

Association News

examination over the next several years, the Association is committed to assisting the academic accounting and criminal justice communities in becoming more knowledgeable about fraud and white-collar crime.

The scholarships will be awarded on the basis of (a) overall academic achievement demonstrated by notarized transcripts; (b) three letters of recommendation, including at least one recommendation from a Certified Fraud Examiner or a local CFE Chapter, plus additional recommendations from faculty members or academic advisors; and (c) an original essay of at least 250 words explaining why the applicant deserves the scholarship, and how the awareness of fraud will affect his or her professional career development.

"The scholarship program continues to be an excellent way for us to help students who may one day become CFEs," said Harry Miller, CFE, chairman of the Association's Continuing Education Committee, which judges the entrants. "The Association has made a broad commitment to white-collar crime education and fraud awareness, and it can start with college students before they even begin their professional careers," Miller said.

Children of Association Members are eligible for scholarships as long as they meet the requirements. However, applicants may not use letters of recommendation from their own CFE parents. The Association will award no more than one scholarship to a family member of a CFE.

Association chapters are encouraged to sponsor at least one scholarship applicant and to appoint a Member to call or write accounting and criminal justice departments at colleges and universities in your communities. This could generate positive public relations and give someone from your chapter an opportunity to speak with student groups or classes about the Certified Fraud Examiner program.

For 1998-99 Association Scholarship Program application forms and/or more information, contact your chapter president, or Dick Carozza at the Association, 1-800-245-3321. 🔍

Let's Communicate! CFEs Deserve Media Recognition

By Rick Ponds

Public Information Director

When I showed up for my first day of employment with the Association on Aug. 4, I was asked if I had any plans for the upcoming weekend. Then I learned I would be flying to Boston for the 8th Annual Fraud Conference. Before I knew the names of my co-workers, I was involved in the preparation for the Association's biggest and most important event of the year. Needless to say, it was a whirlwind first two weeks on the job as the Association's new public information director.

The highlight of the 8th Annual (besides visiting beautiful Boston and taking in a Red Sox game) was meeting many of the Association's Members. Although I shook many of your hands, it was impossible to meet all 500 in attendance. If I missed you this time, hopefully I will see you at another event. The 8th Annual Fraud Conference was truly entertaining and a marvelous learning experience.

To give you a little of my background, I earned a master of arts degree in communications before embarking on a broadcast journalism career that spanned nearly two decades. I have spent the past couple of years in the field of public relations. Having been a longtime member of the media, I have an astute awareness of their needs.

Many of you are aware of past media coverage involving



Rick Ponds
Public Information Director

the Association in such publications as *The Wall Street Journal*, *US News & World Report*, and *Forbes* as well as on ABC-TV's "Nightline" and "20/20." That kind of exposure will continue. However, our real focus is to increase awareness of the work being done by the individual CFEs. I want to direct the media spotlight toward you and your accomplishments. CFEs deserve recognition!

I am asking for your help. With close to 20,000 Association Members and more than 80 chapters worldwide, I know there are many interesting and untold stories. If you are involved in an exciting fraud case, or if you know of a CFE who is, we want to hear about it.

I am also responsible for monitoring media coverage given to the Association and its Members. Please let me know of any local, regional, national, or international media coverage. I will contribute media coverage updates to *The White Paper*.

Please write me: Rick Ponds, Public Information Director, the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners, 716 West Avenue, Austin, Texas, 78701. Or contact me at 1-800-245-3321 or (512) 478-9070; fax, (512) 478-9279. You can also send an e-mail to my attention at acfe@tpoint.net.

I look forward to meeting and hearing from each of you. All of you know what I learned in a short period of time: this is a wonderful Association! Let's spread the word.