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INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION  
of ASSESSING OFFICERS  
*Valuing the World™*

# ASSESSING INFO

February 19, 2015

### RIPPED FROM THE HEADLINES

**MICHIGAN** — [Property tax amendment aimed at protecting homeowners moves forward in state legislature](#)

**TENNESSEE** — [Islamic teaching on usury kills property tax exemption in Tennessee](#)

**MAINE** — [Jail officials seek state funds to soften property tax hike](#)

**NOVA SCOTIA** — [Taxpayer group calling for fair value in property tax deal](#)

**KANSAS** — [Kan. farmers say property tax bill will hurt agriculture industry](#)

**SOUTH DAKOTA** — [Lawmakers reject repeal of property tax limit](#)

**PENNSYLVANIA** — [Small non-profit groups losing property-tax exemptions in first wave of county's review](#)

**ONTARIO** — [MPAC pledges to help Thunder Bay with reassessment problem](#)

**WISCONSIN** — [Budget provision shifts some property tax assessment duties](#)

**ILLINOIS** — [Tazewell County committee set to discuss disaster tax relief bill](#)

**CONNECTICUT** — [Regional property tax system worth considering](#)

**ALBERTA** — [The blindside: Calgary councilors say they had no warning of snow removal tax hike poll](#)

**TEXAS** — [More rules sought for property tax lending](#)

**NEW YORK** — [Woman loses half of her house to neighbor](#)

**OKLAHOMA** — [Oklahoma legislators debate property tax exemption for manufacturing, wind farms](#)

**ARIZONA** — [County assessors weigh in on property tax bills](#)

[3 transitions that turn good leaders great](#)

**Check out our social media sites and stay up to date on all the latest news!**



### LATEST & GREATEST

## Legal Seminar Call for Papers



IAAO 36th Annual Legal Seminar will be held in Boston, Massachusetts at the Hyatt Regency. The Legal Committee is seeking qualified professionals to present on topics of interest to attorneys and assessors. Topics will be considered from the following categories: unique valuation problems, effective representation, national trends and legal issues in valuation, public policy and ethics. **Submission deadline for the 200-word abstract is March 31, 2015.** Abstracts may be submitted [online](#).

Due to Mandatory Continuing Legal Education requirements, speakers must submit a completed written paper by **October 1, 2015** which will be reviewed by various state MCLE commissions and provided to all attendees in a bound spiral notebook at the seminar. PowerPoint slides cannot be accepted for the MCLE review process, although PowerPoint slides are welcomed at the seminar itself. Speakers who cannot meet this deadline will not be considered.

For more information, contact the Legal Committee Chair, [Gaylord "Jay" Wood](#) or the Legal Committee staff liaison, [Mary Odum](#).

## IAAO Course 300— Fundamentals of Mass Appraisal

May 11–15, 2015  
Arnoma Hotel  
Ratchadamri Road, Bangkok

IAAO, Thai Real Estate Business School, and Thai Appraisal Foundation are jointly organizing an international presentation of IAAO Course 300—Fundamentals of Mass Appraisal.

For more information, click [here](#).

### AROUND THE CORNER



## [Animating Your Vision Webinar](#)

Wednesday, March 11, 2015  
12:00–2:00 pm CST

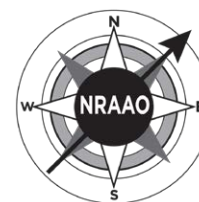
Changing the culture of an office can be one of the most challenging tasks an organization will ever face. This presentation will guide participants through a new administration's first year in office and demonstrate how it brought its vision to life through a comprehensive strategic planning process, employee morale initiatives, and technological innovations. **Note: Two (2) CEUs will be given for this webinar.**



## 19th Annual GIS/CAMA Technologies Conference

March 2-5, 2015  
Renaissance Oklahoma City Convention  
Center Hotel  
Oklahoma City, OK

For more information or to register, click [here](#).



## 2015 NRAAO Annual Conference

May 17-20, 2015  
Sheraton Portsmouth Harborside Hotel  
Portsmouth, NH

## [F&E February Digital Edition Available Now!](#)

Looking for more online news and information?

Check out the digital edition of *Fair & Equitable* magazine!



## AROUND THE WORLD

**JAMAICA** — [TAJ to apply late charges to property tax balance](#)

**INDIA** — [Glitches in devices hit property tax collection](#)

**TAIWAN** — [Taiwan announces property tax reforms](#)

**SOUTH AFRICA** — [City urged to simplify rates policy](#)

**UNITED KINGDOM** — [What to do about this business rates shambles? \(OpEd\)](#)

**GUAM** — [Property tax roll sent to mayor's office](#)

**GREECE** — [It's all change again for Greece's tax system](#)

**IRELAND** — [Ireland seeks views on property tax reform](#)

**PHILIPPINES** — [CA junks gov't please for help in MRT's P2 billion tax woes](#)

**INDIA** — [GHMC begins crackdown on property tax defaulters](#)

**AUSTRALIA** — [SA gov't flags land payroll tax reforms](#)

**UNITED KINGDOM** — [A quarter of councils agree to freeze council tax](#)

**NEW ZEALAND** — [Funding study boost for struggling Auckland Council](#)



## Research Apps Guide

The Research and Library Services Department has launched a new guide to conducting research on the go using your mobile device and free apps from iTunes or Google Play. Access the guide [online](#) and leave your comments on our AssessorNET [thread](#). We'd like to hear about additional apps that you use in your work.



## Notice a Pattern?

The 3's have it! Any member who recruits three new members in 2015 will receive a \$30 Amazon Gift Card. This is a pretty simple and easy to attain membership promotion. Help recruit new members into IAAO and be rewarded for your efforts! Click [here](#) for the current 2015 IAAO Membership Application.



## 2015 Membership Dues

Thanks to those who have paid their 2015 IAAO Membership dues. If you need another invoice, please [email](#) Shaun York, Membership Data Coordinator.

## Need Help with Membership Dues?



Check out the Membership Renewal Assistance Grant (formerly the Hardship Grant). Grants are available in the amount of \$100. Click [here](#) to apply.

For more information or to register, click [here](#).

## FUN WITH FRIENDS

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Spike by iKe

## [New Appraisal Institute Form Helps Analyze 'Green' Commercial Real Estate Features](#)

## International Property Tax Conference - Sustainable Strategies for Local Revenue Mobilization: Public and Private Sector Perspective

The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) and the International Property Tax Institute (IPTI), in partnership with the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, are pleased to present this event.

This event is being held on **March 25-26, 2015, in Brasilia, Brazil**. The conference will be in English with simultaneous translation in Portuguese.

For more details please see our brochure [here](#). Please register [here](#).



**PROUD PARTNERS**

**[The GIS Guide for Elected Officials](#)**

A new Esri-ICMA publication helps executives and elected officials learn how GIS technology is being used by governments across North America.

**[New Appraisal Institute Book Addresses Latest Methods for Valuing Contaminated Properties](#)**

Blue Marble is pleased to announce the release of [Global Mapper version 16.0](#). This update to Blue Marble's popular desktop GIS software offers many new and improved features and functions. This major release includes many significant updates and new tools for working with 3D data. This release also features dramatically improved processing speeds, new graphing/charting tools and many LiDAR enhancements and of course, many new formats. If you would like to download this version it is available here for [download](#).

**NEWBIES & NOTABLES**



**In Memoriam**

Gregory Lafakis, 69, of Marcos Island, FL, passed away on February 11, 2015, after a lengthy struggle with cancer.

He was an active member of IAAO since 1973. He served on the Legal Committee, Professional Designations Subcommittee, Associate Member Committee, and Ethics Committee. He was an IAAO author and contributor to IAAO publications, books, and technical standards. He was a frequent presenter at the Legal Seminar and Annual Conference.

He is survived by his wife, Toni, and sons, Nick and John.



**Fannie Mae to Introduce Collateral Underwriter™**

[Collateral Underwriter \(CU\)™](#) is a proprietary model-driven tool developed by Fannie Mae that provides an automated appraisal risk assessment to support proactive management of appraisal quality.

**Read the Appraisal Institute's recent press release regarding the program [here](#).**

**The Appraisal Foundation Seeks Candidates for Vacancies on Board of Trustees**

The Appraisal Foundation is searching for qualified candidates to serve on its Board of Trustees (BOT). Completed applications for vacancies on the BOT must be received by **April 1, 2015**. There are four At-Large Trustee seats to be filled. Click [here](#) to download the application packages for the At-Large Trustee vacancies.



**The 2014-15 USPAP is now available to IAAO members by clicking [here](#).**

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