2016 Learning Event Highlights

The Northern California ACAMS Chapter is dedicated to delivering high quality, relevant training events to its members. The Chapter held six learning events in 2016, with two of those in the Sacramento area for our Sacramento Extension members.

In February for our first event, speakers Chris Hallenbeck and Greg Rupert discussed cybersecurity trends and challenges for financial institutions and AML professionals.

On May 3, we hosted a networking social for West Coast AML Forum attendees.

On May 24, we held our first learning event of the year for our Sacramento Extension members on Casinos and gaming, sponsored by Agreeya. Speakers Iwona Castro and Ron Jacobs from Red Hawk Casino discussed back office casino operations and Alex Seddio discussed AML programs for casinos.

In August, the Chapter held its fourth annual learning event focusing on Emerging Payment Technologies hosted by Facebook. Due to the high popularity of this event, it was extended from a half-day to a full day event. There were five sessions covering the following topics:

- Lifecycle of a Payment with speakers from Airbnb, Stripe and Sipree
- JOBS Act and Crowdfunding Update with speaker from Equity Multiple
- New Wave of FinTech with speakers from Stratis Advisory, Fintech Forge and Stockpile
- Product, Global Expansion and Market Considerations with speakers from Flywire and Paypal
- CDD and its Application to Emerging Payments with speakers from OAP and Crowe Horwath

In October, the Chapter held its second learning event in the Sacramento area on the topic of Terrorist and Illicit Finance. Speaker Erin O'Loughlin covered terrorist finance and technology, modern jihadism and the new landscape of terrorist and illicit finance.

In November, the Chapter held its year end learning event, “Northern California ACAMS has Talent” and networking social, sponsored by Computer Services, Inc. (CSI). For this learning event, we highlighted Chapter members who have completed advanced CAMS certifications. Ryan Hodge, CAMS Audit and Miguel Alcantar, CAMS FCI discussed the topics of their white papers, which were completed in order for them to obtain their advanced certifications.

Copies of some of the presentations can be found on our Chapter site.
Chapter Membership

The ACAMS Northern California Chapter has over 350 members representing banks, money services businesses and government. Members work at a variety of different companies, including Wells Fargo, First Republic Bank, Bank of the West, CA DBO and Square. Chapter membership has remained steady since early 2016, increasing slightly over the year. We are the third largest ACAMS organization globally. Membership benefits include:

• Free CAMS credits: We hold between five and six learning events each year.
• Cost is $50
• Networking: In addition to learning events, we hold social events to assist with building up your network.

Visit our website for more information.

A Special “Thank You” to all our 2016 speakers and sponsors: Chris Hallenbeck, Greg Rupert, Mayank Johri, Kevin Kinkade, Todd J. Plantedosi, Iwona Castro, Ron Jacobs, Alex Seddio, Melissa Strait, Quinn Rotchford, Cody Nevels, Jason Henrichs, Maria Potapov, Dan Schatt, Peter Butterfield, Gabriel Adams, Bradford Cross, John Epperson, Erin O’Loughlin, Miguel Alcantar, Ryan Hodge, AgreeYa and CSI.

Tentative 2017 Events Topics

The Chapter will continue to host social and learning events throughout the year in both the Bay Area, as well as the Sacramento area. Tentative topics for our 2017 Learning Events include:

• 2016 Year in Review & Networking Social (Held January 19. See photo to the left)
• How to utilize the internet as an effective investigative research tool (Scheduled for April 3)
• Know Your Market
• Emerging Payments
• System Optimization and MIS

Additionally, you should have received a survey asking for you to vote on topics for the later part of the year:

• Medical Marijuana: State vs. Federal legality
• OFAC and FCPA
• Beyond AML - Related Regulations (Reg E, Privacy, Information Security)
• Beneficial Ownership

If you have suggestions for specific events/topics you would like to see, please send us a note: norcalacams@gmail.com

ACAMS Northern California Chapter Mission

The mission of the Northern California ACAMS Chapter is to support the goals of the International ACAMS organization to provide outstanding learning and training events and professional development opportunities, as well as support for its members’ needs in the AML industry. The Chapter will strive to fulfill its mission by: educating and training AML professionals in private and government organizations regarding anti-money laundering and fraud detection specific to our area, the crossroads of technology and financial services innovation; and collaborating and networking with other local AML professionals to increase industry knowledge and job effectiveness from this interaction and exposure.

Check out our LinkedIn group page for Chapter updates!

Our Board Members: Lisa Lechner (Co-Chair), Brian Stoeckert (Co-Chair), Faranak Firozan (Secretary), Steve Christie (Treasurer), Amanda Low (Communications Director), Bob Kenny (Membership Director), Arjun Kalra (Programming Director), Ryan Hodge (Co-Programming Events Director), Colleen Kears (Co-Programming Speakers Director), Jana Hatten (Chapter Extension Director)