

Arizona Chapter Association of Certified Fraud Examiners

Arizona CFE Monthly Training

Speakers:

**Erin Mullarkey, CFE
and
Gretchen Gilliam**

Topic:

“Government Fraud: Case Studies in Embezzlement and Abuse of Power”

When: Tuesday, March 16th, 2010
Sign In: 11:30 – 12:00 noon
Seminar Time: 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.
**Where: Arizona Industrial Commission
800 W. Washington St., Phoenix, AZ
1st Floor Auditorium**

**Parking will be on the top level of the garage just west of the building.
Sign-in & networking is 11:30am to Noon, with training from Noon until 1 pm.**

There will be a \$20.00 charge for non-members.

**No charge for ACFE Chapter Members who are current on their membership dues.
Reservations are not required for this event.**

SPEAKER'S BIO:

Erin Mullarkey, CFE, is a senior auditor with the State of Arizona Office of Auditor General, Special Investigative Unit. She earned her bachelor's degree in accounting from Arizona State University, and has been with the Office since 2006. Her professional experience prior to becoming a certified fraud examiner includes performance auditing, internal auditing, loss prevention, and office administration.

Gretchen Gilliam is an auditor with the State of Arizona Office of Auditor General, Special Investigative Unit. She earned her bachelor's degree in accounting from Fort Hays State University in Hays, Kansas and joined the Office in 2008. Her professional experience includes financial & compliance auditing, internal auditing, and collections.

SEMINAR OVERVIEW:**1 Hour – CPE****The presentation will include but not be limited to the following areas of interest:****State of Arizona Office of the Auditor General: Special Investigative Unit (SUI):**

The **Office of the Auditor General** is a legislative agency under the direction of the Joint Legislative Audit Committee. The Office provides information to the Legislature and various other governmental entities, which assists them in overseeing operations, improving their financial management and effectiveness, and giving the public a measure of accountability.

The **Special Investigative Unit (SUI)** investigates allegations of illegal acts that affect public monies. SUI assist law enforcement agencies with criminal and civil prosecution of suspects. SUI also typically issue public reports detailing their investigations. In the past ten fiscal years, the Special Investigative Unit has completed 34 investigations and issued 24 public reports. The unit discovered over \$6.7 million of theft or misuse of public monies, and over \$4.3 million in conflict of interest and procurement violations. These investigations resulted in 34 criminal indictments and/or civil penalties.

Public employees are placed in a position of trust, and must ensure that public monies are spent appropriately and for the intended purpose. During the presentation, Erin and Gretchen will examine and discuss two cases in which government employees chose instead to abuse that trust and enrich themselves.

- Case 1: Coconino County Public Fiduciary's Office: A case manager embezzled at least \$16,757 from eleven wards under her care. These monies were entrusted to the Coconino County Public Fiduciary's Office on behalf of persons unable to manage their financial affairs. The suspect embezzled by taking advantage of inadequate controls over the disbursement of wards' money.
- Case 2: Red Mesa Unified School District: Three District officials collectively embezzled almost \$360,000 and misused an additional \$520,000. These monies should have been used to support the educational program of the school district. The suspects embezzled by using district purchasing cards for personal purchases, and improperly authorizing contract payouts.