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March 2026

Louisville IIA Chapter News



Message From The President

Dear IIA Louisville Chapter Members,

As we welcome March and the arrival of a new season, I want to thank each of you for your continued engagement and support of our chapter. The energy and professionalism within the IIA Louisville Chapter continue to make me proud to serve this outstanding community of internal audit professionals.

At our recent February Board of Governors meeting, I was honored to be elected by the Board to serve as Chapter President. I am deeply grateful for the trust placed in me and look forward to leading alongside such a dedicated and talented group of officers and board members. I would also like to extend my sincere gratitude and well wishes to our prior President for her leadership, commitment, and service to the chapter. She has made a lasting impact on our organization, and we are thankful for the time, energy, and care she invested in strengthening our chapter. We continue to wish her the very best and keep her in our thoughts and prayers.

I am also pleased to share the results of our recent chapter elections. Thank you to all members who took the time to vote and to those who stepped forward to serve. Your engagement ensures strong leadership and continuity for our chapter.

2026–2027 Chapter Leadership:

- K. Robert Stutsman – President
- Zack Estes – Vice President
- London Lopez – Treasurer
- Grace Wilson – Secretary

2026–2028 Board of Governors:

- Joseph Gause
- Shenikia Thomas

We look forward to the contributions and perspectives each of these individuals will bring in the coming term and a big thank you to those that continue to serve the chapter.

Our February event on **Professional Ethics for Internal Auditors and CPAs** saw incredible turnout both in person and online. It was encouraging to see such strong engagement on a topic that sits at the very core of our profession. The thoughtful discussion and interaction reaffirmed our shared commitment to integrity, objectivity, and professional excellence. Thank you to all who attended and contributed to such a meaningful session.

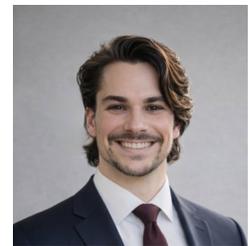
Looking ahead, we are excited for our upcoming program, **“2026 Top Risks and Opportunities – An Internal Audit Perspective.”** This insightful and interactive presentation will explore the most pressing risks and emerging opportunities on the horizon and what they mean for organizations and Chief Audit Executives. Our panel will share key survey results, discuss strategic implications for internal audit, and engage in an open dialogue designed to address

your most pressing questions. Whether you serve as a CAE, Board member, or audit leader, this session promises valuable perspective on navigating the evolving risk landscape. I encourage you to join us for what is sure to be a dynamic and forward-looking discussion.

And looking just a bit further ahead, we are thrilled about our upcoming social event and seminar in May at Churchill Downs. More details will be shared soon, but we are excited to combine professional development and networking at such an iconic venue. It promises to be a memorable event for our chapter.

As always, thank you for your continued commitment to the IIA Louisville Chapter. I look forward to serving you in this new role and to seeing many of you at our upcoming events as we continue to learn, connect, and elevate the internal audit profession together.

Warm regards,



K. Robert Stutsman
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 and your submission will be included in the next month's issue

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

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

Meeting Time: 12pm—1pm (All IIA Louisville Chapter Events are held on Eastern Time.)
Networking and Check-In 11:30a-12p

CPE Credits: 1 hour

Cost:	IIA Member Virtual:	\$15	
	Non-Member Virtual:	\$20	
	IIA Member In-Person:	\$25	
	Non-Member In-Person:	\$30	
	Student In-Person:		Free
	Student Virtual:		Free

Location: Virtual (Zoom)— Register below to receive 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: Lauren Markley, CPA
 Chase Carmack

Organization: Protiviti

Session Title: 2026 Top Risks and Opportunities – An Internal Audit Perspective

Session Description: Join us for an insightful and interactive presentation that delves into the most pressing risks and opportunities on the horizon and what they mean for your organization. In this session, our experts will showcase the latest survey results and provide valuable insights into what these results mean for Chief Audit Executives. Whether you're a CAE, a Board member, or a leader in the internal audit space, this panel is designed to help you navigate the evolving landscape of risks and opportunities of our times. Through an open and dynamic discussion, our presenters will address your burning questions, share key takeaways from the survey, and explore the strategic implications for internal audit.

Speaker Bios: **Lauren Markley** is an Associate Director in Protiviti's Internal Audit and Financial Advisory practice based out of the Indianapolis office. She has ten years of combined client service experience within Internal and External Audit. She has assisted clients in conducting and leading domestic and global internal controls compliance efforts, including controls rationalization, scoping, and risk assessments, process and controls documentation and testing, gap assessments, and SOX readiness efforts.

Chase Carmack is an IT Manager in Protiviti's Internal Audit and Financial Advisory practice based out of the Indianapolis office. He has 6 years of experience within IT Audit and Data Analytics. His background includes audits in disaster recovery, endpoint protection reviews, SOX readiness and compliance, vulnerability assessments and other cyber and compliance work.

Lunch Option: Jimmy Johns (Drinks will be provided)

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 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 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

CIA Challenge Exams – CPAs and CISAs

Take the next step and apply for the CIA Challenge Exam. The next application window opens April 1, 2026. Mark your calendar and don't miss the chance to enhance your internal audit credibility by adding CIA to your credentials.

Active CPA and CISA designation holders can earn the Certified Internal Auditor® (CIA®) designation through an expedited process. The CIA Challenge Exam is your way to expedite obtaining the CIA designation by successfully passing this one-part examination.

The CIA Challenge Exam only includes content not covered on your CPA or CISA exam, saving you time and money.

Program Timeline

Application window: April - September

Testing Windows: June, September, November, or February

Once your application is approved, please note you have 180 days to register, schedule, and sit for the exam.

Both CIA Challenge Exam pathways are being updated to align with the new Global Internal Audit Standards™. Effective June 1, 2026, the accounting (CPA/CA) and information systems (CISA™*) syllabi will be refreshed.

Visit the [Certifications](#) page to learn more about this opportunity.

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

25 year Anniversary

Mahalakshmi Santhanam

15 year Anniversary

Henry Goins
Catie Knable

10 year Anniversary

Julia Black



CAE Roundtable

“Calling all Auditors—
Audit Roundtables”

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.

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

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 for more information about the role.

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

PRESIDENT

Robert Stutsman

Credit First National Association
(CFNA)

CO VICE PRESIDENTS

Shawn Stevison

Humana, Inc.

Lesley Clark

Federal Reserve Bank of St.Louis

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

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)