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February 2026

# Louisville IIA Chapter News

## Message From The President

**Dear IIA Louisville Chapter Members,**

As we move into February, I want to extend my sincere appreciation to each of you for your continued engagement and support of our chapter. Your participation in our programs, your willingness to share knowledge, and your commitment to the profession are what make the IIA Louisville Chapter such a strong and vibrant community.

I continue to serve as acting president while our Chapter President remains on medical leave. She continues to face health challenges, and on behalf of the board and our membership, I ask that you please keep her in your thoughts and prayers. We remain grateful for her leadership and dedication to the chapter and continue to offer her our support during this time.

Our recent sessions have highlighted both the opportunities and responsibilities facing internal auditors in an evolving risk landscape. Following our January discussion on real-life AI use cases in Internal Audit, I'm excited to share details about our upcoming February event, which will focus on **"Professional Ethics for Internal Auditors and CPAs."**

Ethical decision-making sits at the heart of our profession, and this



session will explore the principles, standards, and practical challenges that shape ethical conduct for Internal Auditors and CPAs. Participants will examine real-world scenarios involving independence, objectivity, confidentiality, and professional judgment, as well as the pressures that can compromise them. Attendees will leave with a clearer understanding of how to apply ethical frameworks to everyday decisions and how to strengthen ethical culture within their organizations.

As always, I encourage you to attend, participate, and engage in the discussion. These conversations are critical as we continue to uphold professional standards, exercise sound judgment, and strengthen the trust placed in us as internal auditors.

I would also like to take a moment to thank our volunteers, officers, and committee members for their continued dedication. Your behind-the-scenes efforts ensure that we are able to provide high-quality CPE opportunities, relevant programming, and meaningful networking for our members. If you

are looking for ways to get more involved, we would welcome your interest and participation.

Finally, I want to share that our chapter will soon be holding elections for chapter officers and two Board of Governors (BOG) positions. This is a wonderful opportunity to help shape the future of our chapter and contribute to its continued success. Additional details about the election will be shared shortly. While we have already received nominations for most positions, I still encourage you to consider putting your name forward or encouraging a fellow member to do the same.

Thank you again for your continued support of the IIA Louisville Chapter. I look forward to connecting with you at our February meeting and throughout the year ahead as we continue to learn, grow, and strengthen our professional community together.

Warm regards,

**K. Robert Stutsman**  
Vice President (Acting Chapter President)  
IIA Louisville Chapter

### NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

The newsletter will be published monthly from September 2025 through May 2026. If you have a request for a submission please email the information to [stthomas@republicbank.com](mailto:stthomas@republicbank.com) and your submission will be included in the next month's issue

DERBY CITY DISCLOSURES



**February Monthly Meeting—Hybrid****Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2026**

Please register for this session by Noon on February 9th to secure your spot.

**Meeting Time:** 12pm—2pm (All IIA Louisville Chapter Events are held on Eastern Time.)  
*Networking and Check-In 11:30a-12p*

**CPE Credits:** 2 hour

<b>Cost:</b>	IIA Member Virtual:	\$30	
	Non-Member Virtual:	\$35	
	IIA Member In-Person:	\$40	
	Non-Member In-Person:	\$45	
	Student In-Person:		Free
	Student Virtual:		Free

**Location:** Virtual — Register below to receive call-in details

In-Person @ Dean Dorton (ShelbyHurst Campus)  
 435 N Whittington Pkwy Suite 400, Louisville, KY

**VENUE UPDATE:** Dean Dorton now has a visitor policy where all visitors must check-in and receive a visitor's badge upon arrival. All in-person attendees should arrive no later than 11:45am Eastern to allow enough time to complete the check-in process.

**Registration:** [Here](#)

**Speakers:** Jim Tencza, CPA, CIA, CGMA  
 Jodell Renn, CPA, CIA, CFE, CRMA

**Organization:** Dean Dorton

**Session Title:** Professional Ethics for Internal Auditors and CPAs

**Session Description:** Ethical decision-making sits at the heart of the internal audit and accounting professions. This session explores the principles, standards, and practical challenges that shape ethical conduct for Internal Auditors and CPAs. Participants will examine real-world scenarios involving independence, objectivity, confidentiality, and professional judgment, along with the pressures that can compromise them. Attendees will leave with a clearer understanding of how to apply ethical frameworks to everyday decisions and how to strengthen ethical culture within their organizations.

**Speaker Bios:** Jim Tencza is a Director with Dean Dorton and is located in the Louisville office. He has 36 years of experience in public accounting - 10 years with Arthur Anderson, 9 years with EY where he was a Partner, and 17 years with Dean Dorton. Jim is a CPA and a Certified Internal Auditor. His entire career has been in the assurance services area and he currently leads the Internal Audit Services group and the Manufacturing Industry group for Dean Dorton. He has extensive experience providing co-sourced internal audit services, performing risk assessments, consulting on governance structures, and developing policies and procedures to strengthen internal controls for companies and organizations of all sizes.

Jodell Renn is an Associate Director at Dean Dorton with over 30 years of experience in accounting and internal audit, including leadership roles at Jefferson County Public Schools, KHEAA/KHESLC, and Kentucky Housing Corporation. She has championed ethical practices and anti-fraud initiatives throughout her career, including implementing fraud hotlines, developing anti-fraud policies, and serving as Ethics Officer. A dedicated IIA member since 1996, Jodi has served the Louisville Chapter as President, Board member, and currently serves as the Midwest #1 District Representative.

**Lunch Option:** Qdoba burrito bar (Drinks will be provided)

# IIA Academic Relations

## IIA Academic Relations

### Student Memberships

#### **FREE IIA Student Memberships—Easier Enrollment**

The IIA now offers an easier way for students to enroll in a Student Membership. If you have any interns or know of any students who would like to join the IIA, please contact Zack Estes at [zestes@republicbank.com](mailto:zestes@republicbank.com) for assistance with enrollment.

#### **Academic Relations Volunteer Opportunities**

Occasionally, we may reach out directly to our members to ask for volunteers to participate in various student events. Please consider participating in student events for any of our local Universities. Please reach out to [Zack Estes](mailto:Zack Estes) to discuss opportunities.

#### **Internships**

If your company has an open internship position, please share the following with your HR/ Recruiting departments. The Universities require that internships be posted to their respective Career Services sites to satisfy their Equal Opportunity requirements. Handshake and Cardinal Careers are the sites used by the schools. Here's the link for [Cardinal Careers Employer Registration](#), which is used by UofL's School of Business. Here's the link for [Handshake](#), which is used by both Bellarmine and IUS. Please forward any open internship postings to [Zack Estes](#). We can help spread the word further about your internship by reaching out to faculty at the local universities.



#### LOUISVILLE IIA INSTAGRAM PAGE

Let's start sharing! We have an Instagram account to be used to post pictures, videos, announcements, etc. Also, we created it to help increase knowledge about what IA is with the goal of better engagement and increase membership to our chapter. Here is a link below: [IIA Louisville Chapter \(@iialouisville\) • Instagram photos and videos](#)

As you all have any information, photos, etc., please send to [Sean Byrnes](#) so they can post all the exciting things we are doing. Some ideas can be pictures of members and/or students receiving certification, students receiving scholarships, volunteer work we are doing, social events, etc.

# Certification News

## Certification Recognition



Mikhail Heaven obtained the Certified Internal Auditor designation

## Certification Information

It's an exciting time for internal audit certifications! The IAP is permanent, the CRMA has no prerequisite, and the CIA challenge exam is available for those with a CPA or CISA designation.

Ignite your professional impact by exploring the IIA's [Certifications](#) page, where each credential represents a commitment to integrity, insight, and continuous improvement. Discover the certification that aligns with your aspirations and supports the value you bring to your organization. You'll find everything you need to move forward with confidence—from getting started and applying, to preparing with purpose and managing your designation as you advance in your auditing career.

## Internal Audit Practitioner: Affordable, accessible, achievable

The Internal Audit Practitioner™ (IAP™) is designed for students and entry-level professionals and is a cost-effective way to validate your skills and gain credibility.

- Demonstrates command of globally recognized Standards
- Earn your permanent designation — add 'IAP' to your name
- No bachelor's degree required — accessible to all
- Skip the Part 1 exam when pursuing your CIA

Already passed CIA Part 1? [Apply for your IAP](#)

# New Members & Anniversaries

## New Members

Brandon Talley

## 25 year Anniversary

Heather DiEnno

## 10 year Anniversary

Teresa Walker

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*"Internal Audit: Keeping hearts and controls aligned."*

*"Cupid may shoot arrows, but we aim for compliance."*

*"Nothing says love like a clean audit trail."*

**“Calling all Auditors—  
Audit Roundtables”**

## CAE Roundtable

The Louisville Chapter of the IIA will begin offering roundtable discussions for Staff level and for Senior level auditors to facilitate networking, open dialogue, and upon establishment of interests of the attendees, begin to include training topics in the roundtable meetings.

If you are interested, please contact Shawn Steverson at [shawnsteverson@yahoo.com](mailto:shawnsteverson@yahoo.com).

## Volunteer Opportunities

The IIA Louisville Chapter is looking for volunteers for a few open committee positions. Positions currently open are:

- Advocacy Chair & Diversity Chair
- Government Relations Chair
- QAR Chair
- Seminar Chair

For more information please reach out to [Robert Stutsman](#), IIA Louisville Chapter President (Acting)

## Call for New Members

The IIA Louisville Chapter offers numerous benefits for members and we are always looking for new members to join our chapter. If you know someone who would like to join, please reach out to [Catie Knable](#) for more information. Some benefits of joining the IIA Louisville Chapter are as follows:

- Members-only rates on conferences, seminars, and executive development through Vision University can save you hundreds of dollars.
- Exclusive monthly Members-only Webinars are part of your core membership benefits and provide you with CPE units without ever leaving your desk or paying additional fees.
- Members-only rates for other specialty webinars and self-study courses provide easy access to advance your knowledge from the convenience of your own desktop.
- And much more!

## Career Opportunities

**Contract Audit Role:** Contact Andrea Higgins at [andrea.higgins@roberthalf.com](mailto:andrea.higgins@roberthalf.com) for more information about the role.

**OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS**

PRESIDENT

**Myhanh Pham**  
Synchrony

VICE PRESIDENT

**Robert Stutsman**  
Credit First National Association  
(CFNA)

TREASURER

**London Lopez**  
Humana, Inc.

SECRETARY

**Zack Estes**  
Republic Bank & Trust Company

PROGRAM CHAIR

**Lesley Clark**  
Federal Reserve Bank of St.Louis

**Joseph Gause**  
GM Financial

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

**Catie Knable**  
Caesars Entertainment

ACADEMIC RELATIONS

**Zack Estes**  
Republic Bank & Trust Company

**Roy Holden**  
Kentucky Lottery

ADVOCACY/DIVERSITY

**Open**

AUDIT CHAIR

**Brittany Myers**  
Republic Bank & Trust Company

CERTIFICATIONS CHAIR

**Bob Aemmer**  
LG&E and KU Energy

CHIEF AUDIT EXECUTIVE (CAE)

ROUNDTABLE CHAIR  
**Shawn Stevison**  
Humana, Inc.

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS CHAIR

**Open**

NEWSLETTER CHAIR

**Shenikia Thomas**  
Republic Bank & Trust Company

SEMINAR CHAIR

**Open**

QUALITY ASSESSMENT REVIEW CHAIR

**Open**

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES CHAIR

**Andrea Higgins**  
Robert Half Management Resources

WEBMASTER

**Sonja Heath**  
Humana, Inc.

SOCIAL MEDIA

**Sean Byrnes**  
Humana, Inc.

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

ELECTED MEMBER TERMS

**Roy Holden** (Thru 5/31/2026)  
Kentucky Lottery

**Jennifer Fritz** (Thru 5/31/2027)  
Churchill Downs

**John LeMaster** (Thru 5/31/2027)  
JCPS

**Kayla Thomas** (Thru 5/31/2027)  
Humana

**Grace Wilson** (Thru 5/31/2026)  
Humana

PAST PRESIDENTS TERMS

**Shawn Stevison**  
Humana, Inc. (Thru 5/31/2026)

**Lesley Clark**  
Federal Reserve Bank of St.Louis  
(Thru 5/31/2027)