



MEMORANDUM

DATE: JANUARY 19, 2012
TO: THE MEMBERSHIP: NATAS - NATIONAL CAPITAL CHEASAPEAKE BAY CHAPTER
FROM: THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS / NCCB CHAPTER
RE: CHAPTER STATUS

As many of you may know, this has been a challenging period for our chapter. Unfortunately, for legal reasons, we have been unable to address your questions directly. However, we now feel it's important to let you know as much as we can about what's happening.

First and foremost, it's important for you to know that our Chapter is on firm financial ground. The Emmy Awards and all other events will go on as planned. The services provided to you, the membership, will continue uninterrupted. We have new leadership in place and the Chapter is heading in the right direction.

Here's what happened:

In October 2011, discrepancies were found in our financial records. As a new President and new Executive Committee, we discovered this situation and quickly notified our National Executive Committee and immediately began the process of thoroughly reviewing our finances.

We employed the assistance of a forensic accountant for this task. We have also consulted with an attorney who advised us of our options.

We want our membership to know that we have implemented steps to prevent any future financial issues. These steps include an annual outside audit and the creation of a new Budget and Finance committee. We also want our membership to know that this matter will not have an impact on our mission and responsibilities as an organization, nor will it result in an increase in membership dues or expenses.

This will also have no effect on any of our annual events, including the Regional Emmy Awards. In the meantime, we are pursuing legal avenues to remedy the situation to the greatest extent possible.

Here's what we've done internally:

With the help of the National Academy, the Board of Governors has implemented a "List of Best Practices" which is now part of our Chapter By-Laws. These "Best Practices" will put in place an oversight process and checks to prevent these events from occurring again, including re-implementing the process of mandating that no one individual shall have access to the Chapter finances.

We have also elected new National Trustees, a new Alternate Trustee and added new members to the Board of Governors including a new Governor to act as Treasurer. As a Board, we have recommitted to full oversight and accountability when it comes to financial matters. We are also committed to improving our communication with the membership and becoming the kind of organization you deserve.

Here's what we ask:

We ask for your support, your patience, and your involvement. As we said, the services and events sponsored by this chapter will continue uninterrupted. But at the same time, the Board of Governors sees this period as an opportunity for tremendous growth by the chapter.

If you have suggestions, make them. If you want to become involved, the door is always open. Together we can make the National Capital Chesapeake Bay Chapter one of the strongest in the country.

Any media inquiries should be directed to National Trustee, Melinda Roeder at mroeder@sbgnet.com.