

# Greater Pittsburgh Chapter

March 2010  
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The ACFE is the professional organization for fraud examiners. The mission of the ACFE is to reduce the incidence of fraud and white-collar crime, and to assist the membership in its detection and deterrence.



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## March Speaker

**Brendan Conway**

**Assistant US Attorney**

**The Mortgage Fraud Task Force**

The speaker for March will be Assistant US Attorney Brendan Conway. The Mortgage Fraud Task Force brings together representatives from the U.S. Attorney's Office, U.S. Secret Service, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigation, U.S. Postal Inspection Service, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development - Office of Inspector General, Office of the United States Trustee, Pennsylvania Attorney General's Office, Pennsylvania Department of Banking, Pennsylvania Department of State, Bureau of Enforcement and Investigation and the Allegheny County Sheriff's Office to investigate and prosecute mortgage fraud offenders.

Mortgage fraud is generally described as a scheme involving the submission of false information to lenders and others in order to obtain mortgage loans that would not otherwise

## Upcoming Chapter Events

**March 10, 2010**

AUSA Brendan Conway  
Mortgage Fraud Task Force

**April 14, 2010**

Advanced Excel Techniques  
Speaker Invited

## Meeting Reservations

Please reserve your space for the Chapter meetings in advance. The Chapter must provide an accurate count of attendees to Tambellini's prior to the meetings, and is responsible for paying for meals for no-shows. Additionally, Tambellini's cooks only enough food for the number of registered attendees. While we understand that circumstances come up that cause people to miss meetings, in order to maintain our programs at an affordable rate for all attendees, the Chapter will no longer absorb the cost for attendees missing meetings. Failure to notify the Chapter within 24 hours of a meeting will result in an invoicing of the cost of the meeting to missing attendees. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

## Upcoming ACFE Events

[www.acfe.com](http://www.acfe.com)

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## ACFE News:

### ACFE Awards - Nomination Period to Open Soon

The nomination period for the ACFE Awards opens in February and ACFE members are encouraged to nominate their fellow members for the following awards:

have been approved. Such schemes often include the submission of false information to lenders and others in order to obtain loans at higher values and lower rates than would be available through legitimate means. A typical mortgage fraud scheme employs various professionals such as recruiters, attorneys, appraisers, mortgage brokers, and builders. For example, once a victim is recruited, a set of falsified loan application documents, including an inflated appraisal, is prepared and submitted to a victim lender resulting in the issuance of an over-valued loan. Ultimately the property is foreclosed upon due to the inability of the victim buyer to maintain the payments. The lender loses the difference between the foreclosure sale proceeds and the loan balance. The buyer loses any down payment and is left with a credit history that precludes being approved for a mortgage in the future. The conspirators pocket the difference between the overvalued loan and their costs in obtaining the property.

Mr. Conway will speak about the role and responsibilities of the Mortgage Fraud Task Force.

Please join us for this interesting and relevant presentation.

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**The February Meeting Postponed due to weather. We apologize for any inconvenience. Will the snow never end???**

- CFE of the Year
- Educator of the Year
- Outstanding Achievement in Outreach/Community Service
- Chapter of the Year
- Chapter Newsletter of the Year

### **Authors Needed for Fraud Findings Column**

Would you like to be a contributing author for the Fraud Findings column in Internal Auditor Magazine? The ACFE Research Department is seeking submissions for upcoming issues of the column. To be considered, please submit a narrative summary of a fraud case, approximately 1,500 words, that discusses how the case was perpetrated how it was detected, and several examples of “lessons learned” from the case. Send submissions to Andi McNeal at [AMcneal@ACFE.com](mailto:AMcneal@ACFE.com).

### **ACFE Foundation Taking Donations for the Silent Auction**

After two successful years, the ACFE Foundation is sponsoring the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Silent Auction, opening June 23, 2010 and concluding during the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual ACFE Fraud Conference and Exhibition in Washington, D.C., on July 27, 2010. In an effort to surpass last year’s success, the ACFE Foundation is asking for your chapter’s participation with either a monetary donation or an item that reflects the uniqueness of your city, state, or country. The Silent Auction [web site](#) now live so you can make a donation through the site or by contacting [Dianne Lloyd](#) at the ACFE. Auction items are needed by June 10<sup>th</sup>.

### **New! 2010 CFE Exam Prep Course, U.S. Edition**

Attention ACFE Associate members: Get certified in 2010 with the new [2010 CFE Exam Prep Course](#). Featuring the updated Fraud Prevention and Deterrence section (*formerly Criminology and Ethics*), the 2010 CFE Exam Prep Course is the most comprehensive study tool available to prepare you for the CFE Exam. Purchase the [CFE Exam Prep Course](#) at the ACFE Bookstore and start working toward *your* CFE credential today.

### **Other**

The Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the ABA’s Criminal Justice Section White Collar Crime Committee and Pietragallo, Gordan, Alfano, Bosick, & Raspanti, LLC are sponsoring a program for April 15, 2010

### **How to Survive a Criminal Tax Investigation**

Cocktail Reception 5-6:30 pm

Program 6:30-7:30 pm

Contact Kristen Bria @ (215) 988-1469