



# Nashville Notes



## What's Inside

President's Letter	1
February ACFE/AGA Speaker	3
CGFM Class	4
Community Service	5



**Rachelle Cabading**  
2020-2021 Chapter President

## President's Letter

Did anyone make New Year's Resolutions for 2021? Was it health or money related, drinking more water or maybe picking up a new hobby? With the craziness of 2020, I actually forgot to make one. So, let's make a group resolution this year to reach out and offer support and encouragement to each other. The biggest thing I have missed during our virtual meetings is the connection with other members. It has been hard to maintain our relationships during this time, but these relationships are extremely vital to maintaining a successful chapter. We are looking to plan a few social events in the next few months to cultivate these relationships. We are considering a virtual trivia night or maybe an in-person but socially distanced community service event. Please contact any CEC member if you have ideas about how to stay connected to each other.

We have our annual joint meeting with the Middle



## President's Letter (Continued)

Tennessee ACFE Chapter on Monday, February 1, 2021. We love our partnership with the local chapter helping support the fight of fraud and white-collar crime in Middle Tennessee. Several of our AGA chapter members are also members of the Middle TN ACFE chapter. The speaker for this joint meeting is Jeremy Finley, the Chief Investigative Reporter with WSMV Channel 4 News here in Nashville. We look forward to hearing about some of his latest investigations as well as his process for investigative reporting. Our Winter Seminar was a huge success! We had over 220 participants for the two-day 16-hour CPE event. Many thanks to Terry Burr and the Education Committee along with Nathan Abbott and the technical team for the great job they did in

coordinating speakers and running the event.

Our January's Community Service event is Mending Hearts. This ministry provides shelter, hope and healing to women who may be homeless due to addiction and co-occurring mental health disorders. Make sure you check out the Community Service page on our website for information on how to donate and help us meet our "Power of 7 Call to Action" from National President Wendy Morton-Huddleston to donate time and money to 7 non-profits.

I look forward to seeing everyone virtually on February 1st for our next chapter meeting!



# February Meeting Speaker - ACFE-AGA Joint Luncheon

*Jeremy Finley*

Jeremy Finley is the chief investigative reporter for the News 4 I-Team. He specializes in investigations into political corruption, criminal activity and waste of taxpayer money.

Jeremy's investigations have resulted in multiple criminal charges and guilty pleas, TBI and district attorney investigations, new state laws, the resignation of one of the highest paid elected officials in Nashville, a \$1 million payout to the victims of a nationwide company scamming the sick and uninsured, and the discovery of missing girls.

The Nashville Scene wrote that Jeremy is "no stranger to blockbuster expose's." He was the first to expose the "unintended acceleration" in Toyota vehicles, which ultimately led to one of the largest recall of automobiles in the nation's history and Congressional hearings in which his investigations were included.

It's his investigations into elected officials which prompted the Nashville Post to call him a watchdog for exposing corrupt politicians. After Jeremy exposed an elected official lounging in his bathrobe while claiming to be a meeting, the Nashville Scene called the story, "a devastatingly effective expose ... a piece that has already become part of Nashville's political folklore."

Jeremy's undercover work has repeatedly exposed thieves and scam artists in action, resulting in guilty pleas. In one notable case, he and a News 4 I-Team photojournalist found runaway girls hiding in the home of a man accused of squatting in a foreclosed home.



The girls were then located by police and the man pleaded guilty to harboring runaways.

Jeremy is the two-time recipient of the IRE award, one of the highest honors in investigative journalism. He received the honors from Investigative Reporters and Editors for his stories exposing mistakes made by government agencies during the historic flood that swamped downtown Nashville, and for his contributions to the News 4 I-Team's investigations that exposed the corruption in former Judge Casey Moreland's courts. He's also been named as a finalist for the IRE award three times, received a national Emmy nomination for investigative reporting, and won a national Headliner award in 2018 for investigative reporting.

## Speaker Bio (continued)

He's also received sixteen Midsouth Emmys, four Edward R. Murrow awards and multiple first place honors from the Associated Press. In 2016, he was named the journalist of the year by the AP, and was named the best large market TV reporter in Tennessee in 2013.

Jeremy is reminded daily what's important in life, thanks to the women who run his life: his wife Rebecca and their two daughters. When they allow him to do so, he's a voracious reader, repeatedly watches Star Wars, cheers on the St. Louis Cardinals, has an unhealthy obsession with Jeep Wranglers and is a terrible runner.

While he's most proud of his investigations, he admits his favorite assignment was covering the 2004 Summer Olympics in Athens, Greece, for WSMV and the other stations owned by the Meredith Corporation.

Jeremy is also an internationally published novelist. His debut novel, "The Darkest Time of Night," was hailed as one of the best books of the summer by People magazine and the New York Post in 2018. His next book, "The Dark Above," received rave reviews from NPR and the Library Journal. He is busy at work on his third novel.

Jeremy is a graduate of Southern Illinois University at Carbondale and has a Master's degree in public affairs reporting from the University of Illinois at Springfield.

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## Interested in obtaining your CGFM?



Make 2021 your year to add CGFM to your resume!

Nashville AGA will be hosting a VIRTUAL CGFM Exam 2 Review Course! Details are as follows:

**What:** CGFM Exam 2 Review Course- National AGA Instructor will review study materials and answer questions you have!

**When:** March 22nd-March 25th The course will be live from 8am-1pm each day

**Where:** At home or your office!

**Cost:** \$575 per person

**Inclusions:** Participants will receive one paper copy of the AGA CGFM Exam 2 Study Guide (to keep!), One-year access to the virtual study guide, and up to 21 hours of NASBA approved CPE!

**Prizes?:** 10 lucky participants will be selected during the course to receive an exam voucher to cover the cost of the exam! \$125 value!

**SPACE IS LIMITED-** A maximum of 30 people can participate in the course and spots are filling fast!

**Email [Drew.Sadler@cot.tn.gov](mailto:Drew.Sadler@cot.tn.gov) to reserve your seat today!**



# Community Service

For January 2021, our community service project is to collect donations for Mending Hearts.

It is the mission of Mending Hearts to provide shelter, hope and healing to women who may be homeless due to addiction and co-occurring mental health disorders.

Donations can be made via Paypal at the Nashville Chapter's website at <https://www.agacgfm.org/Chapters/Nashville-Chapter/Community.aspx>

Or please mail a check to: AGA Nashville Chapter, P.O. Box 198025, Nashville, TN 37219.

Donations will be collected through **January 31, 2021**.

For February, the Chapter is collecting donations for the Nashville Humane Association. Donations can be made via Paypal at the Nashville Chapter's website here. Or mail a check to: AGA Nashville Chapter, P.O. Box 198025, Nashville, TN 37219.

Also, the Nashville Humane Association has a wish list of items. Their wish list items can be ordered on Amazon.com Wish List and shipped directly to the Association or items can be dropped off during the Association's normal adoption hours at their shelter (213 Oceola Avenue, Nashville, TN 37209). Their wish list is below:

Gift cards (to any major credit card or retailers that sells items on their Wish List)

- Towels/blankets
- Puppy pee pads
- Stuffed toys for dogs (all sizes)
- 13 gallon/55 gallon trash bags
- British Slip dog leads (see Amazon list for specific type)
- Martingale Collars (all sizes)
- Plastic cat toys
- Stainless steel bowls
- Dog and puppy food (for Food Bank Program) - Packages must be sealed.
- Canned dog food (for Food Bank Program) - Packages must be sealed.
- Canned cat food (for Food Bank Program) - Packages must be sealed.
- Milk replacer for kittens/puppies - Packages must be sealed.
- Clorox bleach
- Paper towels
- Royal Canine kitten food dry and wet - Packages must be sealed.
- Reusable bags (tote bags, reusable cloth grocery bags, etc.) in all sizes
- Kongs (all sizes)
- Catnip



The link to the Association's Amazon Wish list can be found at [can be found on their website here](#).

## 2020-21 AGA Webinars

### **GASB Update (more details pg. 8)**

February 3 | 1:00–2:50 PM

Virtual

### **Cybersecurity/ERM**

March 24 | 1:00–2:50 PM

Virtual

### **CARES Act**

April 21 | 1:00–2:50 PM

Virtual

### **Fraud/Data Analytics**

May 12 | 1:00–2:50 PM

Virtual

### **Leadership**

June 9 | 1:00–2:50 PM

Virtual



## **2020-2021 Chapter Meeting Dates**

February 1, 2021

March 1, 2021

April 5, 2021

May 10, 2021

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## **2020-2021 CEC Meeting Dates**

January 27, 2021

February 24, 2021

March 31, 2021

May 5, 2021



# New Members!

**Marlan Crawford**

Fiscal Director

University of Tennessee

**Mandy Spencer, CGFM**

Legislative Auditor

Comptroller of the Treasury

**Tyler Trout**

Legislative Auditor

Comptroller of the Treasury

**Yolunda Yarbrough**

Auditor

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers



## Membership

As of our January meeting, our membership count was 334, just 33 short of our goal of 367 for this year! Currently, we have one person in the running for the \$100 Prize in our local recruiting competition to sponsor the most people between January 1 and April 30! That means everyone still has a chance to win! Continue to share the benefits of AGA membership with your coworkers and acquaintances. Sponsors receive three points and a \$10 gift card!

## Recruiting Incentives

- First-time guests receive a free lunch.
- Each sponsor of a new member receives a \$10 gift card.
- The member who sponsors the most new members by December 31 wins \$100.

Gain 30 points so that you can receive a \$45 rebate on your full membership renewal after renewing by March 31, 2021.



# February Webinar - Uniform Guidance

**February 3 | 1:00–2:50 PM CST | 2 CPEs | FOS: FIN**

Challenges associated with the implementation of the new leases and fiduciary activities standards continue to be front and center issues for governments. This session will focus on these challenges, including recent guidance that governments should apply in the implementation of these standards. In addition, there are new GASB Statements issued in 2020 that should be on everyone's radar. These standards and an up to the minute status report on key projects and on several other practice issues projects that the GASB expects to be issuing proposals on in the first half of 2021 will be addressed in this must attend session.

Learning Objectives:

- Identify and address important accounting and financial reporting issues associated with fiduciary activities and leases.
- Obtain an understanding of the key provisions of recently issued GASB standards.
- Gain insights into proposed changes associated projects on the GASB's technical agenda.

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## LUNCHEON/CEC MINUTES

To read the minutes from the most recent CEC and luncheon meetings, please visit the chapter website [here](#). The luncheon minutes will be presented for approval at the next scheduled business meeting.

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

From time to time, job opportunities are sent in and posted to our website by the Website Committee, for your convenience. If you are interested in new job offerings or know someone who is, click this link for more information.

## EDITOR'S CORNER

We enjoy reading articles submitted from our membership! Please share your thoughts, ideas, or interesting news with us by submitting an article to [Tyler.Ensminger@cot.tn.gov](mailto:Tyler.Ensminger@cot.tn.gov) no later than February 15, 2021 for the next edition of our newsletter.

# Chapter Committees

## Young Professionals

Organizes events for members in the first few years of their careers.

## Education

Organizes our annual training seminar in January/February. This includes recruiting and scheduling speakers for the seminar. Also organizes local participation in Webinars hosted by the National Office.

## Awards

This committee creates nominations for National Awards as well as awarding local chapter scholarships. We provide at least 2 scholarships annually and this committee reviews the scholarship applications and decides on the recipients.

## Membership

Recruits and retains members.

## Finance

Collects money at monthly luncheons, prepares annual history report, and local chapter tax forms.



## Webmaster

Maintains the website content and listserv.

## Accountability & Outreach

Prepares annual Citizen-Centric Report (CCR) and recruits other agencies to prepare CCRs.

## Meetings & Attendance

Organizes monthly Chapter Executive Committee and chapter luncheons. Keeps up with those who sign up and attend meetings. Also assists the Education committee with rosters for meetings that provide CPE training.

## Program

Recruits speakers for monthly lunches and organizes annual social events.

## Corporate Sponsorship

Recruits sponsors for events. So far, most of our sponsors have been for the Winter Seminar in January or February.

## Community Service

Coordinates and organizes monthly community service projects throughout the program year.

## Communication

Publishes the monthly newsletter and maintains social media presence.

Contact Rachelle Cabading or the committee chairs to volunteer!

# Contact Us

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For a list of all Chapter Leadership for the 2020-2021 Program Year visit:

<https://www.agacgfm.org/Chapters/Nashville-Chapter/Our-Chapter/Chapter-Leadership.aspx>

**Chapter Address:**

**AGA Nashville Chapter**

**PO Box 198025 Nashville, TN 37219**

**Visit the Nashville Chapter website at  
[www.nashvilleaga.org](http://www.nashvilleaga.org)**