

NORTHEAST OHIO CHAPTER

Fraud Awareness, Community, & Education



Brian Frasier

CHAPTER PRESIDENT

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello NEO ACFE Members!

As of this writing, weather in Ohio can't make up its mind. Hot, cold, storms, sunny, raining — all in the same day. But the Cavs are up 2-0 in the playoffs and the Guardians are off to another great start to their season.

Thank you for being a member and I hope you are able to take advantage of our training sessions this year. We had a successful event partnering with the IIA in February for Fraud Day and we had our first lunch and learn event in March learning about red flags and how problems with data and dashboards can impact projects and fraud investigations.

Our next event will be our Spring Conference June 17th at Sleepy Hollow Golf Course. More details within. Save the date and mark your calendars for a great lineup of speakers.

In the ICYMI Fraud News section, you'll find headlines to two very recent embezzlement cases — one involving a surprising organization of lawyers and the other a multi-million dollar scheme involving a long-term local company executive.

— *Brian Frasier*

THIS ISSUE

Top 3 Things

- 01 Spring Fraud Conference — June 17th
- 02 Board Members Needed
- 03 2 Interesting Local Embezzlement Cases

TRAINING & EDUCATION

Spring Fraud Conference

JUNE 17, 2026 · SLEEPY HOLLOW GOLF COURSE

NEO ACFE Spring Fraud Conference

A full day of expert insights, real-world case studies, and networking with fraud professionals across Northeast Ohio.

Conference Agenda

10:00 – 12:00

Mark Puente

Investigative Reporter · The Marshall Project

12:00 – 1:00

Lunch Break

1:00 – 3:00

Matt Klapheke, CFE & Marissa Marzick, CFE

Ohio Auditor of State Keith Faber's Office · Special Investigations Unit

3:00 – 5:00

Jeremy Dane

Principal, Forensics · BDO

REGISTRATION

Conference Pricing

EARLY BIRD

MEMBER

\$100

Through May 27

~~\$120-regular~~

EARLY BIRD

GUEST

\$110

Through May 27

~~\$130-regular~~

STUDENT

\$10

All inclusive

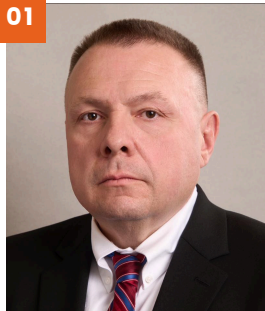
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

\$0

Complimentary

Early Bird Deadline: May 27, 2026. Save \$20 on member and guest tickets. Registration details coming soon — watch your inbox. Lunch is included with all tickets.

01

THE MARSHALL
PROJECT

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Mark Puente

INVESTIGATIVE REPORTER

| *"What Corrupt Public Officials Don't Want You to Find: Inside an Investigative Reporter's Notebook"*

Mark Puente is an investigative reporter at The Marshall Project – Cleveland. A two-time Pulitzer Prize finalist and former truck driver, he brings 20 years of accountability journalism experience from The Cleveland Plain Dealer, The Baltimore Sun, the Tampa Bay Times, and the Los Angeles Times. He is the recipient of the Al Nakkula Award for Police Reporting — the only national journalism award devoted exclusively to police coverage. At The Marshall Project, his reporting has covered traffic stops, reentry services, judicial misconduct, and jail deaths.

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

"Herbivore, Carnivore, Greedivore: A Tale of Gluttony at the Columbus Zoo"



Matt Klapheke, CFE

SENIOR FORENSIC AUDIT MANAGER · OHIO AUDITOR
OF STATE

Matt serves in the Special Investigations Unit for Auditor of State Keith Faber, conducting fraud and investigative audits of state and local government entities. With the office since 2007, he has been involved in investigations of the Columbus Zoo, Eastern Ohio Housing Development Corporation, City of Nelsonville, Columbus City Schools, and others. He holds master's and bachelor's degrees from the University of Dayton and is a Certified Fraud Examiner.

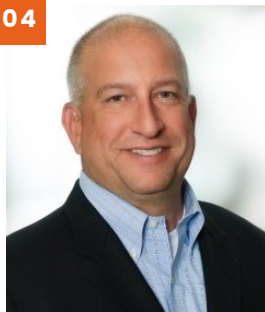


Marissa Marzick, CFE

SIU INVESTIGATOR · OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE

A law enforcement officer since 2001, Marissa joined the SIU in 2019 following a career in a sheriff's office detective bureau and the Anti-Money Laundering unit of a national bank. She has successfully prosecuted cases at the Columbus Zoo, Knox County Engineer's Office, Ohio Department of Education, and Marion County Clerk of Courts. She holds a Master's from Tiffin University and a Bachelor's from The Ohio State University.

04



BDO

3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Jeremy Dane

PRINCIPAL, FORENSICS · BDO

| *Talk Title – Coming Soon*

Jeremy's career has focused on consulting in civil and criminal matters with specialized expertise in forensic accounting, fraud investigations, due diligence reviews, and compliance assessments. With over 20 years of experience, he is frequently engaged as a litigation consultant and forensic accountant in the areas of fraudulent schemes, kickbacks, and corruption including Foreign Corrupt Practices Act matters. His work has taken him across North America, South America, Europe, Africa, and Asia.

NOW OPEN

Director of Marketing

We'd like to thank Taylor Adrian for his outstanding service as Director of Marketing. We are looking for a successor to help promote chapter activities and events across various online platforms and keep our members informed and engaged.

NOW OPEN

Director of Training

We need a Director of Training to assist with planning topics and securing quality speakers to continue delivering the professional development our members expect and deserve.

BENEFITS FOR BOARD MEMBERS

- ✓ Complimentary NEO ACFE chapter membership
- ✓ Free admission to all official NEO ACFE events
- ✓ Valuable networking, leadership experience & professional development

Each role is impactful without being overwhelming. Join, contribute, network, and save money. Interested?

info@acfeneo.org

FRAUD IN THE NEWS

ICYMI — Recent Local Cases

— THE CHRONICLE-TELEGRAM · APRIL 20, 2026

Lorain County Bar Association Sues Former Director Over Alleged Embezzlement

The Lorain County Bar Association filed suit against former executive director Jeannie Motylewski, alleging criminal conduct and multiple fraudulent schemes resulting in funds being taken from the organization. The lawsuit, filed April 13 in Common Pleas Court, alleges theft, fraud, unjust enrichment, negligence, and wanton conduct. It seeks compensatory and punitive damages plus restitution, interest, and attorney fees. The case is assigned to Judge Melissa Kobasher's courtroom.

\$62,500

ALLEGEDLY STOLEN

— CLEVELAND.COM · APRIL 2026

Former Austin Powder Co. Exec Admits to \$3M Embezzlement from Explosives Maker

A former executive for an Austin Powder Co. subsidiary admitted to defrauding the Beachwood-based explosives manufacturer. Barry Anderson orchestrated a scheme worth approximately \$2.4 million in partnership with the owner of a dump truck company, and separately defrauded the company of an additional \$954,000 by secretly leasing company property the company itself did not use.

\$3,000,000+

ADMITTED SCHEME TOTAL

NEO ACFE

Northeast Ohio Chapter · Association of Certified Fraud Examiners
April 2026 Newsletter

NE Ohio Chapter
info@acfeneo.org