

SEMCACFE Newsletter - January 2024 📄

President's Message

Hello Fellow SEMCACFE Members,

It's hard to believe 2023 is already gone, and 2024 is upon us. We had a fantastic lineup of speakers for our October, November, and December 2023 meetings.

Our October 5 meeting was our annual student night. This is always one of my most favorite chapter events! It's an opportunity for us to share with students attending college in the Southeast Michigan how important it is to have fraud fighters and how a CFE designation may help their careers. This year's event featured a rock-star panel of fellow SEMCACFE members who shared their experiences and offered sound career advice to students.

A HUGE THANK YOU to our 2023 Student night panelists! You all were amazing!

- Mike Bartolac, Manager, Special Investigations, GM Legal
- Randi Watson, IRS, CI
- Chelon Wilson, CFE, Senior Forensic Auditor, Detroit Public Schools

Thank you Michael Wynn, for providing each student with a copy of your book, *The Habit Effect: Your Life, Your Money* (2023)





November 2023

We want to thank our November speaker and fellow ACFE member, Ruth Holmes, Certified Document Examiner, PenTec for her fantastic presentation on “"Dragons At The Door" The Challenges to Being An Expert Witness from the Clients to the Attorney, Notaries, Judges and Juries”. Ruth share her insights on challenges expert witnesses face by several different parties before a case moves to the courtroom, testifying in court, and the aftermath that can unfold after a trial is over.

We always, enjoy your presentations, Ruth!





December 2023

Our final meeting for the year had a fun and spontaneous theme titled – Fraud Potluck. Several of our fellow members shared high-lights from investigations from the past, present, and investigation trends to consider for the future. A GREAT BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OUR MEMBERS WHO SHARED A STORY:

- Marlowe Crawford
- Gary Szokowski
- Debra R. Richardson
- Brian Moore
- Enid Brown
- Michael Wynn
- Sheila Flanagan



We had such fun that we might have to have another Fraud Pot Luck next year :-)

I want to thank my fellow board members for their service and support this past year: Tim Boyle, Fannie Moore, Gary Szokowski, Luke Voldahl, Dr. Donna Larner; our current chapter administrator, Debra R. Richardson, and our former chapter administrator, Mary Medonis. Appreciate your help, support, and guidance throughout the year.

A HUGE THANK YOU to our speakers, members, and guests for your ongoing support and engagement with the Southeast Michigan Chapter of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners We look forward to continuing to serve you all throughout 2023 and 2024.

“There is something special when creative people get together.” ~Joy Mangano.

We have had a great first half of the year. It’s wonderful to have in person meetings again, connect with our new members, and reconnect with those we have not seen in awhile. Virtual meetings provide another way for us to bring folks together, but the value of a face-to-face connection is priceless. CFEs are some of the most creative people I know. I invite you to join us at our upcoming 2024 meetings and our annual training. It’d be wonderful to see you.

With gratitude,

Sheila

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Annual Fraud Conference



30th Annual Fraud Conference

REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR THE APRIL 16, 2024 – 30TH ANNUAL SEMCAACFE CONFERENCE

Our annual training takes place at VistaTech/Schoolcraft College, Livonia, MI. We have an exciting program in store this year!

Confirmed Speakers

- Jennifer A. Rickabaugh, Senior Attorney
- Breck Nowlin, Fraud Investigator, Michigan State Housing Development Authority
- Zee Abelnabi, SAP Global Security & Cloud Compliance
- David Soubly, Principal, Information & Cyber Security ICEX
- Brian Menard, Owner / Publisher / Lead Writer for Dojo Kun Comics

Additional information will be posted on the conference [website](#)

Early Registration Pricing Through March 31, 2024

- Members -- \$250
- Non-Members -- \$300

Regular Registration Starting April 1, 2024

- Members -- \$275
- Non-Members -- \$325

Discounted pricing available for students. Please email info@semcacfe.org for additional information.

Register at the conference [website](#).

Reminder: Paid members who attend the most meetings between September 2023 and April 2024 will receive free admission to the conference. (We will do a drawing for any tie-breakers)

Questions? Contact Debra at info@semcacfe.org

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Next Chapter Dinner Meeting

Thursday, February 7, 2024 - Details Coming Soon - Check [Upcoming Events](#)

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SEMCACFE Board News

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR SEMCACFE BOARD DIRECTORS

Our SEMCACFE Board currently has two openings for Board Directors. The roles/responsibilities for this position include:

- Member in good standing (paid annual SEMCACFE dues)
- Consistent attendance at monthly board meeting (help prior to the monthly chapter meeting)
- Consistent attendance at monthly chapter meetings. Greet and network with guests and fellow members. Help support registration/check-in at Chapter Meetings as needed.
- Help support annual conference planning activities such as reaching out/confirming speakers. Support day-of activities such as registration/check-in, coordination of speakers, etc.
- Take the lead on finding speakers with relevant topic for monthly meetings
- Take lead or support special projects such as Annual Student Night Planning, College/University/Student Outreach, Membership Engagement Activities, Etc.

Serving on the board is a great way to give back to the fraud profession, gain leadership experience, and build your CFE network.

Please submit your nomination and curriculum vitae to info@semcacfe.com by **February 15, 2024**.

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Call for Speakers

A dark blue graphic with a white banner that says "CALL FOR SPEAKERS" in orange and blue text. Above the banner is a yellow silhouette of a person speaking into a microphone. To the right is a yellow megaphone icon inside a white speech bubble. In the bottom left is the ACFE logo (Association of Certified Fraud Examiners) with "Southeast Michigan Area Chapter" below it. In the bottom center, text reads: "Speakers to Present at our Chapter Dinner Meetings", "If you have a topic you would like considered for a Chapter Dinner Meeting please submit your speaker form today!", and "Questions? Email: info@semcacfe.org". In the bottom right is a QR code. The URL "https://semcacfe.org/" is in the top left corner.

<https://semcacfe.org/>

CALL FOR SPEAKERS

ACFE
Association of Certified Fraud Examiners
Southeast Michigan Area Chapter

Speakers to Present at our Chapter Dinner Meetings

If you have a topic you would like considered for a Chapter Dinner Meeting please submit your speaker form today!

Questions? Email: info@semcacfe.org

We are looking for speakers to present at our 2024 Chapter Dinner Meetings and 2025 Annual Conference. If you have a topic you would like considered for a Chapter Dinner Meeting, complete our new SEMCACFE [Speaker Submission Form](#).

If you have any questions, please reach out to Debra R Richardson at info@semcacfe.org.

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Welcome New Members

We welcome our new members!

Jose Dorsey

Edward Schroeder

Jessica Hymon

Kelli Williams
Chelon Wilson
Lewaren Wilson

Laura Campbell
Jillian Pius
Saikouba Ahmed Manneh

Omoteniola Dawodu
Laura Brown
Matthew Vaitkevicius

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A Thank You To Our Renewing Members

Thank you to our members who have renewed their membership. We appreciate your support for our SEMCACFE Chapter and service to the fraud profession!

Eric Boillat
Yulanda Burgess
Michelle Curry
David Lowin
Joseph Monticello

Greg Radke
Tamara Tazzia
Gary Vartanian
Arthur Wolfram
Hussein Yassin

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Congratulations to our new Certified Fraud Examiners!

CONGRATULATION to our new CFEs who recently passed the CFE exam:

Debra R. Richardson, CFE

Mary Machtel, CFE

Visit [CFE Credential \(acfe.com\)](http://acfe.com) to learn about the credential!

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Join SEMCACFE on LinkedIn!



ACFE Southeast Michigan Chapter

The SEMCACFE is an anti-fraud organization. We provide continuing professional education, networking & fraud awareness.

Join our chapter group and chapter page on LinkedIn to get up to date information on chapter events, connect with local fraud professionals, and information about the latest fraud trends. Share the group with other local fraud professionals in your network, and if they need CFEs, we'd love to have them at our next event!

Join Our [LinkedIn Group](#)

Follow Our [LinkedIn Page](#)

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Member Services



Advertising Rates Per Issue (Member / Non-Member)

- **Full Page** \$40.00 / \$80.00
- **Half Page** \$25.00 / \$50.00
- **Quarter Page** \$15.00 / \$30.00
- **Business Card** Free / \$20.00

Please submit all articles in MS Word format

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Other ACFE Chapter Events

Southwest Ohio ACFE Chapter - FEB 2024 VIRTUAL: ACCOUNTING INTEGRITY BUILDS TRUST (ETHICS)

Speaker: Paul E. Fiorelli, J.D./M.B.A.; Certified Compliance and Ethics Professional; Director, Cintas Institute for Business Ethics; Professor of Legal Studies, Xavier University

Topic: Accounting Integrity Builds Trust

In this session, Dr. Fiorelli will explain the importance of integrity in accounting and discuss how integrity builds trust within the profession. He will also explain the business value to trust, as explained by a 2021 Deloitte study. This study found trustworthy companies outperformed non-trustworthy company by 2.5times, and 88% of customers of highly trusted companies will buy from that brand. Dr. Fiorelli will finish by discussing some of the largest accounting scandals over the past, including Enron, Bernie Madoff, Wells Fargo, Theranos and FTX.

CPE: 2 hours Ethics/Ohio PSR (Pending approval)

Find out more [on the event page](#)

[information and register.](#)

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Publisher's Statement

The Southeast Michigan Chapter of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiner's Examiner is published for the sole benefit and use of the members of the Southeast Michigan Chapter of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners ("Chapter"). Any and all articles submitted for publication become the property of the Chapter.

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This is your newsletter. If you have suggestions regarding content or if you would like to submit an article please contact Fannie Moore. Email: fanniemmoore@aol.com

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The ACFE

The ACFE is the world's largest anti-fraud organization and premier provider of anti-fraud training and education. Together with more than 75,000 members, the ACFE is reducing business fraud worldwide and inspiring public confidence in the integrity and objectivity within the profession. Take advantage of networking and educational opportunities in your own back yard by joining your local ACFE Chapter.

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