



State of Illinois  
State Internal Audit Advisory Board  
(SIAAB)

# 2025 Illinois Government Auditing Conference

**October 21-22, 2025**  
*(Optional Seminar on October 23, 2025)*

Northfield Inn, Suites & Conference Center, Springfield, IL  
*Co-Sponsored by the Springfield Chapter of the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA)*



## State of Illinois State Internal Audit Advisory Board

2025 Illinois Government Auditing Conference  
October 21-22, 2025

The State Internal Audit Advisory Board (SIAAB) is proud to co-sponsor the 2025 Illinois Government Auditing Conference with the Springfield Chapter of the Institute of Internal Auditors.

Part of SIAAB's mission is to serve internal audit training needs among the State's internal audit agencies. This year's conference offers a wide variety of topics, including opportunities to network with your peers to exchange ideas and information. We hope that the range of topics offered at this conference will be beneficial to all participants and their agencies.

Please take this opportunity to join us in Springfield for our annual Illinois Government Auditing Conference. For only \$150 for IIA members (\$200 for nonmembers), you can earn up to 14.0 hours of CPE; plus an additional half-day Springfield IIA Chapter session is available for \$80 IIA member fee (\$120 for nonmember) for an additional 4.0 hours of CPE.

We would also like to invite you to learn more about SIAAB by visiting our Web site at: [siaab.audits.illinois.edu](http://siaab.audits.illinois.edu).

Nikki Lanier, CPA  
SIAAB Chair  
Chief Internal Auditor  
Illinois Department of Revenue  
[Nikki.Lanier@illinois.gov](mailto:Nikki.Lanier@illinois.gov)

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## Things to do in Springfield

Venture out and explore the Land of Lincoln!

Springfield is bursting with things to see and do. Whether you are looking for something upbeat or low key, Springfield has it all. The opportunities are endless!

Springfield is also known for its unique dining and locally owned restaurants. From the city's *signature horseshoe sandwich* to ethnic cuisine, Springfield's restaurants offer an eclectic selection to pamper any palate.

Additional information about things to do and the many attractions in and around Springfield can be found at the Visit Springfield Illinois website ([www.visitspringfieldillinois.com](http://www.visitspringfieldillinois.com)).

## Hotel accommodations

A special discounted rate of **\$110.00** (plus tax) is available at the **Northfield Inn, Suites & Conference Center** in Springfield, IL for the night before each conference date.

The **Northfield Inn** is located at **3280 Northfield Drive, Springfield, IL 62702**, and provides free parking. The **Northfield Inn** also provides complementary shuttle service to/from Amtrak, airport, and bus stations upon request.

Reservations are to be made directly with the Northfield Inn by calling **217-523-7900**. The block of rooms for this conference is reserved under the name of **Institute of Internal Auditors**. **This block of rooms will be released on October 6, 2025**. After the cutoff date, there is no guarantee rooms will be available at State rates.

Additional information about the **Northfield Inn** can be found at The Northfield Inn's website ([www.northfieldinn.com](http://www.northfieldinn.com)).

# Conference at a glance

## DATE

Tuesday, October 21, 2025, and Wednesday, October 22, 2025

## FIELD OF STUDY

Governmental Accounting and Auditing

## COURSE OBJECTIVES

Increase professional accounting and auditing skills pertaining to:

- Status of the Audit Profession in the State of Illinois
- Cybersecurity and Information Technology Governance
- Enterprise Risk Management
- Professional Ethics
- Navigating Excel with MrExcel
  - All attendees get a copy of MrExcel's 70th book, *Navigating Excel!*
- Red Collar Crime and Fraud Offenders

## COURSE LEVEL

- External / Internal Audit Staff, Supervisors, and Managers
- Chief Internal Auditors / Chief Audit Executives

(No advanced preparation required.)

## LOCATION

Northfield Inn, Suites & Conference Center

## MAXIMUM CPE OFFERED

- **14 hours** for attending the 2025 Illinois Government Auditing Conference
- **4 hours** for attending the 2025 Illinois Government Auditing Roundtables
- **4 Hours optional** post-conference session provided by the Springfield IIA Chapter

## COURSE FEES

- **\$150** (Member) and **\$200** (Nonmember) for the 2025 Illinois Government Auditing Conference
- **\$80** (Member) and **\$120** (Nonmember) for the optional Springfield IIA Chapter half-day session on October 23, 2025

## COURSE MATERIAL AND SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

- On the Conference Page at: [siaab.audits.uillinois.edu/Fall\\_Conference](http://siaab.audits.uillinois.edu/Fall_Conference)

## CPE SPONSOR LICENSE REGISTRATIONS

- State Internal Audit Advisory Board (SIAAB) – IDFPR # 158001129
- Springfield Chapter Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) – IDFPR # 158001595

# Tuesday, October 21, 2025 Agenda

07:45 a.m. – 08:30 a.m.

## REGISTRATION / BREAKFAST / SIGN-IN

08:30 a.m. – 08:45 a.m.

## OPENING REMARKS

Nikki Lanier, CPA, SIAAB Chair  
Chief Internal Auditor, Illinois Department of Revenue  
Jay Wagner, CIA, CFE, CISA, SIAAB Conference Coordinator  
Chief Internal Auditor, Office of the Illinois Attorney General  
[siaab.audits.uillinois.edu](http://siaab.audits.uillinois.edu)

08:45 a.m. – 09:35 a.m.

## State of Illinois Executive Ethics Commission

Nathan Rice, Director  
Illinois Executive Ethics Commission  
[eec.illinois.gov](http://eec.illinois.gov)

09:35 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

## SHORT BREAK

09:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

## Navigating Public Sector Cybersecurity

Peter Tsengas, Director  
Baker Tilly  
[bakertilly.com](http://bakertilly.com)

10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

## BREAK

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

## Incident Response Planning

Jason Bowen, Statewide Chief Information Security Officer  
Department of Innovation & Technology  
[DoIT.illinois.gov](http://DoIT.illinois.gov)

12:00 noon – 01:00 p.m.

## LUNCH

01:00 p.m. – 02:00 p.m.

## Americans with Disabilities Act: Reasonable Accommodations

Robin Jones, Director  
Great Lakes ADA Center  
[www.adagreatlakes.org](http://www.adagreatlakes.org)

02:00 p.m. – 03:00 p.m.

## Professional Ethics in an AI World

Stephen W. Minder, CPA, CIA, CFE, CISA  
Chief Executive Officer, YCN Group  
[ycngroup.com](http://ycngroup.com)

03:00 p.m. – 03:20 p.m.

## BREAK

03:20 p.m. – 04:20 p.m.

## Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) in Government and Small Departments

Shaun Farmer, CFE, Chief Internal Auditor  
Illinois Toll Highway Authority  
[getipass.com](http://getipass.com)  
Norris James, Corporate Governance Advisor  
Baker Tilly  
[bakertilly.com](http://bakertilly.com)

04:20 p.m. - 04:30 p.m.

## WRAP-UP AND ADJOURNMENT

# Wednesday, October 22, 2025 Agenda

07:45 a.m. – 08:30 a.m.

**REGISTRATION / BREAKFAST / SIGN-IN**

08:30 a.m. – 08:35 a.m.

**OPENING REMARKS**

8:35 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

**Legislative Audit Commission (LAC) Update**

Jaimee Ray, Executive Director, Legislative Audit Commission

[lac.ilga.gov](http://lac.ilga.gov)

09:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

**Navigating Excel with “MrExcel” Bill Jelen**

*Everyone gets a copy of MrExcel’s 70<sup>th</sup> book, [Navigating Excel!!!](#)*

[MrExcel.com](http://MrExcel.com)

10:00 a.m. – 10:20 a.m.

**BREAK**

10:20 a.m. – 12:00 noon

**Navigating Excel with “MrExcel” (Continued)**



“MrExcel” Bill Jelen is the host of [MrExcel.com](http://MrExcel.com) and the author of 70 books about Microsoft Excel including Excel for Auditors, Excel Gurus Gone Wild, and Pivot Table Data Crunching. He has made over 80 guest appearances on TV’s Call for Help with Leo Laporte and was voted guest of the year on the Computer America radio show. He writes the Excel column for Strategic Finance magazine. He has produced over 2100 episodes of his video podcast Learn Excel from MrExcel. Bill will entertain you while showing you the powerful tricks in Excel. Before founding MrExcel.com in

1998, Bill spent twelve years “in the trenches”, as a financial analyst for the accounting, finance, marketing, and operations departments of a publicly held company. Since then, his company automates Excel reports for hundreds of clients around the world.

12:00 noon – 01:00 p.m.

**LUNCH**

01:00 p.m. – 02:00 p.m.

**Red Collar Crime**

Frank Perri, JD, CPA, CFE

[www.linkedin.com/in/frank-perri-jd-cpa-cfe-63333023](http://www.linkedin.com/in/frank-perri-jd-cpa-cfe-63333023)

02:00 p.m. – 02:10 p.m.

**BREAK**

02:10 p.m. – 03:10 p.m.

**Red Collar Crime (Continued)**

03:10 p.m. – 03:20 p.m.

**BREAK**

03:20 p.m. – 04:20 p.m.

**Predatory Fraud Offenders**



Frank Perri JD, CPA, CFE coined the term Red Collar Crime, devoting decades in studying fraud offenders who resort to violence. In addition to working as a criminal trial attorney, Frank travels nationally lecturing on red collar crime, predatory fraud offenders, and organizational misconduct.

From 2015 through 2019, Frank taught at the graduate level in forensic accounting at DePaul University. He received his law degree from the University of Illinois, an MBA from Case Western Reserve University and bachelor’s degree from Union College. In addition to being a certified public accountant, he is a member of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners. In 2016, Frank received the ACFE Hubbard Award for best article of the year. His books include:

- Red Collar, White Collar Crime: Corporate, Predatory and Violent Fraud Offenders
- Fraud Examination: An Accounting, Behavioral and Criminological Approach

04:20 p.m. – 04:30 p.m.

**CLOSING COMMENTS, WRAP-UP AND ADJOURNMENT**

05:00 p.m.

**SPRINGFIELD IIA SOCIAL NETWORKING EVENT**

At Top Cats Chill and Grill, 3211 E Sangamon Ave, Springfield, IL  
Less than one mile from the Northfield Center

# Thursday, October 23, 2025 Agenda

08:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

## State of Illinois Internal Auditor Roundtables

If you did not receive an invitation, contact:

[Harold.Wagner@ilag.gov](mailto:Harold.Wagner@ilag.gov)

12:00 noon – 01:00 p.m.

## BOX LUNCH

## Optional IIA Training (additional fee, not included with Conference)

12:00 noon – 01:00 p.m.

## BOX LUNCH

01:00 p.m. – 04:30 p.m.

## The People Puzzle: Interviewing, Body Language and Generational Insight for Auditors

Elizabeth McDowell, CPA, CIA

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

### **The People Puzzle: Interviewing, Body Language and Generational Insight for Auditors**

**By Elizabeth McDowell, CPA, CIA**

Auditing is as much about people as it is about procedures. This session builds key interpersonal skills — interviewing, body language, and generational awareness — to help internal auditors communicate effectively, read the room, and build trust during audits.



**Elizabeth McDowell, CPA, CIA** has over 20 years of audit experience and is the founder of Audit Forward, an innovative internal audit consulting and training firm. Elizabeth is passionate about advancing and advocating for the internal audit profession and was recognized as one of the 2023 Internal Audit Beacons by Richard Chambers. Elizabeth makes auditing and training fun (no, really!) with the help of her mascot, Audie the Internal Otteror. In addition to training and consulting, Elizabeth is an adjunct Professor of Accounting at Front Range Community College. Elizabeth's most recent industry experience was at Achieve, where she was Sr. Director, Audit Strategy; prior to that, she held internal audit leadership roles at Elevations Credit Union, Fidelity Investments, and Xcel Energy after first starting her career at Ernst & Young.



# Conference Registration

## 2025 Illinois Government Auditing Conference

Co-Sponsored by the Springfield Chapter of The Institute of Internal Auditors  
Tuesday, October 21, 2025, and Wednesday, October 22, 2025  
Northfield Inn, Suite & Conference Center

### REGISTRATION FEES

**\$150** (Member/Student) and **\$200** (Nonmember) for the 2025 SIAAB Government Auditing Conference, October 21, 2025, and October 22, 2025.

Optional Springfield IIA Chapter Seminar, October 23, 2025:

**The People Puzzle: Interviewing, Body Language & Generational Insight for Auditors**  
*By Elizabeth McDowell, CPA, CIA*

**\$80** (Member) and **\$120** (Nonmember); *Free for Students!*

### CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Payments are accepted online by credit card, by mail, or by paying at the door on the day of the training. **Invoicing is available to State of Illinois agencies.**

Please register on-line by **noon** on **October 17, 2025** at:  
Illinois Government Auditing Conference, October 21-22, 2025  
[na.eventscloud.com/2025-siaab-conference](https://na.eventscloud.com/2025-siaab-conference)

**State of Illinois Internal Auditor Roundtables, October 23, 2025**  
If you did not receive an invitation, contact [Harold.Wagner@ilag.gov](mailto:Harold.Wagner@ilag.gov)

Optional Springfield IIA Chapter Seminar, October 23, 2025:  
[na.eventscloud.com/thepeoplepuzzle2025](https://na.eventscloud.com/thepeoplepuzzle2025)

### PAYMENTS

Credit cards are accepted during online registration.

Make Checks Payable to  
THE INSTITUTE OF INTERNAL AUDITORS – SPRINGFIELD  
(FEIN 37-1088763)

Please Mail Checks to  
The Institute of Internal Auditors – Springfield Chapter  
P.O. Box 332, Rochester, IL 62563

### CANCELLATION POLICY

Written notice of cancellations received on or before **October 17, 2025**, will be fully refunded. After **October 17, 2025**, cancellation refund requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis.  
Substitution of registrants is allowed.

### PLEASE NOTE

Registration for this conference **will be closed at noon on October 17, 2025**. Registrations after the closing date will be added as cancellations are received. If you wish to be placed on a waiting list for this conference, please contact H. Jay Wagner at 217-524-4094 or at [Harold.Wagner@ilag.gov](mailto:Harold.Wagner@ilag.gov)