

THE INFORMER

APRIL 26, 2012

COLORADO WELFARE FRAUD COUNCIL

Message From The President

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DON'T FORGET TO

SUBMIT YOUR

NOMINATIONS FOR

THE CWFC

AWARDS! THE

DEADLINE IS MAY

4TH!

This will be my last article as president of the Colorado Welfare Fraud Council and I wish the best for our President-Elect Sharon Beckers and all of the newly elected officers. It has been my privilege to be part of this great organization, whose main goal is to fight welfare fraud and strive for program integrity for all.

This year, the CWFC board members have been very active, offering training to counties and working with many state entities to ensure program integrity and to see that program funds go to those who qualify.

I would like to thank the Colorado Department of Human Services, Colorado Health Care Policy and Finance and Aspen Family Services for their contribution to CWFC. These entities have offered support to CWFC in many ways.

I would also like to thank those counties and state entities who have allowed their employees to participate on the CWFC board, with a big thanks to the many counties that have hosted our regular monthly meetings across the state.

I would like to personally

invite each one of you to attend the CWFC annual training conference that will be held in Steamboat Springs, Colorado, June 12th-15th, 2012. You will obtain tools to fight welfare fraud and gain valuable networking opportunities with other individuals from across the state who are involved in the fight against welfare fraud.

If you are not a member, I encourage you to join and reap all of the benefits a CWFC membership has to offer.

Sincerely,

Rogelio Segura

Food Stamp Trafficking

Crime Stoppers of Gilpin & Clear Creek Counties

A felony arrest warrant has been issued for Rachel Ann Gosney—19 years old—for identity theft, food stamp trafficking and theft.

On February 23, 2012, an elderly female had her purse stolen while visiting the Senior Center's Thrift Store in Idaho Springs. For several days after that theft the elderly female's identifying information related to her food stamp card was used throughout Clear Creek and Jefferson counties.

The investigation lead authorities to Gosney, who is now being sought to answer the charges.

Clear Creek Resource Center Assistance Programs Supervisor Tammy Frey assisted the Idaho Springs Police Department with the criminal investigation; Frey reported that there has been a recent spike in the fraudulent use of food stamps.

The Idaho Springs Police and the Department of

Human Services are working together to investigate all cases related to identity theft and food stamp trafficking, particularly those where the elderly are victimized.



Rachel Ann Gosney

2012 Conference

Don't forget to register for the conference by the deadline of May 31, 2012! Registrations are transferable if your plans change, but there will be no refunds once the registration has been paid.

Should you wish to bring a guest, that individual will also require a full conference registration. All registrants will receive an ID, which will be required to access all classes and meals.

Please remember to have each county bring a gift basket to be given away as a door prize! Please deliver baskets to CWFC staff at the time of registration.

A full conference agenda is available on our website.



Oklahoma Uses PARIS for Cost Avoidance

In Oklahoma "information from a PARIS interstate data exchange match on a recipient that appeared to travel from state to state to obtain food stamp benefits (\$152.00 a month in each state) using the same SSN. The PARIS match was with the states of Missouri, Illinois, Tennessee and Mississippi with indications of concurrent receipt of food stamps in these four states and Oklahoma.

In less than a couple of hours, we used the information the recipient had

provided (an Arkansas state issued identification card (REAL ID)), tracked his food stamp usage, talked to our neighboring social services agencies and were able to also identify concurrent receipt in Texas, Arkansas, and Louisiana for a total of 8 states with dual receipt.

With the information from PARIS, we were quickly able to determine this recipient's travels from state to state...by using certification dates available from the PARIS match..."

From the Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families 4/10/2012

For more information on PARIS, visit www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/paris/index.html

CWFC Training

This has been an exciting year for the CWFC Training Committee! We have been fortunate to be able to share information in methods that go beyond the annual conference and we are truly enjoying the opportunities we have been given. I just want to send out a reminder that the CWFC Training Committee is here for your benefit. Let us not forget that CWFC's primary goal is to provide information and training to 1) those who are involved in administering benefit programs, 2) those that approve benefits for recipients, and 3) those charged with investigating improper or fraudulent receipt of benefits.

As you all may know, CWFC has valuable resources accessible to all of you, such as the resource guide. However, the most abundant resource we have is our membership community. Regional training is more than a power

point presentation, it is an opportunity to discuss fraud issues with peers in like-sized communities within your geographic area. Our success as an organization relies heavily on our ability to reach our goals. If you feel like your organization or region could use some training, brainstorming, or even just some best practice scenarios, please do not hesitate to contact the CWFC Training committee.

Over the past 4 months CWFC has been facilitating training for over 50 County staff members representing 15 Counties. The training topics covered have been Interviewing Techniques for Fraud Prevention, Presenting Cases to the District Attorney, Working with Investigators, IPV's (presented by Colorado Works), and Fraud Policies (presented by Colorado Works).

Our ultimate vision is to be able to host webinars and have recorded web based training that can be accessed at your convenience with your membership rights. We are currently working on the technical aspects of this vision, but are confident that we will be able to implement alternate training methods within the next year. In the meantime, if you would be interested in hosting a training and have a specific topic you would like shared in your region please contact Bridget.Convey@state.co.us.

Be on the look out for an announcement regarding our next regional training which will be hosted in Logan County.

Best Regards,

Bridget Convey

CWFC Training Committee
Chair

Committee Members Needed!

Members of the CWFC board chair, and are involved in, various committees dedicated to the success of CWFC and the philosophies it represents. We are always looking for volunteers to help support the following committees:

- Financial Plan and Budget
Reviews and plans finances for the upcoming year
- By-Laws
Makes recommendations and/or proposals to make changes to the bylaws
- Conference Agenda
Plans the agenda for the annual training conference
- Conference Site
Plans and executes potential conference site visits
- Membership
Solicits interest and involvement in CWFC
- Public Relations/CWFC Awareness
Promotes CWFC to outside agencies/individuals
- Resource Guide
Revisions based on membership need/requests
- Legislative
Works with various legislative bodies to sponsor new welfare-related laws and propose changes to existing statutes
- Officer/Board Nomination
Seeks interest/commitment in serving on the CWFC board
- Awards
Seeks nominations and designs awards for individuals to be recognized
- Training
Arranging and providing training for members year-round
- Newsletter/Website
Publishing the quarterly newsletter and maintaining the CWFC website
- Poster
Assist with Conference Agenda committee in designing the annual conference theme and poster
- CDHS/HCPF
Responsible for facilitating communication between CDHS/HCPF (among other state agencies) and CWFC
- Historian
Creates and assists in the preservation of CWFC archives



**CHECK WITH YOUR
NEWLY ELECTED
BOARD MEMBERS TO
VOLUNTEER ON A
COMMITTEE!**



Registration for the 2012 CWFC Conference

June 13-15, 2012

Sheraton Steamboat Resort

Steamboat Springs, CO

PLEASE COMPLETE THE REGISTRATION FORM AND MAIL BY MAY 31, 2012

_____ \$230.00 Full Conference Registration—all meals and breaks included (does not include lodging*)

Please complete the following in its entirety:

Registrant's Name

Complete Address Street or P.O. Box

City, State, Zip Code

County or Entity Represented

Full Telephone Number including Area Code

Job Title

Please make all checks out to CWFC. Mail your registration form to:

CWFC

P.O. Box 890

Canon City, CO 81215

***Do not forget to make your Hotel Reservations separately. This Registration Form is for Conference Registration only.**

Your Hotel Reservations can be made by accessing the Hotel link at www.cwfc.us.

Reminder: Please bring a gift basket from your county to be given away as a door prize. Please deliver Gift Baskets/ Door Prizes to CWFC Staff at the time of initial registration at the Registration Table.



Award Nomination Form

Nominees need not be CWFC members

(Check only one)

_____ *Ted Cole Memorial Award*

This award recognizes an individual or group who demonstrated excellence in performance that enhances the general principles and goals of the CWFC, public relations, positive contribution to newsletter, legislation, or other printed forums that relate to preventing public assistance fraud and the promotion of the CWFC.

_____ *Outstanding Group or Individual of the Year*

This award recognizes an individual or group of individuals who have made an important contribution and/or a major impact in the prevention, detection, prosecution, and recovery of fraudulently obtained public assistance within the last year

_____ *Prosecutor of the Year*

This award recognizes an individual who has made an outstanding contribution and/or shown excellence in the prosecution of fraud.

_____ *Income Maintenance Tech, Eligibility Worker, or Case Manager of the Year*

This award recognizes an individual who has made an outstanding contribution and/or demonstrates excellence in the prevention of public assistance or food assistance fraud.

_____ *Recovery, Legal, Investigative Tech of the Year*

This award recognizes an individual who has made an outstanding contribution and/or demonstrates excellence in the recovery of public assistance or food assistance fraud.

_____ *Investigator of the Year*

This award includes all Investigators from local, state and federal levels. It recognizes an individual who has made an outstanding contribution and/or exhibited excellence in the investigation of fraud and program abuse.

Nominee: _____

Reason for Nomination- please attach your nomination on department letterhead

Your Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Fax or E-mail nominations to Jennifer Parrilli-Cole by May 04, 2012

Phone: 303-682-6792 Fax: 303- 682-6786

E-mail: jparrilli-cole@bouldercounty.org

Greetings from the 2011-2012 CWFC Membership Committee!

The Colorado Welfare Fraud Council (CWFC) is looking forward to an exciting year! The CWFC will be celebrating our 28th year as a professional organization dedicated to the prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of welfare fraud, and the recovery of those fraudulently obtained public assistance funds. As Vice-President and chair of the Membership Committee, I would like thank all members, past and present, for their contributions and commitment over the last three decades which have made CWFC the great organization it is today.

CWFC Memberships for the year 2012 are now being accepted

The rewards of membership in the CWFC are many. CWFC members represent public assistance and fraud professionals from the county, state and federal level, the law enforcement and judicial community, and other professionals interested in preserving the intent and spirit of welfare fraud law and public assistance program integrity. CWFC annual memberships are honored from January 1st through December 31st inclusive. In light of these challenging economic times, CWFC annual memberships remain an affordable \$20.00 per year. Also, new members and returning members (non-current) who join now for the 2012 year will enjoy full membership privileges for the remainder of 2011 as well as the full 2012 calendar year. **I urge all current CWFC members to extend an awareness of the benefits of CWFC membership to your colleagues and associates, and to encourage them to join the Colorado Welfare Fraud Council.** Also, current CWFC members, please take a moment to provide your up to date contact information if it has changed. Let's make this a great year!

Sincerely,

Bridget Convey

Vice-President and Membership Committee Chair, CWFC, 2011-2012

Please Print Legibly and Complete Membership Form in its Entirety

2012 CWFC Membership Form

Name: _____ Date: _____

Agency: _____ Title: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____ E-mail _____

New Member Returning Member Renewal Change of Contact Information Only

2012 Annual Membership is \$20.00. Please make checks payable to CWFC and mail with completed Membership Form to:

CWFC, P.O. Box 890, Canon City, CO 81215