



# Dallas Area Chapter



## President's Letter

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### Dallas Area Members:

I hope everyone had a pleasant holiday! Are you ready for another year of continuing education? We start off the New Year on January 8, 2009, with a great speaker, Parks Stearns. He will focus on insurance fraud schemes in a time of economic downturn and discuss the rationalization of fraud by people who ordinarily would not be involved in crime. He will also discuss some

actual case studies. Please plan on joining us on January 8<sup>th</sup> for Mr. Stearns' interesting presentation. You may RSVP on our website ([dallasacfe.org](http://dallasacfe.org)), or by e-mailing Dori Bohl at [dbohl@anderson-cpa.com](mailto:dbohl@anderson-cpa.com). Please make your reservation by Monday, January 5<sup>th</sup>.

In February we will be inviting students from our local universities for our annual "University Day" luncheon meeting on February 11<sup>th</sup>. Jim Ratley, the President of the International ACFE, will be our featured speaker. Please mark your calendars for this special event.

For the past several years the Dallas Chapter has

awarded scholarships for local university students. Our former long-standing board member, Don McConnell, will be heading up the scholarship committee this year. If you would like to volunteer to work with Don McConnell on selecting the scholarship recipients please notify me. The scholarships will be awarded in the spring.

Thank you for your continued support of the Dallas Chapter!

- Jean Manuel,  
*Chapter President*

## LUNCHEON REMINDER



CityPlace  
2711 North Haskell  
Avenue  
Dallas, Texas  
75204

Thursday, January 8, 2009  
11:30 A.M.—1:00 P.M.

**TOPIC:**  
"Insurance Fraud in  
a Time of Economic  
Downturn"

Everyone  
MUST R.S.V.P  
online

by  
*Monday, January 5<sup>th</sup>*  
at  
[www.dallasacfe.org](http://www.dallasacfe.org)



## December Luncheon Highlights



I would like to thank everyone who attended and helped to make our December luncheon a success. Joseph Hendrix prepared a wonderful presentation on Conducting Investigations in Today's Corporate Environment.

We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming January luncheon. Former FBI Special Agent Parks Stearns will present Insurance Fraud in a Time of Economic Downturn. Be sure to register online.



**Joseph Hendrix**  
Global Security Group



## \$50,000 bribe offered over \$3.80

This news of a student offering a huge bribe for a small ticket actually comes as good news for once. It means the economy is back to normal. Hooray!

A student in Australia offered a cop \$50,000 in exchange for not giving him a \$3.80 ticket, according to *The Courier Mail*.



The whole thing was over skipping a train fare because nothing screams "I have \$50,000 in cash on me in small bills" more than public transportation.

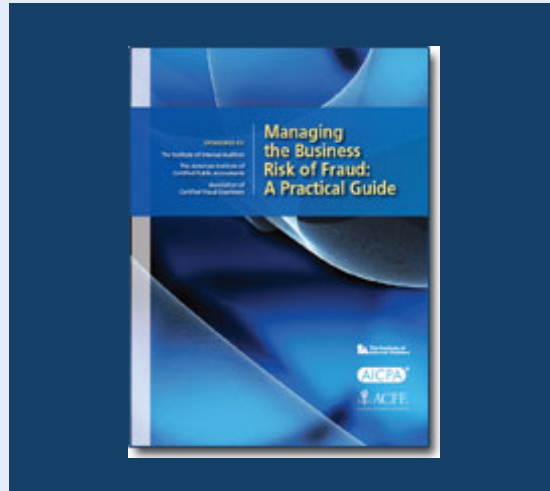
He only would have gotten a measly ticket, but the bribe slaps on a felony charge. If you're wondering whether or not that's worse, don't ever get a ticket.

[www.dumbcriminals.com](http://www.dumbcriminals.com)

## New Anti-Fraud Resources

### New Guidelines For Fighting Fraud Released

New guidelines for fighting fraud have been released jointly by three leading professional organizations. "Managing the Business Risk of Fraud: A Practical Guide" is sponsored by the ACFE, The Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA), and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). Principles for establishing effective fraud risk management, regardless of the type or size of an organization, are outlined in the guide.



[www.acfe.com](http://www.acfe.com)

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## January's Luncheon Guest Speaker Insurance Fraud in a Time of Economic Downturn



**PARKS HARDING STEARNS**

Former FBI Special Agent Parks Stearns was born in New Orleans, Louisiana and reared in Dallas, Texas. He graduated from Jesuit High School in Dallas and attended the University of Texas graduating from law school there in 1969. He entered on duty with the FBI in March, 1969 and, after training at Washington, D.C. and Quantico, Virginia, was assigned to the Seattle office where he investigated Fugitive and Espionage matters.

He was transferred to San Francisco in 1970 to investigate Bank Robberies. After several years in this assignment, he was made the Principal Legal Advisor and, in this capacity, assisted in the prosecution of Patricia Hearst.

In 1977 he was promoted to the Legal Counsel Division at FBI Headquarters. For a year he assisted in the defense of civil suits filed against the FBI and its agents, and then was transferred to the Congressional Affairs Unit to provide legislators and their staff with the FBI's position regarding proposed legislation.

In 1980, he was fortunate enough to receive a transfer to Dallas where he supervised squads of Special Agents in investigation of Fraud, Fugitive matters, Terrorism and counterespionage. For the last two years of his career, he coordinated a multi-agency investigation of Russian Organized Crime involvement in staged vehicle collision insurance fraud. Additionally, he was the Legislative Counsel of the Dallas office in which capacity he responded to inquiries by members of Congress and their staffs, assisted in the preparation of correspondence regarding proposed legislation, and engaged in general liaison with congressional entities. Parks retired from the FBI after almost twenty nine years of law enforcement service.

He is currently Regional Manager of the Special Investigative Unit of Kemper, A Unitrin Business, where he supervises investigators in the western two thirds of the United States in combating insurance fraud. Parks has served on the Board of Directors of the North Texas Chapter of the International Association of Special Investigative Units and, two terms as president of that organization.



## *Dallas Area Chapter*

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The Dallas Chapter supports the international mission of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners through its educational programs and seminars, which promote an enhanced awareness of fraud prevention, detection and investigation techniques among its membership and throughout the business and law enforcement communities. At the same time, program attendees are provided an opportunity to earn their annual continuing education credits and network with a diverse group of professionals in related fields.

