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INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION
of ASSESSING OFFICERS
Valuing the World™

ASSESSING INFO

March 6, 2014

RIPPED FROM THE HEADLINES

NEW YORK — [Class action suit slams city's property tax system as discriminating against renting blacks, Hispanics](#)

NEBRASKA — [Panel advances for Neb. property tax credit bill](#)

VERMONT — [Breaking down the link between school budgets and property taxes](#)

WISCONSIN — [Walker promises no property tax increases](#)

MICHIGAN — [Michigan personal property tax reform plan hailed as 'win-win' for businesses, local governments](#)

ONTARIO — [Letter: Our broken tax system hurts municipalities](#)

ARKANSAS — [Saline County, Ark., going paperless with property tax notify system](#)

NEW YORK — [Cities mobilize to help those threatened by gentrification](#)

IOWA — [Veterans property tax exemption bill takes first step](#)

MARYLAND — [Bigger tax breaks sought for industrial sites in Southeast Baltimore](#)

BRITISH COLUMBIA — [Editorial: Vancouver must rein in property-tax increases](#)

KANSAS — [Kansas House gives first-round OK to property tax relief bill](#)

OHIO — [Children Services wants 2.3-mill levy on November ballot](#)

FLORIDA — [Payment shift to boost efficiency](#)

GEORGIA — [New state law makes paying property taxes more convenient](#)

ONTARIO — [Royal Bank expects housing affordability to worsen with rising mortgage rates](#)

[On leadership, CEOs and practicing what you preach](#)

LATEST & GREATEST

Registration, Exhibiting, and Sponsorship...Oh My!

Registration for the 80th Annual International Conference on Assessment Administration is now open. The conference, "The Gold Standard for 80 Years," will be held **August 25-28, 2014**, in **Sacramento, CA**. You can find the registration form and more information [here](#).

Exhibiting and sponsorship opportunities are now available. There are new sponsorship options and our Exhibit Hall is newly redesigned, but space is EXTREMELY limited, so make your decision early! Please check out our updated [Exhibitor Brochure](#) and [Sponsor Brochure](#) for all the details! If you have questions, please feel free to contact: Exhibitors—Cristalle Bozarth at bozarth@iaao.org or **816-701-8109**; Sponsors—Leann Ritter at ritter@iaao.org or **816-701-8161**.

Good News for R Open Source Software Users

The IAAO Library has cataloged the documentation for "R Aratio" add-on package written by Daniel McMillen. Get started with the R package by going to the CRAN (Comprehensive R Archive Network) [website](#). Download the documentation and the "Aratio" file from the LibraryLink catalog (members only). See the March issue of *Fair & Equitable* for a feature article on "Geographic Data Visualization and Mapping in R: Implications for Empowering the Assessment Community with Spatial Analysis" by Paul E. Bidanset. Send suggestions or contributions for an IAAO tutorial on the appraisal uses of the R

**AROUND THE CORNER**

Evaluating the Costs of Litigation Webinar

Wednesday, March 12, 2014
12:00 pm–2:00 pm CST

Presented by *W. Kenneth Nolan and Melinda Blackwell*

This webinar will discuss the cost of litigation both from a purely financial perspective as well as the "cost" of allowing opposing counsel to learn your litigation strategy and insights. **Note: Two CEUs are given for participation in this webinar.**

Preparation and Trial of the Property Tax Assessment Appeal Seminar

June 5 - 6, 2014
University of
Missouri - Kansas
City (UMKC)
School of Law
Kansas City, MO



The Legal Committee is presenting a new format for the 2-day training that will include sessions on trial advocacy, deposition techniques, making the decision to go to trial, implications of *Daubert & Frye*, electronic evidence and the use of technology at trial. Training will include presentations, mock trial vignettes, video demonstrations, and panel discussions.

In honor of IAAO's
80th anniversary,
check out a
timeline of our
history!

**FUN WITH FRIENDS**

The IVSC Standards Board is inviting comments on proposed changes to the International Valuation Standards, IVSs, that

Have you won an award? Changed jobs? Accomplished something of interest to our readers?



TELL US ABOUT IT!

AROUND THE WORLD

INDIA — [Cut water connections of tax defaulters: Greater Visakhapatnam commissioner](#)

PORTUGAL — [Council tax blunder costing millions?](#)

UNITED KINGDOM — [Business rates not fit for purpose, MPs say](#)

AUSTRALIA — [ACT to 'name and shame' land tax dodgers](#)

CHINA — [Expert calls for expediting property tax legislation](#)

FINLAND — [Finland mulls cuts to municipalities' tax revenue from wind farms](#)

GREECE — [Greek Property Transaction Tax now down to just 3%](#)

SWAZILAND — [Churches billed on commercial rates for utilities](#)

IRELAND — [Ireland cracks down on property tax evaders](#)

SOUTH AFRICA — [SAPOA drives forward with targeted research into South Africa property taxes](#)

NEW ZEALAND — [Council set to go \\$27m into the red](#)

AUSTRALIA — [Infrastructure fees stifling Queensland development: property council](#)

UNITED KINGDOM — [British manufacturers urge George Osborne to overhaul business rates](#)

WALES — [Mormon tax 'no human rights breach'](#)

package to [Larry Clark](#).

Scholarships Available



IAAO offers a wide variety of scholarships for members. The [IAAO Scholarship Fund](#) is available for members looking to pursue IAAO educational opportunities. Need help renewing your membership? The [Hardship Grant](#) can provide assistance. For more information about the scholarships available, click [here](#).



Awards, anyone?

IAAO wants to recognize the best in the industry! Submit an award nomination by **May 1, 2014**, to ensure that you and your colleagues are honored for professional achievements. See [IAAO.org](#) for more information, or review the [Awards Brochure](#).

Legal Seminar Call for Papers



IAAO 35th Annual Legal Seminar will be held **December 11-12, 2014** in **Chicago, Illinois** at the Doubletree Magnificent Mile. 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 issues in valuation, public policy and ethics. Submission deadline for the 200-word abstract is **March 31, 2014**. Abstracts may be submitted [online](#).

Due to Mandatory Continuing Legal Education requirements, speakers must submit a completed written paper by **October 1, 2014** 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, [Deborah Cartwright](#) or the Legal Committee staff liaison, [Mary Odom](#).

Time is Running Out!

will be of particular interest to those involved in the real property markets. The Board has approved the issue of two [Exposure Drafts](#). Comments on both drafts are invited by **April 30, 2014**.

The next public meeting of the Appraiser Qualifications Board will be held **Friday, April 11, 2014**, from 9:00 am–12:00 pm in **San Francisco, CA**. Click [here](#) for more information and to register online.



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

The Appraisal Practices Board (APB) of The Appraisal Foundation is seeking valuation professionals for a national talent pool to serve as a resource to the Board as it develops future voluntary guidance on generally recognized valuation methods and techniques. If you are willing to share your expertise, be part of a broader conversation, and receive recognition for your contributions, click [here](#) for an application.



[Introduction to Regression and Spatial Analysis used in Mass Appraisal](#)
April 28–29, 2014

Sheraton Fort Lauderdale Airport Hotel
1825 Griffin Road
Fort Lauderdale, Florida

This seminar is approved for **16 hours** of continuing education credits with IAAO.

Presented by IPTI

[Call for Applicants](#)

The Appraisal Foundation Seeks Candidates for Vacancies on the Board of Trustees. Application Deadline is **March 14, 2014**.

[Business Valuation Conference](#)

Looking for more online news and information?

Check out the digital edition of Fair & Equitable magazine!



VALUED VENDORS

You're invited to an interactive workshop during the World Bank Land and Poverty Conference to learn more about Thomson Reuters Aumentum. The workshop will be held **Monday, March 24, 2014**, Room C2-131, World Bank Headquarters, **Washington, DC**, 12:00-2:00 pm. For more information or to register, click [here](#).



Access past issues of *Assessing Info*!

The How-To Series by Thomson Reuters Aumentum is a series of guides written by property industry experts that help government officials gain insight into key areas of communication — RFPs, social media and customer service. This series is ideal for government employees looking to brush up on their skills or learn something new. Check out this quarter's guide, [How To Write a Great RFP: Six tips for getting the responses you want](#).



If you haven't paid 2014 dues, time is running out to renew! Comnet, a firm contracted by IAAO, will be calling members who need to renew throughout March. **All unpaid accounts will expire on April 1.** Log in at [IAAO.org](#) to pay your renewal or pay by phone at **800-616-4226**. If you need assistance, apply for a [Hardship Grant](#).

NEWBIES & NOTABLES



New Designees

IAAO would like to welcome several new designees! The following members have recently obtained professional designations: Sherri Bentley, Indiana—AAS; Rod Brevig, Idaho; Rita Llado, AAS, Florida; James R. Aprea, Texas; Caleb Howard, Iowa—RES. For information on how you can join this illustrious group, click [here](#).

2014
March 24–25, 2014
Marina Bay Sands Convention Centre, Level 4
 10 Bayfront Ave, Singapore 018956
Presented by the Institute of Valuers and Appraisers of Singapore

The Appraiser Qualifications Board (AQB) has issued an [Exposure Draft of a Proposed Revision to the 2015 Real Property Appraiser Qualification Criteria](#). Written comments are requested by **April 9, 2014**.

9th Annual Mass Appraisal Valuation Symposium
June 18–19, 2014

Calgary Marriott Downtown Hotel
 110 9th Avenue SE
 Calgary, Alberta
Presented by IPTI

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