



Upcoming Events

Annual PDT

Date: April 21, 2016
Location: City Club
Time: 8:00 - 4:30 PM
Cost: Members \$75
Non-Members \$100
Group Rate \$75

Quarterly Luncheon

Date: May 19, 2016
Location: City Club
Time: 11:00 - 3:00 PM
Cost: Members \$45
Non-Members \$55

Spring/Summer Social

Date: June 2016
Location: TBD
Time: TBD
Cost: Members Free
Non-members TBD

For more information, visit us at www.agadallas.org.

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President's Message

Members of the Accountability Community:

This coming Thursday, April 21st, is one of the best all day training seminars we have held in years because the speakers are experts in their field and the topics are certainly relevant to your jobs because they focus on both investigative methods and on the broad view, which is the context in which we work.

There is still time to register and we will welcome those of you who just show up. We are an open community that welcomes first time attendees and if we are as good as we think, then you will want to come back.

Speaking about coming back to our next event, on May 19th, we have a 3 hour CPE quarterly luncheon from 11:00 AM to 3 PM. We have the honor of hearing the AGA national president, John Homan. We also have the pleasure of hearing from Kaki Roberts, the South Central Regional Vice President. Saving the best for last, we also have a presentation on data analytics from Trish Wheeler, the regional head of the Office of Inspector General - DHHS and her deputy, Michelle Richards. We are also inviting all former AGA Dallas Chapter presidents to attend. This mix of great community leaders will make for some exciting exchanges of ideas that is rare to come by. We'll send an announcement soon with additional information or you can visit us at www.agadallas.org to register.

In June we are planning our spring social, which is now a summer social, and which should provide a relaxing atmosphere for enjoying meeting and networking with your fellow colleagues.

Ron Salo
AGA Dallas Chapter President

AGA Dallas Chapter
2016 Professional Development Training
“Innovate, Transform, Achieve”

DATE: Thursday, April 21, 2016

TIME: 8:00 - 4:30 PM

LOCATION:

City Club
901 Main Street, Suite 6900
Bank of America Plaza Building
Dallas, TX 75202

REGISTRATION FEES:

AGA members - \$75
Non-members - \$100
Group rate (5 or more) - \$75/ person



Continental breakfast and buffet lunch will be served. Parking will not be provided; however, parking lots are available in the vicinity. Registration form and payment must be submitted by **Monday, April 18, 2016**.

Earn 7 CPEs! The AGA Dallas Chapter is committed to providing quality educational events for its members. All AGA Dallas meetings and training events are catered for the beginner to intermediate skill level. No advance preparation or prerequisites are needed.

Click [HERE](#) to register. For additional information or assistance contact us at meetings_socials@agadallas.org.

AGA Dallas Chapter 2016 Professional Development Training *“Innovate, Transform, Achieve”*

- **Investigations: Where The Wrongdoing Was Found by Government Auditors**
Neil Sanchez, Special Agent in Charge, U.S. Department of Education - OIG
- **Maintaining Your CPA, CGFM and Other Certifications**
John Gioeli, Government Programs Director, Becker Professional Education
- **GAO’s Oversight of the Data Act Implementation**
Michael S. LaForge, Assistant Director, U.S. Government Accountability Office
- **City and State Educational Institution on Fraud**
Robert Rubel, Assistant City Auditor IV, City of Dallas Auditor’s Office
- **The Solution to Big Data and Program Integrity Losses**
Ricky D. Sluder, Government Fraud Solutions Principal, SAS, Inc.
- **Emergency Preparedness — What Auditors Need to Know**
C. Douglas Bass, Chief of Emergency Services & Department Manager, Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Management — Dallas County
- **Controlling - Consciously Impacting Your Work**
Calvin Webb II, President & CEO / Calvin Webb III, Gradient Solutions
- **Security Beyond the Data Center**
Jay Demmler

Speaker bios can be found on our website at:

www.agadallas.org/Training_Opportunities/

Zika Virus Causes Birth Defects, CDC Confirms

The Zika virus is definitely the cause of not only microcephaly, but a range of other severe birth defects of the brain, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said Wednesday. Zika is the first mosquito-borne virus ever known to cause birth defects.

BY TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE | APRIL 14, 2016

By Rosalind Bentley

The Zika virus is definitely the cause of not only microcephaly, but a range of other severe birth defects of the brain, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said Wednesday.

"We conclude that a causal relationship exists between prenatal Zika virus infection and microcephaly and other serious brain anomalies," wrote the four lead doctors of the CDC's Zika response team in a paper published Wednesday in the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

Zika is the first mosquito-borne virus ever known to cause birth defects. "Never before in history has a bite from a mosquito caused such a malformation," said Dr. Tom Frieden, CDC director.

It has long been suspected that there is a link between the Zika virus and microcephaly, a condition where babies have unusually small heads and underdeveloped brains. Wednesday's announcement is the first time the CDC has made the direct connection. The correlation to other birth defects heightens the alarm even as warmer weather ushers in mosquitoes which could spread the virus in the United States.

It has been more than half a century since an infectious disease caused an epidemic of birth defects, the last one being rubella, the authors said. While there is a vaccine for rubella, there is no vaccine yet to prevent Zika. While the National Institutes of Health will begin Zika vaccine trials in September, Dr. Anthony Fauci, head of the NIH's Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases said earlier this week it could be months if not years before a vaccine is ready.

Zika is transmitted by bite from either the *Aedes aegypti* or *Aedes albopictus* mosquitoes, both of which are found in Georgia and nearly 30 other states from California to New York. The disease is also transmitted sexually. The CDC is still advising pregnant women not to go to any region experiencing a Zika outbreak because an infection can occur with a single mosquito bite. Pregnant women or those who want to become pregnant shouldn't have sex with a man who has traveled to regions with Zika outbreaks. Brazil has been the epicenter of the outbreak but other Latin American and Caribbean countries have also seen a surge in infections. For the United States and its territories, Puerto Rico

FEATURED ARTICLE

leads in number of infections, now approaching 350.

Researchers at Emory University contributed to the findings. Working with researchers from Johns Hopkins University and Florida State University, the Emory researchers discovered that neural stem cells exposed to the virus begin to die within hours. The remaining neural stem cells not only retain the virus but spread it to other neural cells that eventually form the brain.

"It's attacking at the earliest points of development," said Peng Jin, a genetics professor at Emory University told the Atlanta Journal-Constitution. Jin was one of 15 researchers on the neural report published in Cell Stem Cell journal.

(c)2016 *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*



Membership Anniversaries

20 years

Joelle B. Mevi, CGFM

25 years

Luis Escalante, Jr., CGFM

Recruit a Member Drive... WIN A MINI TABLET!

Did you know that a large percentage of new members join the AGA Dallas Chapter simply because someone invited them? As a valued member, you can impact the future of the AGA Dallas Chapter by sharing your experience with your peers, your staff, and others in your organization with an interest in government accountability. No one knows better than a current AGA member how beneficial membership is to advancing government accountability.

For the period of May 2015 through May 2016, for each member you recruit, you will have an opportunity to enter a drawing for a mini tablet. The drawing will be on **May 19, 2016** at our quarterly luncheon.



Not the actual tablet.

Board Members Still Needed!

Please consider volunteering to serve our chapter! We still need:

- President Elect
- Newsletter Editor
- Community Outreach Director
- Early Careers Director
- Certified Government Financial Manager Director
- Program Director
- Education Director
- Accountability Outreach Coordinator

It is a great opportunity to use your leadership skills. If you don't think you can do everything a position requires recruit a co-chair! For more information, contact us at:

membership@agadallas.org

