



**February 14, 2018 – ACFE Greater Pittsburgh Area Chapter presents –
Lunch Meeting**

“Financial Frauds Targeting the Elderly – An Overview of Fraud Prevention Efforts”

**Speaker: Nicholas Smyth, Assistant Director for Consumer Financial Protection,
PA Office of Attorney General**

Location: Rivers Club, One Oxford Center, 301 Grant Street, Suite 411, Downtown Pittsburgh

11:45 am – 12:00 noon: Registration

12:00 noon – 1:00 pm: Presentation

Please RSVP to Doreen Culley: dculley@bc.pitt.edu or 412-624-4246

Registration deadline: February 12th at 3:00 pm

Cost: Members & Associates of the Greater Pittsburgh Area Chapter: \$25
All others: \$35

CPE: Qualifies for 1 credit hour of continuing professional education. Attendance certificates will be provided.

Nicholas Smyth will discuss a recent pattern of fraud targeting elderly consumers, in which scammers pretend to be grandchildren in trouble, or their attorneys, in order to convince the victim to send money using retail gift cards.

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Nick will discuss the Office of Attorney General’s work to help consumers avoid the fraud and to help retailers identify likely victims and prevent the fraud. He will also seek the audience’s input on additional ways to prevent the fraud or to catch the perpetrators when they spend the gift card in another state.

Nicholas Smyth is a Senior Deputy Attorney General and the Assistant Director of the Bureau of Consumer Protection at the PA Office of Attorney General (OAG). He helps manage the OAG’s work in matters involving consumer finance, such as student lending, mortgages, auto finance, payday lending, debt collection, credit reporting, debt settlement, and financial frauds. Prior to joining the OAG, Nick spent four years as an Enforcement Attorney at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB). Most recently, he was Senior Counsel at Xchange Leasing, an auto leasing company and Uber subsidiary, and a Senior Associate at Reed Smith. Before joining the CFPB as its fourth employee, Nick was part of a small team at the U.S. Department of the Treasury that drafted and revised the CFPB’s enabling act, the Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010. Nick is the Vice Chair of the Federal and State Trade Practices Subcommittee of the American Bar Association’s Consumer Financial Services Committee. He earned his BA in Government from Harvard College and his JD from Harvard Law. He lives in Pittsburgh.

Please join us for this interesting and relevant presentation.

Please reserve your space for the next meeting. The Chapter must provide an accurate count of attendees to the Rivers Club prior to the meeting and is responsible for paying for meals for no-shows. Additionally, only enough food is prepared for the number of registered attendees. While we understand that circumstances come up that cause people to miss meetings, in order to maintain our programs at an affordable rate for all attendees, the Chapter will no longer absorb the cost for attendees missing meetings. Failure to notify the Chapter within 24 hours of a meeting will result in an invoicing of the cost of the meeting to missing attendees. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

RSVP to Doreen Culley: dculley@bc.pitt.edu or 412-624-4246

Data Analytics User Group

Oftentimes, fraud is discovered by analyzing data. Data Mining and Data Analytics are methods that are available to corporations that are often overlooked due to time and effort.

The Data Analytics User Group is a group associated with the Pittsburgh Chapter of the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) made up of audit professionals who are willing to share successes and overcome challenges regarding the use of data analytics in a roundtable format. In order to appeal to the broadest group possible, the focus is not on a specific product (e.g., ACL, Idea, or Microsoft Excel). Those that are considering data analytics as well as those that are experts are encouraged and welcomed to participate in the interest of furthering data analytics usage within both the IIA and ACFE Pittsburgh Chapters.

Interested parties should contact Travis Hudson at Thudson@federatedinv.com to be added to the distribution list. Additional information will then follow about upcoming activities.

Cell Phone Forensic Tools

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Information Technology Laboratory Computer Security Resource Center supports stakeholders in government, industry and academia, providing access to NIST's cybersecurity- and information security-related projects, publications, news and events. One such publication, "Cell Phone Forensic Tools: an Overview and Analysis" gives an overview of current forensic software, designed for acquisition, examination, and reporting of data discovered on cellular handheld devices, and an understanding of their capabilities and limitations.

Abstract: Cell phones and other handheld devices incorporating cell phone capabilities (e.g., Personal Digital Assistant (PDA) phones) are ubiquitous. Rather than just placing calls, certain phones allow users to perform additional tasks such as SMS (Short Message Service) messaging, Multi-Media Messaging Service (MMS) messaging, IM (Instant Messaging), electronic mail, Web browsing, and basic PIM (Personal Information Management) applications (e.g., phone and date book). PDA phones, often referred to as smart phones, provide users with the combined capabilities of both a cell phone and a PDA. In addition to network services and basic PIM applications, one can manage more extensive appointment and contact information, review electronic documents, give a presentation, and perform other tasks.

All but the most basic phones provide individuals with some ability to load additional applications, store and process personal and sensitive information independently of a desktop or notebook computer, and optionally synchronize the results at some later time. As digital technology evolves, the capabilities of these devices continue to improve rapidly. When cell phones or other cellular devices are involved in a crime or other incident, forensic examiners require tools that allow the proper retrieval and speedy examination of information present on the device.

For the full publication:
<http://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/Legacy/IR/nistir7250.pdf>.



U.S. Attorney: Pittsburgh Man Ran Large-Scale Tax-Fraud Scheme From Behind Bars

A Pittsburgh man currently serving time for involuntary manslaughter will have another three years tacked on after being sentenced in connection with a tax fraud scheme run from his prison cell. [Read More](#)

Leader of Pittsburgh Police Accountability Group Charged With Insurance Fraud

A leader of a community group focused on police accountability has been charged with felony insurance fraud related to a September vehicle crash. [Read More](#)

Pittsburgh Real Estate Broker Sentenced in Mortgage Fraud Scheme

George Kubini, who with Squirrel Hill landlord Dov Ratchkauskas ripped off homeowners and lenders in an extensive mortgage fraud scheme that preyed on unsophisticated home buyers, is headed to federal prison for five years. [Read More](#)

Federal Case Opens Against Crafton Businessman Accused of Stealing From Investors

Albert Majkowski snookered investors out of millions meant for his high-tech start-up companies and used it to pay college tuition for his children, an RV, a diamond and other personal expenses, the government said on the first day of his federal fraud trial. [Read More](#)

Three Plead Guilty in Real Estate Scam That Used Fake Emails

Three men accused of using fake emails targeting real estate transactions in three states to steal hundreds of thousands of dollars from sellers admitted their guilt in federal court and are headed to prison. [Read More](#)

Grandparent Scam Continues to Claim Victims, Pa. Banking Officials Say

The caller said he was her grandson, and pleaded for help. [Read More](#)

Feds Employ Data-Driven Early Warning System in Opioid Fight

The pain clinic tucked into the corner of a low-slung suburban Pittsburgh strip mall was an open secret. [Read More](#)

Mon Valley Independent Co-Owner Disbarred Over Federal Fraud Plea

Keith Bassi, a Charleroi attorney and co-owner of the Mon Valley Independent, has agreed to give up his license to practice law following his guilty plea to federal mail fraud charges. [Read More](#)

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www.facebook.com/acfe.pgh

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About the ACFE

The ACFE is the world's largest anti-fraud organization and premier provider of anti-fraud training and education. Together with more than 80,000 members, the ACFE is reducing business fraud worldwide and inspiring public confidence in the integrity and objectivity within the profession. Visit www.acfe.com for more details.

Upcoming Events

- [Wednesday, March 14, 2018 – Lunch Meeting](#)
- [Wednesday, April 11, 2018 – Lunch Meeting](#)
- [Wednesday, May 9, 2018 – Lunch Meeting](#)
- [Wednesday, May 23, 2018 – Fraud and Corruption Awareness Seminar \(Co-Sponsored with the IIA and Schneider Downs\)](#)
- [Wednesday, June 6, 2018 – Lunch Meeting, Officer and Director Elections](#)

[Watch for more information on upcoming events!](#)