



The Institute of  
**Internal Auditors**

Houston



# Chapter Newsletter

April 2025



## President’s Message

Hello Houston IIA and welcome to Q2! What an eventful year we’ve had thus far with a new set of tariffs taking effect today, as we all work to navigate an ever-changing political, geopolitical, economic, and regulatory landscape. Come to think if it, that’s a lot of changing. Change means we in the Internal Audit business have new risks to focus on and are likely re-prioritizing and/or re-sequencing our plans at a greater pace than in recent years. In closing today, I am really looking forward to seeing the almost 1,000 in person attendees for our Annual Conference on Monday!

Jordan



**Jordan Reed**  
Houston Chapter President  
president@houstoniia.org

## Social Media

Follow our **IIA Houston Chapter's Official LinkedIn** site by logging into LinkedIn, searching for “The Institute of Internal Auditors - Houston Chapter,” and clicking on the “Follow” button.





# Chapter News

## Upcoming Events

### 2025 IIA Houston Annual Conference – 8 CPE Hours

In Person @ NRG Center and Virtual | April 7, 2025 | 7:30am-5:00pm

Registration and information on the event can be found at the following link: [Register Here](#) (online only, in-person full!)

### May Webinar – Science of Audit Excellence – 1 CPE Hour

Virtual | May 14, 2025 | 12:00pm – 1:00pm

This insightful webinar will review Dr. Toby Groves’ scientific study on internal auditors, challenging conventional wisdom on audit decision-making. More information, including registration, will be sent out soon

### June Webinar – AI and IA – 1 CPE Hour

Virtual | June 10, 2025 | 12:00pm – 1:00pm

This training program aims to build a foundational understanding of AI and its applications, equip participants with skills to audit AI systems effectively, and explore integrating AI into internal audit functions. More information, including registration, will be sent out soon

## Volunteer Spotlight

**Jose Quintana** has been an active member of the IIA since his undergraduate days at Louisiana State University (LSU) in 2003 and has served as an Academic Relations Volunteer for the IIA Houston chapter since January 2022. His goal is to raise awareness of internal auditing as a career path, offering an alternative to the traditional External Audit and Tax routes many college programs emphasize. He also aims to connect college students with mentors who can guide them early in their careers. Grateful for the guidance he's received, Jose is committed to giving back through mentorship, coaching, and supporting growth. Professionally, Jose is an Internal Control Manager at Hitachi Energy. He holds certifications as a CIA and CFE, and has an undergraduate degree from LSU and a master's degree from the University of Houston. With over 15 years of experience, Jose has worked in internal audit across various industries.



Thank you, **Jose**, for your commitment to the Chapter and for helping to make our chapter a success!

## Job Postings


American National – Senior Auditor – [Apply here](#)



Calpine – Lead Auditor – [Apply here](#)



Golden Pass LNG – Senior Auditor – [Apply here](#)



## Audit Illumination


### It's Time for the IIA Houston Chapter Annual Conference!

Hello, audit trailblazers!  The countdown is on, and we're just days away from the 2025 IIA Houston Chapter Annual Conference! Get ready to be dazzled by a lineup of illuminating sessions, inspiring speakers, and endless networking opportunities. Here's a sneak peek to get you excited for Monday!

**General Session 1: "Ask Questions" with Terry Granfenstine**  Kick off your week with a burst of curiosity as Terry Granfenstine, Chair of the Institute of Internal Auditors Global Board, 2024-2025, lights up the stage. Terry will guide us through the importance of asking questions in the face of emerging technologies like AI and cybersecurity. Her mantra? "Ask Questions" – because that's how we uncover the greatest threats and opportunities! 

**General Session 2: "Reaching New Heights" with José Hernández**  Prepare to soar to new heights with former NASA astronaut José Hernández. From migrant farmworker to space explorer, José's journey is a testament to perseverance and hard work. He'll share his illuminating experiences and contributions to space technology and medical imaging. Truly, he'll show us how to reach for the stars! 

**General Session 3: "The Realities of Blowing the Whistle: Behind 'The Big Conn'" with Sarah Carver & Jennifer Griffith**  Wrap up the day with a spotlight on integrity as Sarah Carver and Jennifer Griffith tell us how they revealed the largest Social Security scam in U.S. history. These courageous whistleblowers will emphasize the importance of oversight, accountability, and anonymity for whistleblowers. Their story will illuminate the critical role whistleblowers play in maintaining organizational integrity. 

And that's just the beginning! The 2025 IIA Houston Chapter Annual Conference promises to be a radiant source of knowledge, inspiration, and networking. So get ready to shine! 

# Welcome New Members!!



The Institute of  
**Internal Auditors**  
Houston

Karlen Alexander	Aye Aye Thet Han	Ian Peterson - Academy Sports & Outdoors
Deana Atry - Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alabama	Serhat Khan	Margaret Prejean - Baker Hughes Inc
Syed Haider Ali Baqvi - Halliburton	Jada Lewis - Group 1 Automotive	Rosa Robinson - Alabama Department of Revenue
Robert Barton - Plains All American Pipeline	Mylene Lovag - Westlake Chemical Corporation	Katherine Stover - Quanex Building Products
Alina Bouasry	Sukhmin Kaur Bath Mahal - BDO USA, P.C.	Katelyn Swanson
Alice Bullington - Shell Oil Company	Ashley McWilliams - Protiviti Inc	Linda Trinh - JPMorgan Chase & Co
Kendall Chamberlin	Blake Milton - Western Midstream Partners, LP	Rebecca Valdes
Desiree Ferrell - Chevron	Lisa Nguyen	Diem Vu - CITGO Petroleum Corporation
Jose Figueroa - TransCanada PipeLines Limited	Mmesoma Nwachukwu	Meredith Welch - Insperty

## Register for the Upcoming IIA Conferences and Trainings

[Fraud Analytics for Internal Auditors Certificate](#) | In-person & Virtual

[Performing an Effective Quality Assessment](#) | In-person & Virtual

[ESG Certificate: Internal Auditing for Sustainable Organizations](#) | In-person & Virtual

## Membership Privileges

Membership with the IIA provides you with the tools and guidance needed to succeed and thrive in your career! Top benefits include the following:

- Complimentary Specialty Centers access
- Specialty and member-only webcasts
- Online testing for certifications
- Practice Guides, GTAGS, Thought Leadership, *Internal Auditor* Magazine
- Member-only discounts

Membership also includes access to career center resources and job postings (<https://jobs.theiia.org/jobseeker/search/results/>)

If you need assistance with your membership or would like more information on benefits provided, email the Chapter VP of Membership and Certifications, Christine Lally at [membership@houstoniia.org](mailto:membership@houstoniia.org)

## Call for Volunteers

### Houston Chapter Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteering is a great way to contribute to both your personal and Chapter's success – it expands your professional and personal network, provides development opportunities in skills such as project management, communication, and leadership, provides better job prospect, and adds fun to your years!! Many volunteer positions only require an hour or two each month, and some can be broken down into smaller tasks requiring even less!

Email us at [membership@houstoniia.org](mailto:membership@houstoniia.org) if you would like to volunteer!

## Group Membership

Organizations with as few as three eligible members can take advantage of substantial savings with an IIA Group Membership. Government, Public Sector, and Educators – additional savings are available for you! Consider a group membership to both save money and help to support all your team members grow in the profession!

<https://www.theiia.org/en/membership/>

## Membership Frequently Asked Questions Page

The Institute of Internal Auditors has a Membership FAQ page. Check it out!

<https://www.theiia.org/en/membership/membership-faq/>

## THANK YOU TO OUR 2025 ANNUAL CONFERENCE SPONSORS!

### Platinum Plus

*AuditBoard*      *BDO USA LLP*      *Crowe LLP*      *IAStream*  
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*RGP*      *The Seigfried Group*      *Toppan Merrill & AXIA Partners*

### Platinum

*CBIZ Risk & Advisory Services*      *EY*      *RSM US LLP*  
*Vaco LLC + MorganFranklin Consulting*      *Workiva*

### Gold

*ACFE*      *BGSF*      *Deloitte & Touche LLP*      *Forvis Mazars*      *Grant Thornton*  
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## IIA Houston Communications & CPE

All communications from the Houston Chapter will come from [chapter23@theiia.org](mailto:chapter23@theiia.org). If you do not receive our emails:

- Please be sure to have added these e-mail addresses to your safe sender list/whitelisted.
- Verify that you're listed as affiliated with the Houston Chapter. Check your profile on The IIA's website and ensure you are affiliated with the Houston chapter <https://myiia.theiia.org/Chapter/index>.
- Please visit your member profile on TheIIA.org to confirm your email preferences globally, and if you've previously unsubscribed from a chapter email, let us know at [administration@houstoniia.org](mailto:administration@houstoniia.org) if you'd like to re-subscribe.

CPE certificates are sent within 5 to 10 business days for all events. If you have not received your CPE certificate within 10 business days of the event, please contact [registration@houstoniia.org](mailto:registration@houstoniia.org). All requests for replacement CPE certificates must be made within 30 days of the event.

### Academic Relations

We look forward to IIA members helping students realize their potential and succeed by making presentations to students about internal audit career, communication, and leadership skills; being guest lectures; participating in career fairs; being a panel judge in student courses, case analysis and other competitions; and helping students with their communication skills. To volunteer send an email to John Lodde, Houston IIA VP Academic Relations, at: [academic-relations@houstoniia.org](mailto:academic-relations@houstoniia.org)

### Contact Us!

- Jordan Reed | President | [president@houstoniia.org](mailto:president@houstoniia.org)
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- Chad Cranford | Secretary | [secretary@houstoniia.org](mailto:secretary@houstoniia.org)

## Why should you get CIA Certification?

As The IIA's premier designation for more than 40 years, the CIA sets the standard for excellence within the profession. Earning the CIA is an important step toward demonstrating your core internal audit skills and knowledge.

Earning a professional internal audit credential is a critical step to being distinguished from your peers and will:

- Enhance credibility and respect.
- Sharpen skills and proficiencies.
- Increase your earning potential by as much as 51%\*.
- Demonstrate understanding and commitment.

Click the following link to learn more about the benefits of obtaining your certification: [Certified Internal Auditor](#).

## Annual Certification Renewal

CIA certifications in Revoked status can now be restored to Active with just one exam. Individuals who wish to participate will only need to complete a recertification application and CIA Part 1. This new policy is posted to [theiia.org/CPRequirements](http://theiia.org/CPRequirements).

## Prepare to Pass the CIA Exam

The IIA's CIA have a variety of resources to help you learn, review, and apply the key CIA content. For more information, visit [www.learnCIA.com](http://www.learnCIA.com)

***Thank you for being  
a member of  
the IIA Houston  
Chapter!!***