



Treasury Marks

The Official Publication of the National Association of
County Collectors, Treasurers and Finance Officers (NACCTFO)

2013-14 OFFICERS

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January, 2014

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I want to welcome you to the Winter 2014 edition of NACCTFO's *Treasury Marks*. I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable holiday season. This past 6 months have certainly flown by more quickly than I had anticipated! It seems like it was just a few weeks ago that many of us gathered in Fort Worth, Texas for the 2013 Annual NACCTFO Conference and I was sworn in as your President. I am truly humbled to serve you and to follow in the footsteps of all of our previous outstanding Presidents. Thank you for showing me your support. I pledge to do the best possible job I can to represent NACCTFO during my term.

In the month just prior to becoming President, I had the great honor of joining our NACCTFO friends in North Dakota. Following the conference in Fort Worth in July, I "hit the road" in early August to visit Idaho (where I zip lined in the Snake River Canyon), then headed down to Orlando, Florida in late August to join our NACCTFO members in the Sunshine State. In September I attended the Nevada Association of County Officers conference in pristine Lake Tahoe, Nevada and met many great Nevada Treasurers. I then continued on to

Oregon where I experienced the fabulous high desert area of that beautiful state and the wonderful hospitality of our Oregon NACCTFO members! One of my goals this year is to get out to meet new members in states like Kentucky, Wisconsin, Illinois and South Dakota, along with our NACCTFO friends in other states. If your state would like to have a visit from either myself or one of the other NACCTFO Officers and I have not yet contacted you, please let me know and we will do our best to visit your state, too!

In September, the NACCTFO Executive Committee and Education Committee had a joint planning meeting in Niagara Falls, NY where we discussed our goals for outstanding education sessions for the ensuing year, as well as some goals that the NACCTFO Officers would like to accomplish this year.

By now I'm sure you are aware that our 2014 Legislative Conference will be in Washington, DC February 28 and March 1. We will once again be at the Courtyard by Marriott/DuPont Circle, where we have been the past 2 years. Our hotel is

(Continued on page 2)

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(Sponsorship as of August, 2013)

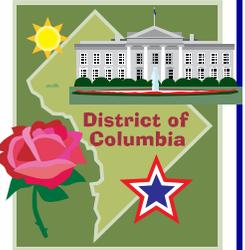


THOMSON REUTERS



2014 NACCTFO LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

Mark your calendars now to be in Washington, DC on February 28th!



NACCTFO Legislative Conference workshops will be held at the Washington Hilton located across the street from the Courtyard Washington, DC/DuPont Circle where a block of sleeping rooms will be held from February 27 to March 4, 2014. Room rate is \$229 (a savings from last year). Reservations can be made by calling the Marriott at 800-321-2211 and asking for the "2014 NACC Treasurers and Finance Officers Meeting" at the Courtyard Washington, DC/DuPont Circle, or by clicking on the hotel link above. Read President Diskin's letter to the membership to learn why it's very important that members stay at the Courtyard. Please make your reservations before January 31, 2014 to guarantee the group rate!

American Airlines is offering a 5 percent airfare discount to/from the Washington, DC area (including

DCA, BWI, IAD). To take advantage of this offer, call [American Airlines](#) at 800-433-1790 and mention code "A4224BX" or book online and enter promotion code "4224BX".

The NACo Legislative Conference will be held at the Washington Hilton and registration is now available. If you are planning to attend both NACCTFO and NACo conferences, there's no need to make two reservations and switch hotels; you can remain at the Courtyard for your entire stay. Don't forget to register for the NACo conference separately at www.NACo.org.

Member Registration is \$125 by January 31, or \$145 by February 12 and includes beverage breaks and lunches on both Friday and Saturday, and transportation to/from Friday's offsite tour. Guest Registration is \$25 and includes only transportation

to/from Friday's offsite tour. Registered guests will be placed on a waiting list for Friday's tour, as space is limited. You will be notified on February 13 if there is space for your guest to attend the tour and you will be sent an invoice for your guest registration fee at that time.

Conference Schedule:

Friday, February 28

- 8:30 a.m.—11:15 a.m. Morning Session: *The Public Pension Problem*. This session will examine the pension funding crisis facing many state and local governments.
- 11:15 a.m.—12:15 p.m. *Lunch* Enjoy a quick box-lunch before heading to the Federal Reserve. Buses depart Courtyard No Later Than 12:30 p.m.
- 1:30 p.m.—4:00 p.m. Afternoon Session: *Offsite Tour to the Federal Reserve*. Staff from the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve will lead members on a tour of the historic Eccles Building, followed by a presentation on the Federal Reserve and the role it plays in monetary policy. Attendees should wear comfortable shoes and must have photo ID. For security purposes, all attendees are required to submit their full name, date of birth and social security number in advance. Please see the **NOTE** at end of this article for instructions about how and when to provide this information.

President's Message (cont'd.)

directly across from the Washington Hilton where our education sessions will be held and NACo will be holding its legislative sessions at the conclusion of our conference. Among our quality education sessions in Washington, DC will be a Friday afternoon visit to the Federal Reserve Building. I hope you will use our room reservation block this year, as our cost per room is less than the Hilton's and you can stay at the Courtyard throughout the NACo portion of the conference, as well. Please check our website www.nacctfo.org for all the details on the hotel and education sessions.

Finally, don't forget to make your plans to be at the 2014 Annual NACCTFO Conference in the great city of New Orleans, Louisiana July 8 through 10., 2014 President Elect Sandy Zoubek has been working on some awesome plans for New Orleans. "Laissez les bons temps rouler" (Let the good times roll). We hope to see you there. Keep watching the website for more details about this **NOT TO BE MISSED** conference.

E-mail: mdiskin@co.essex.ny.us

Phone: 518-873-3317

Michael Diskin
Essex County Treasurer

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LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

Tax Reform Trap: Status of Municipal Bonds Threatened

(Posted on October 18, 2013 by NYSAC)

By Mike Belarmino, Associate Legislative Director, and Associate General Counsel, National Association of Counties

The fall generally marks the return of professional football and back-to-school season. But in the nation's capital, September marks the return of Congress and what seems to be the recurring norm: a full plate of contentious issues to deal with before the end of the fiscal and calendar years including Syria, raising the national debt limit and the annual appropriations process.

Joining that list this year is one of the more prominent issues for counties: comprehensive tax reform. While it is uncertain whether Congress could successfully pass a comprehensive tax reform plan, counties need to remain diligent because one of the proposals involves changing the tax-exempt status of municipal bond interest.

The impact on New York State counties, New York State taxpayers, and all American communities could be significant. But is comprehensive tax reform really happening? Well, the possibility was certainly kept alive over the summer months. The August Congressional recess found the chairmen of the two tax-writing committees campaigning publically to generate grassroots support for a major tax reform bill. At the most recent stop in Memphis, Tennessee, Senate

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(Sponsorship received as of August, 2013)

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Finance Chairman Max Baucus (D-Mont.) and House ways and Means Chairman Dave Camp (R-Mich.) both touted tax reform as an opportunity to encourage economic growth in the U.S.

Even though both chairmen say they are fairly optimistic of the chance to enact reform, many of their colleagues on Capitol hill are not ready to share their enthusiasm. Even the senate's "blank slate" exercise in July where Chairman Baucus sent a letter to his colleagues seeking their suggestions and arguments for possible tax code revisions indicated interest was waning. Only a few Senators submitted comments with specific suggestions..

And with the fall finding Congress grappling with issues such as the debt limit and federal spending levels still unresolved, there are indications of declining interest amongst lawmakers to add another controversial topic to their plates.

(Continued on page 11)

2014 ANNUAL NACCTFO CONFERENCE **New Orleans, Louisiana, July 8—10, 2014**



We are in the process of finalizing our hotel arrangements for the annual NACCTFO conference in

New Orleans. The room rates will be \$119 for a single and double, \$129 for a triple and \$139 for a quad room. Wednesday night we have scheduled a cruise on the Creole Queen paddle wheeler with a dinner buffet and jazz band for entertainment.

Start making your plans to join us in July. While there, you could take a swamp tour, visit the Audubon Zoo and Aquarium, take in a movie at the IMAX theater,

explore the Louisiana Children's Museum, relive history at the National World War II Museum's Discovery Hall, ride a carousel, board a streetcar or take a buggy ride, dance to a variety of music or sink your teeth into a beignet covered with powdered sugar! There's so much to see and do in New Orleans so plan to bring the whole family!

Mark your calendars for July 8 through 10. You won't want to miss this conference! Watch for further announcements and information at www.nacctfo.org.

VICTOR E. MARTINELLI OUTSTANDING COUNTY TREASURER AWARD

The "Victor E. Martinelli Outstanding County Treasurer Award" is presented annually by the National Association of County Collectors, Treasurers and Finance Officers (NACCTFO), an affiliate of the National Association of Counties (NACo), to a person who has been an active member of NACCTFO for at least two years and who serves as a leader in their home state and as a professional of the highest caliber in the operation of their own county office.

During the time period from 1965 to 1968 this award was known as the "Distinguished Service Award," and was bestowed upon a worthy County Collector, Treasurer or Finance Officer who exemplified characteristics of leadership and professionalism. After the 1968 recipient Stella H. Spencer, the award was renamed in her honor. Until 1971, the award was known as the "Stella H. Spencer Distinguished Service

Award". After the 1971 honoree Victor E. Martinelli, the award was again renamed in his honor. Since 1972, the award has been presented annually as the "Victor E. Martinelli Outstanding Treasurer Award".

A "Distinguished Panel of Judges" who are not affiliated with NACCTFO nor known to the organization, selects the winner. The award is presented at the NACCTFO Installation Banquet at the annual NACo Conference each July. The nomination application is limited to no more than 1,000 words and no more than five individual attachment items, including letters of recommendation and/or other recognition forms. Non-compliant entries will be returned un-judged.

NOTE: Applications are due 90 days BEFORE the July NACCTFO conference. Download the Candidate form at: http://www.nacctfo.org/site/Portals/0/Forms/Martinelli_Award.pdf

Legislative Conference (cont'd.)

Saturday, March 1

- 8:30 a.m.—11:15 a.m. Morning Session: *Communicating With Your Customers.*
- 11:15 a.m.—1:15 p.m. Luncheon: *NACCTFO Business Meeting.*
- 1:30 p.m.—4:00 p.m. Afternoon Session: *Innovations in Times of Fiscal Constraint: Public/Private Partnerships.*

The final agenda will be emailed to all registrants.

NOTE: If you plan to attend Friday's offsite tour, after completing your conference registration you must submit the required identification information to Rana Moye at RMoye@SarasotaTaxCollector.com or

941-861-8430. Refer to Guest Registration on previous page for important information about guest attendance.

Registration Cancellation Policy: Refund of conference registration fee, less an administrative fee of \$25, will be made if a written notice of conference registration cancellation is received no later than January 31, 2014.

Cancellation requests should be sent to info@nacctfo.org. No refund requests will be honored for registrations cancelled after February 12, 2014 or for "no-shows." Note: You are responsible for cancelling your hotel reservation.

NEW SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

NACCTFO is pleased to introduce a new opportunity for sponsorship recognition at no additional cost to sponsor. As you may know, *Treasury Marks*, NACCTFO's newsletter, is published twice annually. We have added the following advertisement options for additional sponsor coverage in the newsletter and hope you will take advantage of opportunity. If interested, please contact AssociateMember@NACCTFO.org or

http://www.nacctfo.org/site/Portals/0/Forms/Sponsorship/Sponsor_Flyer.pdf.

- Diamond—Full page spotlight article from a NACCTFO member-client
- Platinum—Full page ad
- Gold—Half page ad
- Silver—Quarter page ad
- Bronze—Business card ad

MEET YOUR 2013-14 NACCTFO OFFICERS

Cheryl Remington
Gove County Treasurer
Gove, Kansas

How long have you been in office? I was elected in October 1980; 33 years.

How large is your staff? I have two full-time and one part-time employees.

Why do you like public service? I started my career as Gove County Treasurer when I was 21 years old. My goal has always been to serve the public in a way that I would want to be treated. I have always strived to inform and offer all the services possible for the public. I enjoy working with the public and work the counter along with my staff.

What is the hardest issue you face? The hardest issue I face is not being able to help the public by something beyond my control to change..

Who was your mentor? My mentors are my parents. They have installed a good work ethic and ability to work with people regardless of the situation and to treat people as you would like to be treated.

Any words of wisdom you would like to share? God grant me the Serenity to accept the things I cannot change, Courage to change the things I can and Wisdom to know the difference.

Debbi Roberts-McGinnis
Polk County Collector of Revenue
Bolivar, MO

How long have you been in office? I took office in March of 1995.

How large is your staff? I have two full-time staff members besides myself and an additional two during tax season.

Why do you like public service? The main reason I ran for office was to be able to work in my home county instead of travelling around for the State of Missouri. I enjoy people, I enjoy helping and I love the challenges I get to face.

What is the hardest issue you face? I don't like the tax sale at all because for the most part it's hard work and it's futile because most of it ends up for nothing. I struggle with how some of the public mismanages their money and priorities and how they are quick to place blame instead of facing reality.

Who was your mentor? Two now retired collectors in adjoining counties were a Godsend to me. They allowed me to sit beside them and they talked me through being a collector for the 2 months before I took office.

Any words of wisdom you would like to share? You can only take care of the person in front of you so forget the line behind them. doing what's right. Keep politics and personal 'agendas' out of your official duties.

"Let me talk to them. If they want to play, I hold all the aces."



ASSOCIATE MEMBERS & SPONSORS

NACCTFO appreciates the support of its partners and offers many benefits! For a membership application, membership renewal or benefit information: www.NACCTFO.org.

Additional sponsorship information can be found at http://www.nacctfo.org/site/Portals/0/Forms/Sponsorship/Sponsor_Flyer.pdf.

Future Conferences

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Feb. 20-21, 2015 | Legislative Conference, Washington DC |
| July 7-9, 2015 | Annual Conference, Charlotte, NC |
| Feb. 19-20, 2016 | Legislative Conference, Washington DC |
| July 19-21, 2016 | Annual Conference, Los Angeles, CA |

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

It is critical that county treasurers maintain financial government operations that reflect sound public policies, follow general state and national standards in treasury management, and provide needed public services for their citizens.

The Professional Certification Program provides County Collectors, Treasurers and Finance Officers the opportunity to:

- Enhance skills
- Broaden knowledge, discover new trends
- Share experiences and best practices
- Achieve national certification recognition
- Maintain educational level and goals

As a county government elected or appointed official, completion of the Professional Certification Program demonstrates commitment to your county and community by strengthening your professionalism and competency as a leader.

Introduction

Treasurer is defined as County Collector of Revenue, Treasurer, Tax Collector, Trustee, or Finance Officer. Officials who are in charge with the duties of collecting revenue, investing funds and/or managing the financial affairs of their respective county qualify for this program.

Eligibility Requirement

The required eligibility for certification is as follows:

- Each entrant must be an elected or appointed official serving in a capacity of Treasurer, Tax Collector, Trustee, or Finance Official.
- Each entrant must be a member of the National Association of County Collectors, Treasurers and Finance Officers.
- Each entrant must complete an approved National Association of County Collectors, Treasurers and Finance Officers application form together with any required fees (Membership Dues presently cover all costs).

Administration of the Program

Adherence to high standards is prescribed by the criteria as adopted by the Board of Directors of the Association. The University of Missouri-St. Louis, Public Policy Administration provides record keeping service for attainment of certification. Treasurers who have successfully advanced to completion of the program will be awarded a diploma in four levels of certification upon

completion of the credits earned and certified by the University of Missouri-St. Louis. The National Association of County Collectors, Treasurers and Finance Officers have authorized The University of Missouri-St. Louis, Public Policy Administration to facilitate the program. The NACCTFO Education Committee, appointed by the President of NACCTFO, is responsible for educational training and oversees and coordinates the program with the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

Administrative Guidelines

I. Administration of the Program

A. The National Association of County Collectors, Treasurers and Finance Officers has authorized the University of Missouri-St. Louis, Public Policy Administration to facilitate the certification program.

1. Adherence of high standards is prescribed by the criteria as adopted by the Board of Directors of the Association.
2. The University of Missouri-St. Louis, Public Policy Administration provides record keeping for attainment of certification.
3. Treasurers who have successfully advanced to completion of the program will be awarded a Dean's and Chancellor's diploma and the title National Certified Finance Official by the University of Missouri.

II. University of Missouri-St. Louis Program

A. Agreement: There shall be a current Agreement with UM-St. Louis for the provision of Education Seminars.

B. Seminars: The UM-St. Louis are as follows:

1. The University of Missouri-St. Louis will deliver four public administration course modules, three credits per module, at both the Washington, D.C. conference and the annual NACo Conference, with a minimum of 12 credits offered each conference. The course will be taught either by an UM-St. Louis faculty or staff member, or by an individual approved by UM-St. Louis and the education committee.

NACCTFO TREASURER'S REPORT

National Association of County Collectors, Treasurers and Finance Officers						
		2012-13	2013-14			
		ACTUAL	BUDGETED	ACTUAL		
INCOME						
100	Dues	\$66,373.13	\$60,000.00	\$58,644.39		
101	Leg Conf Account	\$4,163.90	\$5,500.00	\$375.00		
102	Annual Conf Account	\$15,509.29	\$20,000.00	\$0.00		
103	Donations/Sponsors	\$36,750.00	\$35,000.00	\$0.00		
104	Interest	\$89.37	\$200.00	\$11.93		
105	Misc-	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		
TOTAL INCOME		\$122,885.69	\$120,700.00	\$59,031.32		
EXPENDITURES						
<i>Training Expense</i>						
201	Continuing Education	\$30,640.77	\$30,580.00	\$0.00		
203	Plaques/Awards	\$959.06	\$1,000.00	\$0.00		
Total Training Expense		\$31,599.83	\$31,580.00	\$0.00		
Conference Expenses						
300	March Legislative	\$10,159.37	\$15,000.00	\$0.00		
301	Annual Conference	\$38,062.59	\$45,000.00	\$0.00		
Total Conference Expense		\$48,221.96	\$60,000.00	\$0.00		
Board Expense						
400	Executive Board	\$4,630.80	\$10,000.00	\$7,476.97		
401	President's Travel	\$6,166.82	\$12,000.00	\$3,186.82		
402	NACo Board Member		\$2,000.00	\$1,176.12		
403	President's Gift	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$0.00		
404	Conference Site Visit	\$1,208.52	\$2,000.00	\$1,590.28		
Total Board Expense		\$12,356.14	\$26,350.00	\$13,430.19		
Operations Expense						
500	Bank Charges	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		
501	Newsletter - Printing	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		
502	Newsletter - Postage	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		
503	Postage	\$45.90	\$100.00	\$0.00		
505	Supplies	\$93.88	\$50.00	\$0.00		
506	Telephone/Website	\$480.00	\$500.00	\$0.00		
507	Miscellaneous	\$75.62	\$100.00	\$96.23		
508	Checks	\$0.00	\$20.00	\$21.45		
509	Dues Billing	\$1,981.61	\$2,000.00	\$2,005.26		
510	Income Expense - Investments	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		
Total Operations Expense		\$2,677.01	\$2,770.00	\$2,122.94		
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		\$94,854.94	\$120,700.00	\$15,553.13		

NACCTFO 2014 STANDING COMMITTEES

<i>Title</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>County, State</i>	<i>E-mail</i>
AUDIT COMMITTEE			
CHAIR	Jim Platt	Bates, MO	jimplatt21@hotmail.com
MEMBER	Rodney Archer	Anderson, TN	Rodney@actrustee.com
MEMBER	Tracey Marshall	Cass, IA	tmarshall@casscoia.us
MEMBER	Bev Shields	Delaware, NY	beverly.shields@co.delaware.ny.us
BUDGET COMMITTEE			
CHAIR	Joe Grisolano	Crawford, KS	joeg@ckt.net
MEMBER	Sandy Zoubek	Stanton, NE	cotreas@stanton.net
CONFERENCE COMMITTEE			
CHAIR	Sandy Zoubek	Stanton, NE	cotreas@stanton.net
MEMBER	Ronald Busby	Sabine Parish, LA	ronbusby@bellsouth.net
MEMBER	Michael Diskin	Essex, NY	mdiskin@co.essex.ny.us
MEMBER	Margie Bowman	Ray, MO	raycollector@mchsi.com
EDUCATION & CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE			
CHAIR	Pat Lensmeyer	Boone, MO	plensmeyer@boonecountymo.org
MEMBER	Nancy Weeks	Haskell, KS	nweeks@unitedwireless.com
MEMBER	Ann Frei	Washington, ID	wctreas@co.washington.id.us
MEMBER	Charles Jones	Bell, TX	charles.jones@co.bell.tx.us
MEMBER	Chris Craft	St. Lucie, FL	chris.craft@tclsc.com
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE			
CHAIR	Jim McFadden	Tioga, NY	mcfaddenj@co.tioga.ny.us
MEMBER	Chris Sadowski	Arlington, VA	csadowski@arlingtonva.us
MEMBER	John Drew	Nassau, FL	jdrew@nassautaxes.com
MEMBER	Doug Bishop	Jasper, IA	dbishop@co.jasper.ia.us
NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE			
CHAIR	Eileen King	Riley, KS	eking@rileycountyks.gov
MEMBER	Tom Malzahn	Kootenai, ID	tmalzahn@kcgov.us
MEMBER	Michael Diskin	Essex, NY	mdiskin@co.essex.ny.us
MEMBER	Ken Parrish	Kent, MI	ken.parrish@kentcountymi.gov
MEMBER	Doris Maloy	Leon, FL	maloyd@leoncountyfl.gov
MEMBER	Vicki Lippert	Morton, ND	vicki.lippert@mortond.org
MEMBER	Joel Schell	Converse, WY	joel.schell@conversecounty.org

NACCTFO 2014 STANDING COMMITTEES (cont'd.)

MARTINELLI AWARD COMMITTEE			
CHAIR	Nancy Weeks	Haskell, KS	nweeks@unitedwireless.com
<i>Remaining members to be appointed by committee chair in accordance with Bylaws.</i>			
PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEES			
AMBASSADOR COMMITTEE			
CHAIR	Barbara Ford-Coates	Sarasota, FL	bfc@sarasotataxcollector.com
CONSTITUTION, BYLAWS, & RESOLUTIONS/POLICIES & PROCEDURES COMMITTEE			
CHAIR	Charlotte Sandvik	Cass, ND	sandvik@co.cass.nd.us
MEMBER	Mary Ann Heiser	Lemhi, ID	treasurer@lemhicountyidaho.org
MEMBER	Stephanie Stokes	Portage, WI	stokess@co.portage.wi.us
MEMBER	Tammi Davis	Washoe, NV	tsdavis@washoecounty.us
MEMBERSHIP/PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE			
CHAIR	Michelle McBride	St. Charles, MO	mmcbride@sccmo.org
MEMBER	Linda Kizzire	Sedgwick, KS	lkizzire@sedgwick.gov
MEMBER	Teb Beaty	Rutherford, TN	tbeaty@rutherfordcounty.org
MEMBER	Connie Goins	Gem, ID	treasurer@co.gem.id.us
MEMBER	Dolores Ortega-Carter	Travis, TX	dolores.ortega-carter@co.travis.tx.us
NEWLETTER COMMITTEE			
CHAIR	Sandy Zoubek	Stanton, NE	cotreas@stanton.net
MEMBER	Cherrie George	Mineral, NV	clerk-treasurer@mineralcountynv.org
SPONSORSHIP COMMITTEE			
CHAIR	Barbara Ford-Coates	Sarasota, FL	bfc@sarasotataxcollector.com
MEMBER	Jeannine Bateman	Marion, KS	jeannineb@usa.net
MEMBER	Stephen Holt	Jasper, MO	sholt@ecarthage.com

ABOUT NACCTFO

NACCTFO was founded in 1954 and is the only national organization in the country that represents all elected and appointed county financial officers, regardless of title. NACCTFO provides networking opportunities by sharing ideas and discussing common issues occurring in our county offices. NACCTFO is an ideal organization to act as a unified focal point in presenting members' innovations and concerns at the national level. NACCTFO.org and NACCTFO e-mail service allows NACCTFO members across the country to access and receive information regarding matters of interest.

Professional Certification Program (cont'd.)

2. UM-St Louis and the Education Committee will determine seminar content and topics in the fall prior to the February Conference in Washington, D.C.

III. Certification Program from UM-St. Louis:

A. Certification Standards

1. Qualification for receipt of a diploma issued by approval of the National Association of County Collectors, Treasurers and Finance Officers is as follows:
 - a. Currently serving as a county treasurer of tax collector, trustee, or finance officer.
 - b. Possess a minimum of two years experience in elective or appointed office.
 - c. Completed 21 credits of approved curriculum for the Dean's Government Finance Official Certificate, 60 credits for Dean's Advanced Government Finance Executive Certificate, 84 credits for Chancellor's Government Finance Professional Certificate, and 100 hours credits for Chancellor's Advanced Government Financial Master Certificate; that encompasses management, public relations, personnel management, fiscal management, budgeting, management information systems, economics, and federal legislative process.

Certification of Purpose

The broad purpose of the certification program is to maintain an educational format for county treasurers and finance officers. Qualifying programs to provide education credits are the basis for achievement of

NACCTFO BENEFITS YOU! Any benefits you have derived from your state associations can be multiplied by the number of counties in fifty different states. The possibilities, unique perspectives and different ways of doing things are endless.

NACCTFO Objectives

- Promote professional growth of its members
- Develop a higher level of service efficiency and character to both the general public and county government
- Proactive in federal legislation and regulations that affect county government, tax collection, and treasury

national recognition. The curriculum constitutes the foundation of the program. Treasurers are inspired by the class instructors to:

- Refine fundamental skills
- Explore comprehensive horizons
- Acquire conceptual proficiency
- The agenda contributes to the advancement of your professional capacity.

Certification Standards

- Qualification for receipt of a diploma issued by approval of the National Association of County Treasurers and Finance Officers is as follows:
 - Currently serving as a county treasurer, tax collector, trustee, or finance official
 - Possess a minimum of two years experience in elective or appointed office
 - Completed 21 hours of approved curriculum for Dean's Government Finance Official or
 - Completed 60 hours of approved curriculum for Dean's Advanced Government Finance Executive or
 - Completed 84 hours for Chancellor's Government Finance Professional or
 - Completed 100 hours for Chancellor's Advanced Government Finance Master

The Chancellor's certificate shall require not less than nine credits of advanced modules and the Chancellor's Advanced certificate shall require no less than 15 credits of advanced modules. UM-St. Louis will accept credits earned from the UT, the prior provider of continuing education courses, provided that a minimum number of credits that must be earned from UM-St. Louis, which are: at least 12 credits for the Dean's Certificate, 33 credits for the Dean's Advanced Certificate, 45 credits for the Chancellor's Certificate and 54 credits for the Chancellor's Advanced Certificate.

The curriculum encompasses management, public relations, personnel management, fiscal management, budgeting management information systems, economics, and federal legislative process. To preserve the "National Treasurer's Diploma" a graduate must successfully complete a six-hour continuation or certified course in a related area annually (a NACCTFO conference). Failure for compliance will lapse the certification and require the graduate to be re-certified.

[NACCTFO Professional Certification Program](#)

Legislative Issues (Cont'd)



Despite that, there are some indications that chairman Camp intends to circulate a draft tax reform bill, even though support from GOP leadership seems unclear. Additionally, there clearly remains a divide between Republicans and Democrats on the question of whether changes to the tax code should generate revenue or not. Whether the two parties can come to an agreement on that primary point will gauge how quickly comprehensive tax reform can be accomplished.

Nonetheless, the battle to protect county interests within tax reform remains. A few things remain certain:

- many key lawmakers are convinced at least tax reform is necessary
- the actions of the two tax-writing committees have clearly demonstrated that the federal tax code is too complex and filled with provisions that could be eliminated
- until the economy fully recovers and a clear path to address the federal deficit is agreed upon, hot topics like reforming the tax code which could include the exemption for municipal bond interest will remain front and center into the near future, and
- counties **MUST** remain engaged, in particular, by helping to protect the tax-exempt status of municipal bonds.

According to NACo research, should the tax-exempt status of municipal bonds be capped at 28 percent—as proposed by the administration’s budget plan—or eliminated—as recommended by Simpson-Bowles Commission—New York State, counties and other localities would spend billions more on issuing bonds to finance much-needed infrastructure such as schools, hospitals and roads and bridges.

Specifically, tax-exempt municipal bond issuances in New York State (2003-12) was \$149.8 billion. The cost of a 28 percent cap in New York would have been an additional \$15.7 billion in interest expense, while the cost of full repeal would have been an additional \$44.9 billion in interest expense.

In May, NACo prepared individualized profiles with these costs for each state and 45 counties. If your county was not among those initially surveyed and you would like your county-cost profile, please send your

2012 interest payment on your tax-exempt municipal bonds to research@naco.org.

What You Can Do

County officials in New York State can assist NACo in protecting the tax-exempt status of municipal bonds by urging your House members to co-sponsor House Resolution 112, introduced by former local elected officials Reps. Lee Terry (R-Neb.) and Richard Neal (D-Mass.). Commemorating the 100-year precedent of the federal tax exemption of municipal bonds, the resolution reinforces the importance of these bonds to local government across the country.

NACo is also interested in learning about specific projects your county financed using tax-free municipal bonds. We are interested in projects such as schools, hospitals, roads, bridges, park facilities and water and sewer systems. Please send details to research@naco.org.

The tax code provisions that benefit state and local governments were part of the first written income tax code, capturing the spirit of the partnership between the federal, state and local governments. Many federal lawmakers need to be reminded of that. But much like tax reform in 1986, the current efforts will resemble more a marathon rather than a sprint. Thus, a constant and even pace of engagement with congressional members will be necessary.

The NACo report: “*Municipal Bonds Build America: A County Perspective on Changing the Tax-Exempt Status of Municipal Bond Interest*” is available at www.naco.org.



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