Agency (FEMA) as qualifying for individual or public assistance. Currently, individuals and households affected by
Hurricane Ida that reside or have a business in all 82 counties and the Mississippi Choctaw
Indian Reservation qualify for tax relief.

The tax relief postpones various tax filing and payment deadlines that occurred starting on August 28, 2021. As a result, affected individuals and businesses will have until November 1, 2021, to file returns and pay any taxes that were originally due during this period. This means individuals who had a valid extension to file their 2020 return due to run out on October 15, 2021, will now have until November 1, 2021, to file. The IRS noted, however, that because tax payments related to

these 2020 returns were due on May 17, 2021, those payments are not eligible for this relief.

In addition, the IRS will work with any taxpayer who lives outside the disaster area but whose records necessary to meet a deadline occurring during the postponement period are located in the affected area. Taxpayers qualifying for relief who live outside the disaster area need to contact the IRS at 866-562-5227. This also includes workers assisting the relief activities who are affiliated with a recognized government or philanthropic organization.

Visit www.irs.gov/newsroom/help-forvictims-of-hurricane-ida for the latest updates and full releases for more information.

MDOR

The Mississippi Department of Revenue reported Friday, September 10, that Mississippi will follow the federal extended due date of November 1, 2021 to file certain income tax returns for victims of Hurricane Ida. The extension applies to any individual income tax returns, corporate income and franchise tax returns, partnership tax returns, S corporation tax returns and quarterly estimated payments that were originally due between August 28, 2021, and November 1, 2021. Taxpayers that have a valid extension to file their 2020 tax returns will now have until November 1, 2021, to file the returns. The federal extension does not apply to the payments for these returns because the tax payments were due on the original due date.

The Department of Revenue automatically provides the extension relief for the postponed period. Therefore, taxpayers do not need to contact the Department to get the relief. The extension does not apply to any other tax types or payments on prior liabilities. Any disaster area taxpayer who receives a penalty notice should contact MDOR at 601-923-7700.

In addition, they will work with any taxpayer who resides elsewhere but whose books, records, or tax professionals are located in the disaster areas.

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EDUCATION FOUNDATION AWARDS

\$44,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS

The Education Foundation of the Mississippi Society of CPAs recently awarded \$44,000 in college scholarships for the fall 2021 term. Founded in the early 1970s, the Foundation seeks to promote accounting education in Mississippi colleges and universities by helping students pursue a CPA career.

College juniors, seniors, and graduate students representing 8 Mississippi institutions applied for the scholarships, which required submitted essays, transcripts, and resumes. Scholarships worth \$3,000 each were awarded to 14 students and a scholarship worth \$1,000 was awarded to a student from the Natchez-Adams County area.

GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS

Khylar Cain *Mississippi State University*Rhyne E. Neubert Scholarship



Khylar Cain of Eupora has a 4.0 GPA in accounting and a 4.0 GPA overall. She graduated from Mississippi State in 2021 with a Bachelor's degree in accountancy. While at Mississippi State,

she served as a College of Business ambassador and was able to engage in the recruitment of prospective business students and help meet the needs of current business students. Khylar has also volunteered on the college fair planning committee at her local church and with a local after-school educational service program. This past spring semester, Khylar interned at Watkins, Ward and Stafford, PLLC in West Point where she prepared Form 1099s for clients and prepared tax returns for individuals, government entities, partnerships, C-corporations, and S-corporations. As a graduate student, Khylar will be serving as a graduate teaching assistant in MSU's Adkerson School of Accountancy.

The Rhyne E. Neubert Scholarship was established in 2016 to honor Mr. Neubert who served as a Trustee of the Education Foundation since inception. Under his investment guidance and expertise, the Fund grew from an original contribution of \$1,000 to its level today. Mr. Neubert served as MSCPA President during 1972-73 and was honored by the MSCPA in 1996 as the Public Service Award Winner for outstanding service to the profession and to his community.

Reid CuddDelta State University



Reid Cudd of Wiggins has a 4.0 GPA in accounting and a 4.0 GPA overall. Reid is a graduate assistant in Operations and Marketing under the direction of the Assistant Athletic

Director where he assists in managing game day event staff and other game day operations duties. He is a member of DSU's Accounting Honor Society, Phi Theta Kappa honor society, and Delta Mu Delta business honor society serving as Vice President. He has also served as a Resident Assistant at DSU in the University's Housing Department. Reid graduated from Delta State in the spring of 2020 with a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration after earning his Associate's degree in Business from Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College. While at MGCCC, Reid was a member of the varsity tennis team and was an NJCAA Region 23 singles flight champion. Reid earned President's List academic recognition from 2016-2018 while at MGCCC.

Hannah Holman *University of Mississippi*James W. Davis Scholarship



Hannah Holman of Carrollton has a 4.0 GPA in accounting and a 4.0 GPA overall. She is a member of Alpha Lambda Delta, Beta Alpha Psi, Gamma Beta Phi, and Phi Kappa Phi honor societies. Hannah completed a tax internship at BKD, LLP in Jackson and has accepted a full time position to start July 2022.

The James W. Davis Scholarship was established in 2021 to honor Dr. Davis, who served as a Trustee of the Education Foundation since inception. Dr. Davis was long-time professor at Ole Miss, holder of the prestigious Peery Chair in Accountancy, and former Dean of the Patterson School of Accountancy. He was the author of the first MSCPA history in 1977 and co-authored our MSCPA Centennial History book. Dr. Davis served as MSCPA President during 1983-84 and served numerous years on the Board of Directors. He was the recipient of the 1993 MSCPA Outstanding Educator Award.

Lauryn Rawlins *Mississippi College*Gary Thornton Memorial Scholarship



Lauryn Rawlins of Mobile, Alabama, has a 4.0 in accounting and a 4.0 GPA overall. She graduated from Mississippi College in 2021 with a Bachelor's degree in accounting.

While at MC, Lauryn served as Treasurer of the Chenoa social tribe. She was a member of the MC Powerlifting Club and played intramural sports. Lauryn is a member of two MC School of Business groups, the Accounting Society and Women in Business. She is also a member of Alpha Lambda Delta, Alpha Chi, Delta Mu Delta, and Beta Gamma Sigma honor societies. She is a student affiliate member of the AICPA and a student member of the Accounting and Financial Women's Alliance. She has experience working in the accounting and subrogation departments with Greene & Phillips Attorneys at Law, LLC in Mobile and is currently an

accounting intern with Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation in Jackson.

The Gary E. Thornton Memorial Scholarship was established in 1999 by Gary's widow, Cathy. Gary was an active MSCPA member and former chair of the Governmental A&A Committee. He died in March of 1999.

Hunter Reed *University of Southern Mississippi*Ralph F. Neely Scholarship



Hunter Reed of Summit has a 4.0 GPA in accounting and a 4.0 GPA overall. At Southern Miss, he served three terms as Treasurer of Beta Alpha Psi and was a founding officer and chapter Secretary for the Student

Center for Public Trust. He was chosen to sit on the Dean's School of Business Student Advisory Council and is a member of Beta Gamma Sigma serving as VP of Community Outreach. Hunter is a student member of the AICPA and MSCPA and was the MSCPA Hamp King Award recipient in 2020. He is currently a graduate assistant for the School of Finance and assists with tutoring, lab monitoring, and outreach for the school. He completed both the BEC, AUD and REG portions of the uniform CPA exam on the first attempt and has started studying for the final section.

The Ralph F. Neely Scholarship was established in 2016 to honor Mr. Neely who was an original Trustee of the Education Foundation when it was founded. Mr. Neely served as MSCPA President during 1966-67.

Abigail Tew *Millsaps College*Edward A. DeMiller, Jr. Scholarship



Abby Tew of Brandon has a 4.0 GPA in accounting and a 3.97 GPA overall. At Millsaps, she is on the cross country and track and field teams having earned all-conference honors in each. She has been the captain of the cross country team and has served on the track and field team's Leadership Committee. In addition to athletics, she participates in Major Calling as part of Millsaps' annual fundraiser. Outside of college, she works for SkyHawks Jackson teaching life lessons to preschool and elementary age children through sports. She also volunteers with her high school's cross country program. Abby graduated from Millsaps in 2021 with a Bachelor's degree in business administration. She completed an internship with KPMG this past winter.

The Edward A. DeMiller, Jr. Scholarship was established in 2016 to honor Mr. DeMiller who was an original Trustee of the Education Foundation when it was founded. Mr. DeMiller, who died in 2014, served as MSCPA President during 1959-60.

UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS

Niland Fortenberry *University of Mississippi* Hamp King Award



Niland Fortenberry of Tupelo has a 4.0 GPA in accounting and a 4.0 GPA overall. At Ole Miss, she is a member of the Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honors College, Chi Omega Fraternity, Phi Kappa Phi, the Ole Miss

Big Event, and Reformed University Fellowship. She currently serves on the Ole Miss Big Event Executive Board on the Volunteer, Recruitment and Retention Committee and previously served on the Logistics Committee. She also currently serves on the Chi Omega Executive Board as the Personnel Chair, and she previously served as a Philanthropy Chair for her chapter. She has also co-led an RUF small group for the past two years. She actively attends Christ Presbyterian Church where she volunteers with the youth program and helps lead a 9th and 10th grade girl bible study.

The prestigious **Hamp King Award** is given to the most outstanding undergraduate scholarship recipient. This award was established to recognize and honor the memory of the late

Hamp King, a CPA who served as Mississippi's State Auditor for many years. The winner receives an additional \$1,000 scholarship and an award plaque to be presented at a future event.

Casey Cameron University of Southern Mississippi



Casey Cameron of Petal has a 4.0 GPA in accounting and a 3.96 GPA overall. He is a Luckyday Scholar and is a member of Beta Gamma Sigma and the Business Student Advisory

Council. At Southern Miss, he is the founder and President of the Investment Club and the Financial Management Association. Casey founded the Investment Club to provide students the opportunity to become acclimated with investing in the stock market. Investment Club members have participated in multiple stock trading challenges and have worked on researching investments and pitching it to their members for a shared portfolio. Through FMA, Casey has been able to host multiple financial speaking events where executives from various companies were able to provide USM students advice on what to focus on when leaving college and what types of jobs to pursue first to eventually land their dream job down the road. Outside college, he spends time volunteering with a local after school program named Aldersgate where he helps a class of 2nd and 3rd graders on homework. Also, each year he volunteers to help with Special Olympics where he coaches and helps with the state games that are held at Camp Shelby each fall. He has been involved with both of these organizations since high school and thoroughly enjoys donating his time to each of them. A few of his professional memberships outside of college include the AICPA and the Association of Government Accountants. Through these memberships he has been able to already begin making beneficial connections with professionals in his field. Casey has interned with KPMG in Washington DC and intends to take the CPA exams after graduation.

Kaitlyn Dortch Mississippi College



Kaitlyn Dortch of Canton has a 4.0 GPA in accounting and a 3.96 GPA overall. At MC, she is a member of the Swannanoa social tribe and serves as Business Manager of MC's Service Club. She is a member of

the School of Business Student Advisory Board, Women in Business Executive Council, MC Accounting Society, and the MC Investment Fund Club. She is also a member of Alpha Lambda Delta and Beta Gamma Sigma honor societies. Outside of MC, she participates in various volunteering events with the Salvation Army, specifically preparing Thanksgiving meals for the homeless, elderly, and disabled.

Addison Mills *Delta State University*



Addison Mills of Oxford has a 3.89 GPA in accounting and a 3.8 GPA overall. She is a Lady Statesman for the Delta State University women's soccer team and is a member of Phi Kappa Phi honor society and the DSU Accounting honor society. She participates in intramural sports

and volunteers in the Cleveland community. Addison also works as a youth soccer coach for the Cleveland Youth Soccer Association and is assistant soccer coach at Cleveland High School.

Hunter PierceWilliam Carey University



Hunter Pierce of Ellisville has a 3.4 GPA in accounting and a 3.879 GPA overall. He is a member of Mu Alpha Theta honor society, Phi Theta Kappa honor society, and Sigma Beta Delta honor society. Hunter works part-time at his family's business with plans to work there full-time after graduation.

Caroline Samson Millsaps College



Caroline Samson of Pass Christian has a 4.0 GPA in accounting and a 3.8 GPA overall. At Millsaps, she is President of Sigma Lambda honor society and Vice President of Canterbury Club

Episcopal student organization. She is also a member of Enable America which works with and raises money for the Mustard Seed and the Roteract Club which offers assistance to the local community. Caroline volunteers at Grace Place Soup Kitchen in Jackson, Camp Ablein in Gulfport (a camp for disabled children), and Camp Rap-A-Hope in Mobile, AL (a camp for children with cancer). She completed an internship with Carr, Riggs & Ingram in Jackson this summer.

Jameria Stokes
Jackson State University



Jameria Stokes of Brandon has a 4.0 GPA in accounting and a 4.0 GPA overall. At Jackson State, she is involved with many organizations such as JSU Mass Choir President, JSU Blue

Ambassador, JSU Pre-Alumni Council, JSU Blue S.T.R.E.A.K. Mentor and Business Manager, Student Government Election Commissioner, and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Outside college, she is an active volunteer with Greater St. Matthew as a youth leader, Word of Life Community Impact, and MS Food Network.

Samuel Williams

Mississippi State University



Samuel Williams of Belden has a 4.0 GPA in accounting and a 4.0 GPA overall. At Mississippi State, he is involved in the Phi Delta Theta Fraternity, MSU Foundation Ambassadors, and

Beta Alpha Psi. As a member of Phi Delta Theta, he has served as both Treasurer and Alumni Secretary as well as having a position on both the Budget and Judicial Committees. As a Foundation Ambassador, he has served on both the Stewardship and Community Service Committees. Outside of college, he is active in his church's college ministry and volunteers with high school and middle school. He also works part-time as an accounting trainee at Consolidated Electrical Distributors in Starkville.

Joseph Harris University of Mississippi Bill Rush Mosby, Jr. Scholarship



Joseph Harris of Natchez has a 3.58 GPA in accounting and a 3.78 GPA overall. At Ole Miss, he is a member of the Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honors College, Haley-Barbour Center for Manufacturing

Excellence, TVA Financier's Club, Beta Alpha Psi, and Phi Kappa Phi. He is a member of Trinity Episcopal Church in Natchez and is also an Eagle Scout with Boy Scouts of America.

The Bill Rush Mosby, Jr. Scholarship was established to honor the late Bill Rush Mosby, Jr. of Natchez. He served as MSCPA President in 1977-78 and was honored by the MSCPA in 2000 as the Public Service Award Winner for outstanding service to his community and the profession. This \$1,000 scholarship is awarded each year to an undergraduate accounting major from the Natchez (Adams County) area.

MSCPA MEETS WITH MDOR ON MEMBERS' ISSUES

INCLUDING SCHEDULE C VERIFICATIONS



By: David Lynch, MSCPA Taxation Committee Co-Chair

Members of the Taxation Committee and President/CEO Karen Moody held a phone conference with Commissioner Graham and Jan Craig to discuss some of the concerns raised on our CONNECT forum. Much of the information and concerns raised on CONNECT were relayed in our call and we particularly tried to address the onerous

requests being made by MDOR through "verifications." I would like to add that I was particularly concerned about MDOR representatives claiming the "verifications" are not examinations and what that could ultimately mean relative to things like appeal rights, the MDOR's requirements to timely complete an exam, and whether a particular item could be examined/audited again if MDOR so chooses. We were given some helpful information on our call that I hope will help you resolve issues with any verifications you may now be dealing with or may receive in the future. A summary of our discussion is below:

Schedule C Verifications

- MDOR has advised a verification is indeed an examination of the items being verified. To the extent an item or items are changed, the taxpayer will receive an assessment letter which triggers the normal rights to appeal to Board of Review and ultimately the Board of Tax Appeals. If no items are changed, the MDOR should issue a timely no change notice closing the examination. We have asked MDOR if they would indicate on the initiating letter with the taxpayer that the verification is indeed an examination and they have taken our request under consideration.
- It is our understanding that if an item is examined through the verification process, it is not able to be examined again for income tax purposes. MDOR has taken the position that if there is a subsequent sales tax audit of a business that indicates an income tax assessment may be necessary that the previously examined item could be subject to change. However, we disagreed with the MDOR on this position on our call and will continue to advocate with MDOR to reconsider their position. MDOR did indicate they believed this to be an unlikely scenario, however, it is our understanding some of our members have already faced this issue.
- With regards to the onerous document requests, MDOR has advised
 that they have spoken with their auditors and requested that they
 work harder to reduce the amount of documents requested and more
 narrowly tailor such requests to the specific tax items in question. In
 instances where you feel a document request you receive is particularly

- onerous, MDOR recommended you contact the auditor to request they narrow the scope of the request. Additionally, MDOR has advised that an initial extension should be granted in every case.
- We relayed to MDOR our concern that a request for "all documentation supporting a Schedule C" via mail was not a reasonable request and not consistent with the statute requiring taxpayers to make their documents and records available at a reasonable time and place. We have asked MDOR if they would consider allowing taxpayers to elect a field examination in these instance, and they have advised they will look at alternative methods such as electronic records or requesting a narrower list of times to review, but that they would not consider allowing for an opting into a field examination. We will continue to advocate for all forms of examination, including verifications, to be conducted at a reasonable time and place for our members and their clients consistent with the statutes requiring same.

We have also relayed the numerous concerns raised about some auditors' apparent lack of knowledge of MS tax laws. MDOR has recommended that practitioners contact the manager of the auditor to try to resolve the issue.

In the event you find you are unable to resolve a tax issue, please email Tax Assist at txassist@dor.ms.gov. Questions to the Tax Assist service are addressed by someone at MDOR with the title of Bureau Director or higher, and most inquiries are responded to within 48 hours. I would very much encourage practitioners to take advantage of the Tax Assist email service if you find yourself dealing with a difficult situation.

The summary above has been reviewed by MDOR to ensure accuracy and completeness. In addition to the above, I have also been asked to relay that MDOR received 1.2 million returns last year and sent 9,745 letters requesting verification for Scheduled C information, which is less than 1% of the total returns filed. I believe MDOR would like to convey that despite how onerous dealing with a single verification may be, they are trying to limit the number of verification letters they send and will continue to make efforts to more narrowly tailor their information requests to reduce the burden on taxpayers and their representatives.

I know some of these answers are not completely satisfactory, but please know that we will continue to advocate on our members behalf to help alleviate the additional burdens being placed on you as a result of these verifications and examinations. The Taxation Committee will be starting to meet with MDOR on a quarterly basis going forward. To the extent you have any additional concerns related to this issue or other issues with MDOR, please share them on the CONNECT Forum or send them to me directly at david@thelynchlawfirm.com.

MSCPA Member Forum Connect Email Preferences

We apologize for the influx of emails that came from our member forum following Hurricane Ida. We changed the member forum emails from daily digest to immediate to keep everyone informed on the Hurricane Ida tax relief situation to mitigate misinformation. Once the IRS release was posted for Mississippi, we defaulted back to a daily digest. Moving forward, members will only get one email per day from the member forum only if new information is posted.

Member forum email preferences are defaulted to daily and can be updated by visiting https://connect.ms-cpa.org/. Once you are logged in you can select My Account on the left, then Email Preferences. Member forum email preferences can be changed from daily to immediate, weekly, or no emails.

DOL TO CONDUCT AUDIT QUALITY ASSESSMENT OF 2020 PLAN YEAR FILINGS

September 13, 2021 — EBPAQC Alert No. 477

This alert contains information on the DOL conducting an audit quality assessment of 2020 plan year filings

DOL to Conduct Audit Quality Assessment of 2020 Plan Year Filings

The DOL Employee Benefit Security Administration (EBSA) Office of the Chief Accountant (OCA) is planning to conduct a study to assess the quality of audit work performed by independent qualified public accountants (IQPAs) with respect to financial statement audits of employee benefit plans covered under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) for the 2020 Form 5500 filing year (plan years beginning in 2020). This includes calendar year 2020 filings filed on extension by October 15, 2021. The DOL previously performed an audit quality assessment of the 2011 plan filing year and reviewed a sample of 400 audits (click here for the DOL 2011 assessment report).

The EBSA OCA is in the process of developing the sample methodology of plans, and expects to make a sample selection and begin corresponding with plan administrators and IQPA firms later this year. If selected for review, the IQPA firm will be asked to provide the EBSA OCA with a full set of audit workpapers supporting the audit containing all documentation, including workpapers kept in other related files (DOL will not permit supplemental submissions).

Auditors are reminded to be sure they have adequately documented their audits as a record of auditing procedures applied, evidence obtained, and conclusions reached by the auditor in the engagement. AU-C Section 230, Audit Documentation, states that audit documentation provides evidence of the auditor's basis for a conclusion about the achievement of the overall objectives of the auditor, and evidence that the audit was planned and performed in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards (GAAS) and the applicable legal and regulatory requirements.

The following EBPAQC resources are helpful to understand best practices and common deficiencies in ERISA EBP audits:

Performing quality ERISA employee benefit plan audits: Firm best practices

Includes tips for establishing effective quality control policies and procedures specific to your EBP audit practice and provides examples of best practices for each phase of the audit engagement.

Common EBP audit deficiencies planning tool

Describes some of the most common deficiencies noted in EBP audits by plan type with references to audit procedures in the AICPA Audit and Accounting Guide, Employee Benefit Plans and references to additional tools and resources.

Summary of Frequent "Unacceptable, Major" Deficiencies in 2011 DOL Audit Quality Study

Provides descriptions of the "Unacceptable, Major" findings in the 2011 DOL study in the areas of:

- Investments
- · Notes receivable
- Contributions received and receivable
- · Participant data, including individual participant accounts
- Plan obligations
- Parties in interest/prohibited transactions
- Plan tax status
- Commitments and contingencies
- Administrative expenses and subsequent events
- Plan mergers and terminating plans
- Plan representations
- · Compliance with GAAS and GAAP
- Compliance with DOL rules and regulations for reporting and disclosure

Peer review findings in employee benefit plan audits

Describes the most frequent Matters for Further Consideration (MFCs) the AICPA Peer Review team has found related to EBP audits and financial statements in peer reviews performed in 2019. The tool includes EBP MFCs related to:

- Quality control policies and procedures
- Engagement letters
- Use of a specialist
- Risk assessment
- Internal control
- Sampling
- SOC 1 reports
- Testing and documentation
- Management representation letters
- The auditor's communication with those charged with governance
- Financial statements and the auditor's report
- Defined benefit plans
- ESOP plans
- Multiemployer plans
- Health & welfare plans

The EBPAQC has many other tools and resources to help your firm perform and document a quality EBP audits.

- Visit https://future.aicpa.org/category/resources/employee-benefitplans/practice-management for Practice Management resources.
- Visit https://future.aicpa.org/category/resources/employee-benefitplans/audit-engagement for Audit Engagement resources including audit documentation tools.

The 2011 study found nearly 4 out of 10 audits contained major deficiencies. DOL referred audits with deficiencies to the applicable state board of accountancy and AICPA Ethics.

Sincerely,

AICPA Employee Benefit Plans Audit Quality Center

SIGN UP FOR CPA DAY(S) OF SERVICE OCTOBER 25, 2021 - NOVEMBER 5, 2021

Even though COVID-19 continues to keep us apart, you still have the opportunity to unite with CPAs, co-workers and accounting students for the MSCPA's annual CPA Day of Service to make a positive impact in your local community. Like last year, we have expanded our day of giving back to a two week-long event. Participate individually or as a team and pick a date that works best for you. Then choose from one of our suggested chapter area ideas or select your own opportunity – any activity that benefits your community counts. While the pandemic may restrict the ways in which we give back, the call to support those in need has never been stronger. We hope you'll join us!

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE

SHARE ON SOCIAL MEDIA #MSCPASERVE2021

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partment of the Treasury	Q or other tax year beginning	unting Practice	2020
Part I	G of other tax year beginning	Part II Individual Income Tax	
Your nar		4 Estimate of total tax liability for 2020	\$
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20172 Z not		7 Amount you're paying (see instructions)	>
City, town an extension!	State ZIP code 39056	8 Check here if you're "out of the country" and citizen or resident (see instructions)	
	s's social security number	Check here if you file Form 1040NR or 1040N didn't receive wages as an employee subject income tax withholding	to U.S.

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MEET THE **FIRMS**

University of Southern Mississippi

Karen Moody, MSCPA President/ CEO, and Phillip Chu, MSCPA YCPA Network President, attended Meet the Firms, hosted by the The University of Southern Mississippi School of Accountancy on Thursday, September 2, 2021, in the Trent Lott Center on the Hattiesburg campus. The event provided an opportunity for accounting students to learn more about careers and opportunities within the accounting field, as well as network with representatives from accounting firms, companies, and other professional organizations in order to develop future contacts and employment prospects.







Mississippi College

Karen Moody, MSCPA President/CEO, Kimberly Williams, MSCPA YCPA Network Past President, and Phillip Chu, MSCPA YCPA Network President, attended Meet the Firms, hosted by the Mississippi College School of Business on Thursday, September 9, 2021. Pictured with Billy Morehead, MSCPA member and Mississippi College Professor of Accountancy.

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PROPOSED QUALITY MANAGEMENT STANDARDS

Will Affect Every Firm With an Accounting and Auditing Practice

The American Institute of CPAs' (AICPA) Auditing Standards Board (ASB) has issued the exposure draft (ED), Proposed Quality Management Standards (QM), that includes three interrelated standards which address the way CPA firms manage quality for their accounting and auditing practices. The standards are intended to offer a new proactive, risk-based approach to effective quality management systems within CPA firms, which will improve the scalability of the standards and promote a system tailored to the firm and its engagements.

There are several changes in these standards that are potentially significant to a firm's accounting and auditing (A&A) practice. Smaller firms including sole practitioners likely will be impacted significantly as the ED is currently written. Two changes that smaller firms should focus on, because of the potential significant impact, are as follows:

Self-Inspection

Current quality standards do not prohibit individuals associated with an engagement or who perform the engagement quality control review (EQCR) on an engagement to also inspect the engagement as part of the firm's annual monitoring process. Under the proposed QM standards, self-inspection will not be allowed. Smaller firms with fewer individuals available and

capable of performing the monitoring procedures may be required to engage individuals outside their firms to perform their annual inspections.

Cooling-Off Period for Engagement Quality Reviewers

Current QC standards do not require a "cooling-off period" when an engagement partner rotates off an engagement before that partner is eligible to perform the EQCR for that same engagement provided he or she otherwise qualifies. The ASB indicates in the ED that the rotating partner may not be objective in reviewing and evaluating significant judgements when that individual was previously involved in those judgements and requires a two-year cooling-off period. Smaller firms may find that they will need to look outside of their firm for a qualified individual to perform a Quality Review (EQCR) of an engagement during the cooling off period.

Overall Summary of ED

The ED will align with International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board's (IAASB) quality management standards.

The proposed standards would supersede Statement on Quality Control Standards No. 8, create a new QM section in AICPA Professional Standards and supersede SAS No. 122, as amended, section 220, Quality Control for an Engagement Conducted in Accordance with Generally Accepted Auditing Standards.

The key changes from existing standards are as follows:

- New risk-based approach focused on quality management
- Revised components of the system of quality management
- New risk assessment process
- More robust leadership and governance requirements
- Enhanced monitoring and remediation process
- New requirements for networks and service providers

MSCPA Responds to ED

All firms, regardless of size will be impacted. MSCPA encouraged firms to read the ED and provide comments by the ASB deadline, August 31, 2021. MSCPA also sent a response which included comments from members and firms. Our response focused on the adverse effect on small firms' livelihoods, their clients, and the future of the profession.

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CONFERENCES

Banking and Finance Conference

MSCPA hosted our Annual Banking and Finance Conference Tuesday, August 24, with 72 attending virtually and 9 attending in person at the MSCPA Training Center in Ridgeland. We heard from speakers James Arnold, Allen Breland, Marty Mosby, Hue Townsend, Britton Wilkins, Chris Low, Frank Farone, Lance Davis, Michael Watkins, and Megan Hudson. Thank you to Banking and Finance Committee Chair Tom Walker and Committee Member Bradley Floore for attending in-person to help make this virtual conference possible. MSCPA would also like to thank our Gold and Silver sponsors for their support.







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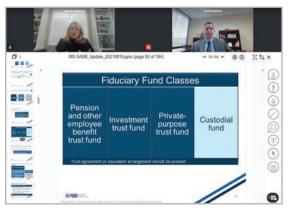


Governmental Accounting & Auditing Conference

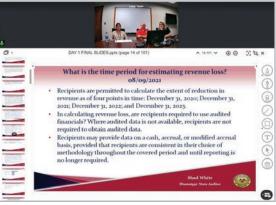
MSCPA hosted the 37th Annual Governmental Accounting & Auditing Conference Thursday and Friday, August 19-20, with 184 attending virtually and 10 attending in person at the MSCPA Training Center in Ridgeland. We heard from speakers Scott Anderson and Janeen Hathcock of GASB; Tom Chain, Stephanie Palmertree and Leigh Taylor of the MS Office of the State Auditor; and Mike Inzina of ALTEC. Thank you to Governmental A&A Committee Chair Lydia Windham, Committee Millennial Chair Phillip Chu, and Committee Member Leslie Shivers for attending in-person to help make this virtual conference possible.













Agriculture and Farm Activities Conference

MSCPA hosted our Annual Agriculture and Farm Activities Conference Thursday, August 26, with 44 attending virtually and 9 attending in person at the MSCPA Training Center in Ridgeland. We heard from speakers Michael Frost, Michael Cooper, Tyler Rosamond, Brian Mills, Harrison Pittman and special guest Andy Gipson, Mississippi's Commissioner of Agriculture & Commerce.















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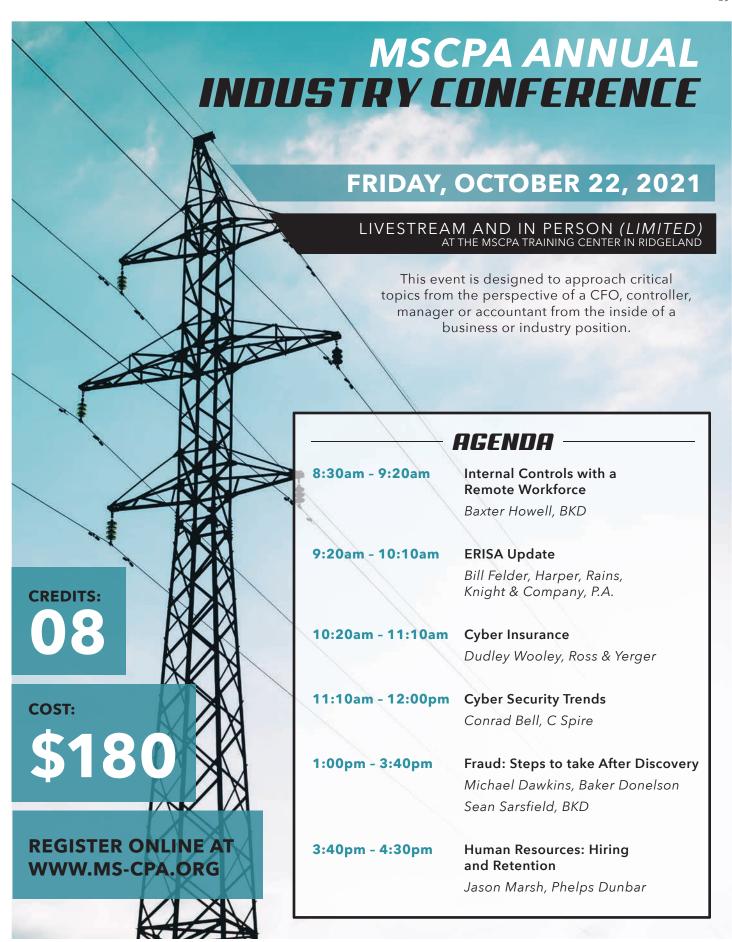
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MSCPA ANNUAL ACCOUNTING **EDUCATION CONFERENCE**

FRIDAY OCTOBER 29, 2021

This annual event updates accounting educators on accounting industry trends and equips them to help their students succeed.

LIVESTREAM AND IN PERSON (limited) at the MSCPA Training Center in Ridgeland

COST: \$100 REGISTER ONLINE: WWW.MS-CPA.ORG CREDITS: 8

AGENDA:

8:30am - 10:00am

Using UX Design Thinking to Enhance Your Students' Learning Experience

Jill Mitchell, Northern Virginia Community College

10:10am - 11:30am

Panel: Strategies to Improve Student Readiness for the Accounting Major

Julia Bradley, University of Southern Mississippi Amber Hatten, University of Southern Mississippi Howard Lawrence, University of Mississippi Tracy Morgan, Holmes Community College Trina Pollan, Mississippi State University

11:30am - 12:00pm

Sponsor Presentations

12:45pm - 3:15pm

Teaching Data Analytics with Excel in Introductory Accounting

Tracie Miller-Nobles, Austin Community College

Wendy Tietz, Kent State University

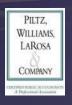
3:30pm - 4:20pm

Diversity and Inclusion

Brett Cantrell, University of Mississippi

SPONSORS:









MSCPA Annual NOT-FOR-PROFIT Conference

LIVESTREAM AND IN PERSON (LIMITED) at the MSCPA Training Center in Ridgeland

Get the industry-specific insights you need to maintain a strong organization for you or your clients and get informed about unique challenges facing not-for-profit organizations at this annual event.

Register Online at WW.MS-CPA.ORG

THURSDAY 2021

CREDITS: 8

COST: **\$125**

Business Valuation and Litigation Services Conference

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2021

LIVESTREAM AND IN PERSON (LIMITED) AT THE MSCPA TRAINING CENTER IN RIDGELAND

This specialized event is for CPAs, business valuation specialists, appraisers and other financial professionals who perform business valuation and litigation services.

REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.MS-CPA.ORG

CREDITS:

MEMBER PRICE:

ississippi

Wednesday and Thursday, December 1-2, 2021

REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.MS-CPA.ORG

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2021

OPTION SESSION

1:00pm-4:30pm CPE Credits: 4 / CLE Credits: 3.33 Price: \$100

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2021

MISSISSIPPI TAX INSTITUTE

8:30am-4:30pm CPE Credits: 8 / CLE Credits: 6.67

Price: \$200

Livestream and In Person (Limited) at the MSCPA Training Center in Ridgeland

This event is designed to help you manage and thrive in this ever-changing tax environment. Discover how the latest changes will affect your clients or company. Learn new tax-saving strategies and enhance your skills and knowledge so you can provide outstanding results.

COURSE INFORMATION

If you are an AICPA member and register for an AICPA produced seminar (noted in each seminar description), you are eligible for a \$30 discount per 8-hour day. This discount is applied automatically to online registrations given that your AICPA membership information is updated in our database.

Upon course registration, registrants are asked if they prefer to have a printed manual in addition to the e-materials. Links to the e-materials will be listed with your course registrations in your account on the MSCPA website seven calendar days before the course. You will receive an e-mail when the materials are available. If you request printed materials upon registration, it will be available for pick up at the registration desk on the date of the class. The option to request printed materials is only available up to 5 business days prior to the course date. Walk-in registrants and those registering between 1 and 5 days before the course will be sent an electronic link to the e-materials by default. "Extra" printed course materials will not be available on site. Printed materials are not available for conferences.

■ LIVESTRE	AM AICP	PA M	EMBER DISC	OUNT
VENDOR:	HCSS / HCSSW MSCPA Update	H	9/24/2021 Fri	Health Care Services Conference Speaker: Various
CPE Credit:			This event is designed services to hospitals, for a complete agend	d to meet the specific interests of CPAs and financial professionals who provide physician practices, and long-term care facilities. Visit the website at www.ms-cpa.org a.
VENDOR:	AUAA / AUAAW AICPA Update	ALCON.	10/18/2021 Mon	Annual Update for Accountants and Auditors Speaker: Wayne Wells
CPE Credit:		AICPA	relevant pronouncem review, compilation, a you identify and appl	ast-paced changes in accounting and auditing. This comprehensive course covers tents, exposure drafts, and other guidance recently issued in the accounting, auditing, and preparation engagement arenas. Let us sort through the complexities and help y recently issued FASB, PCAOB, ARSC, and ASB standards and guidance. With the rate egulatory environment, you must stay current on the topics impacting the profession d!
VENDOR: Level:	CORU / CORUW AICPA Update 8 A&A	AICPA	10/19/2021 Tues	Annual Update and Practice Issues for Preparation, Compilation, and Review Engagements Speaker: Wayne Wells
City:MS Location:MS M / N:			ments, this course wi engagements perform (SSARSs). A practice-o	training staff and managing your preparation, compilation, and review engage- ll enable you to be in compliance with all of the professional standards surrounding med in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services riented review of the latest developments, cases, and lively discussion among the ants make this class informative and practical.
ACRONYM:VENDOR:	IND / INDW	E	10/22/2021 Fri	Industry Conference Speaker: Various
CPE Credit:			This event is designed accountant from the icomplete agenda.	d to approach critical topics from the perspective of a CFO, controller, manager or nside of a business or industry position. Visit the website at www.ms-cpa.org for a
VENDOR:	CE / CEW MSCPA Intermediate		10/26/2021 Tues	Choice of Entity Speaker: Michael Carraway
CPE Credit:			changes. Tax treatme	choice of entity alternatives, both historically and in light of recent and prospective tax ent, flexibility, and fact-specific concerns all impact decisions regarding choice of entity, de participants with tools and information to work with their clients to craft appropriate es and plans.

ACRONYM:	ET / ETW
VENDOR:	MSCPA
Level:	Basic
	4 Tax
City:	Ridgeland
Location:	. MSCPA Training Center / Online
M / N:	\$160 / \$200
Time:	8:30am-12:00pm

10/26/2021 Tues Estate & Trust Speaker: Jessica Cooley

As more clients are using trusts for estate planning and wealth management purposes, it is essential to explore fiduciary income taxation, including the related compliance and planning issues and concerns. This course provides a valuable review of key issues and considerations that arise in connection with the income taxation of trusts and estates to help participants understand the obligations of trusts and estates and how these obligations affect beneficiaries. This CPE course provides practical knowledge and examples related to calculation and allocation of taxable income and its presentation on the appropriate tax forms, an overview of the impact of various election options, and special considerations related to distributions.

ACRONYM:	SKSB / SKSBW
VENDOR:	AICPA
Level:	Update
CPE Credit:	8 A&A
City:	Ridgeland
Location:	MSCPA Training Center / Online
M / N:	\$280 / \$350
Time:	8:30am-4:30pm
	·

10/27/2021 Annual Up Wed Speaker:

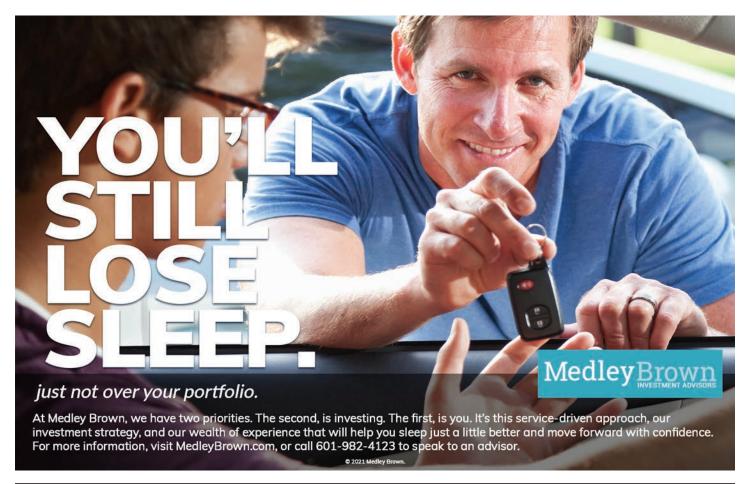
Annual Update for Controllers Speaker: Michael Ussery

Strengthen your abilities as a controller and help your management team understand current economic issues through the latest trends in accounting, finance, human resources, treasury management, and business systems. In this course you will discuss leading-edge topics in managerial accounting and finance in a session that is packed with useful tips and practical guidance that you can apply immediately.

ACRONYM: AES / AESW
VENDOR: MSCPA
Level: Update
CPE Credit: 8 General
City: Ridgeland
Location: MSCPA Training Center / Online

 10/29/2021 Accounting Education Conference Fri Speaker: Various

This annual event updates accounting educators on accounting industry trends and equips them to help their students succeed. Visit the website at www.ms-cpa.org for a complete agenda.







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- Knoxville, TN Gross \$640k
- Knoxville, TN Gross \$600k
- Bartlett, TN Gross \$550k Sale Pending
- Knoxville, TN Gross \$610k SOLD
- Chattanooga, TN Area CPA Gross \$635k - SOLD
- SE Nashville Suburb Gross \$336k SOLD
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Jackson CPA firm is seeking staff with a bachelor's degree in accounting and 3-5 years of experience in auditing. Also seeking recent accounting graduates. Firm serves a broad range of clients in the central Mississippi area. Please send resume to kmoody@ms-cpa.org. All resumes will be strictly confidential.



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