



OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC AUDITOR

Yap Investigator Earns CFE Credential

April 18, 2013

The Office of the Yap State Public Auditor (OPA) is pleased to announce Leelkan Southwick has earned the Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE) designation. The CFE is awarded by the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE), the world's large anti-fraud organization and a leading provider of anti-fraud training and education. Ms. Southwick is an investigator employed by OPA's Compliance Investigation Division (CID).

Under the leadership of Chief Investigator Sophia Pretrick, CFE, CID is was created as a new division within OPA, which specifically handles allegations of fraud, waste, and mismanagement. Coupled with its program objective to build capacity of the local investigator, the division's Manual of Operating Procedures requires that all of its investigators become CFEs. Southwick began working on acquiring CFE certification after she joined CID in May 2012, and is the fifth person in FSM to earn the CFE credential.

In order to become a CFE, Southwick has met a set of stringent criteria and passed a rigorous exam administered by the ACFE. She has successfully met the ACFE's character, experience, and education requirements for the CFE credential, and has demonstrated knowledge in four areas critical to the fight against fraud: Fraudulent Financial Transactions, Fraud Prevention and Deterrence, Legal Elements of Fraud, and Fraud Investigation. Chief Investigator Sophia Pretrick highly commends Investigator Southwick's exceptional accomplishment through dedication, commitment, and hard work.

The ACFE is the world's largest anti-fraud organization and premier provider of anti-fraud training and education. Together with more than 60,000 members, the ACFE is reducing business fraud world-wide and inspiring public confidence in the integrity and objectivity within the profession. Identified as the "premier financial sleuthing organization" by the Wall Street Journal, the ACFE has captured national and international media attention. For more information about the ACFE please visit ACFE.com.

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