



# Chapter News and Events



September 2009

Southeast Georgia Chapter

[www.gscpa.org](http://www.gscpa.org)

## President's Message

We had a great turn out for our first meeting with Bob Prator, chair of the GSCPA. Bob gave us an update on Society activities and his plans for the next year. Upcoming events for the Society include the Fall Council Meeting at Callaway Gardens on November 8 & 9, and for next year the Spring Council meeting will be combined with the annual conference at the Westin in Hilton Head, SC. Bob said he had never had such a warm reception for his presentation. Though he was referring to the temperature, we were glad to have him join us and did give him a warm welcome and thank you.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, September 16 at the Nesmith Lane Continuing Education Building at Georgia Southern. Thanks to the efforts of Dr. Lowell Mooney, we are honored to have Mr. Ernie Almonte, chair of the AICPA present our program. I hope that we will pack the house to hear more about "The CPAs Role in Exercising Leadership."

Abbie Gail Parham  
Southeast Georgia Chapter President

## Chapter Meeting Information

***Please note this month's meeting is on Wednesday instead of Tuesday.***

Our September meeting will be on Wednesday, September 16 at the Nesmith Lane Continuing Education Building at Georgia Southern University. The social time and registration will be at 6 p.m. followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m. The program will begin at 7:15 p.m. Please RSVP to [Abbie Gail Parham](mailto:Abbie Gail Parham) at 912-478-5037. ***RSVP deadline is Friday, September 11 at 12 p.m.*** Cost of the meeting is \$25.

## Speaker's Biography

Ernest A. Almonte is the Auditor General of the State of Rhode Island, a position he has held since 1994. As Auditor General, he is responsible for auditing of the \$7 billion State Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, the \$3 billion Federal Single Audit, Municipal Oversight, Performance Audits, Fraud Audits, and oversight of quasi-public agencies. He manages a staff of 46 and has over 30 years experience in the accounting profession.

From 1982 until 1994 he had his own CPA firm in Smithfield, RI, servicing clients from New England and several other states.

He holds both a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration and a Master of Science in Taxation Degree from Bryant University. Mr. Almonte is a graduate of the Senior Executives in State and Local Government and Innovations in Governance at the Harvard University John F. Kennedy School of Government.

In addition to being a Certified Public Accountant, he is also Certified in Financial

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[Educational Foundation](#)

## Upcoming GSCPA Courses in Savannah

9/11/2009 -

[Annual Update for  
Accountants & Auditors](#)

9/24/2009 -

[Advanced Controller and  
CFO Skills](#)

10/5/2009 -

[2009 Annual Business Law  
Update](#)

## Upcoming GSCPA Courses in Atlanta

9/9/2009 -

[Auto Dealers: Special Tax  
and Accounting  
Considerations  
\(New\)](#)

9/9/2009 -

[Analytical Procedures for  
Nonprofit Organizations](#)

Forensics, a Certified Government Financial Manager, a Certified Information Technology Professional, and Certified Fraud Examiner.

Mr. Almonte has been active in the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and currently serves as it's Chairman. He also served as the Chairman of the Finance Committee, the Audit Committee, and the Members in Government Committee of the AICPA.

Mr. Almonte was appointed by the Secretary of Defense as the State of Rhode Island Chairman of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve and currently serves on the Department of Defense Audit Committee. He was appointed by the Comptroller General of the United States to the Government Auditing Standards Committee. He attended the 54th National Security Forum at the Air War College after being selected by the Secretary of the Air Force. He served as the Chairman of the New England Intergovernmental Audit Forum and is the Past President of the National State Auditors Association and the Rhode Island Society of CPAs.

Mr. Almonte is the recipient of the Department of the Army Outstanding Civilian Service Medal, Rhode Island Public Expenditure Council "Robert M. Goodrich Distinguished Public Award" – 2004, the Giovanni da Verrazzano Man of the Year – For Outstanding Service to the Rhode Island Community – 2005 , the Rhode Island Society of CPA's – Centennial Outstanding CPA in Government, and other awards in his career. "Accounting Today" named Mr. Almonte in 2008 and 2005 as one of the Top 100 Most Influential People in the Accounting Profession.

Mr. Almonte is an active speaker on various topics such as government finance, electronic government, auditing, fraud, and the CPA profession.

## Legislative News

### H.R. 2110 – The Mobile Workforce State Income Tax Fairness and Simplification Act

On April 27, Congressman Hank Johnson introduced legislation that is one of the top legislative priorities for CPAs across the country. Congressman Johnson reintroduced a bill he sponsored last Congress that would set minimum national standards for state and local income tax withholding and taxation of non-resident income.

The Georgia Society of CPAs (GSCPA) wrote to Congressman Johnson earlier this year urging him to reintroduce the bill in the current Congress. Due to the myriad of state income tax withholding laws, compliance is extremely difficult and time consuming. Having a uniform national standard will significantly simplify compliance with all of the different state laws. Passage of this bill will mean most employers will be better able to judge when withholding is necessary in states other than the home state of their employees.

In addition to sponsoring the legislation, Congressman Johnson has written two "Dear Colleague" letters to every Member of the United States House explaining the need for the legislation and urging them to co-sponsor H.R. 2110.

The GSCPA thanks Congressman Johnson for his leadership in sponsoring this important legislation.

the AICPA will be presenting "Professional Update and the CPAs Role in Exercising Leadership."

• **Tuesday, October 20, 2009** – Vidalia, GA (place to be determined) – Mr. Hale

9/10/2009 -  
[Religious and Other Faith Based Nonprofits: Tax, Accounting and Management](#)

9/11/2009 -  
(1:00 - 4:30 p.m.)  
[Investing in a Declining or Expanding Economy \(New\)](#)

Sheppard will be presenting "Tax Issues/Update."

- **Tuesday, November 17, 2009** – Statesboro, GA (place to be determined) – Judge Kathy Palmer will be presenting our program.

- **Tuesday, January 19, 2010** – Joint meeting with Beta Alpha Psi on Georgia Southern Campus.

- **Tuesday, May 4, 2010** – Metter, GA (place to be determined) - Mr. Tom Ledford, chairman of the Lenox Group will be presenting our program.

Please note that our evening meetings will begin with a social at 6 p.m. and dinner at 6:30 p.m. cost of the meeting is \$25. Please RSVP to [Abbie Gail Parham](#) at 912-478-5037.

## Chapter Officers

President: [Abbie Gail Parham](#), CPA,CMA, CFM  
912-478-5037

Vice President: [Vivian S. Myers](#), CPA  
912-764-6951 ext 37

Secretary/Treasurer: [Sadonna Burkett](#), CPA  
912-537-3017

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