

State &
Federal
COMMUNICATIONS

COMPLIANCE NOW

E-News from State and Federal Communications, Inc.

February - March 2007

A Changing of the Guard

2007 marks a time when a new round of officials again takes over in Washington, and at state and local levels. Sweeping changes are at hand. Already the national, state and local agendas are taking on new items and reviving old ideas. As just one example, in one of the first acts of 2007, the Senate passed an Ethics and Lobbying Reform Bill by a 96-2 vote. The bill forces senators to attach their names when they ask for funding for special interest projects. The bill requires full disclosure of all congressional earmarks. These must be posted on the internet and also made available to the public. There is also a way to strike out wasteful earmarks that are added to spending bills.

The bill, as passed, also will implement the following:

- **lawmakers** are barred from accepting gifts/trips paid for by lobbyists
- **senators** must wait two years before lobbying former colleagues
- **pensions** would be refused to lawmakers convicted of serious crimes
- **senators** would pay full charter rates when they accept rides on private jets
- **spouses** of sitting senators would be prevented from lobbying the Senate
- new reporting and disclosure rules would be established for **lobbyists**.



Elizabeth Bartz with new Ohio Governor Ted Strickland (D) at his Inaugural Ball in January.

You can look at this one example and imagine the numerous other changes to come at each level of government this year.

In my home state of Ohio, the Democratic candidate Ted Strickland defeated the Republican challenger Ken Blackwell to become the new Ohio Governor. I attended his Inaugural Ball on January 13 and witnessed firsthand the "Changing of the Guard" in Ohio. Stay tuned for a year full of interesting developments and CHANGE!

Elizabeth Z. Bartz
President and CEO
State and Federal Communications, Inc.

Value-Added Benefits from State and Federal Communications

There are excellent benefits to having an all-online approach to the compliance information State and Federal Communications offers in our Executive Source Guides.

One Cost/Multiple Employee Access – Once a company or institution signs up for one, two or three of the Executive Source Guides, ANYONE in the company the key contact deems appropriate can have access to the State and Federal Communications website. There is No Additional Charge for more users at the company.

Fresh Information is Available – When new website compliance content is approved at State and Federal Communications, it is uploaded so clients always have the latest reports at their fingertips. In the past, printed guides were only updated twice each year, and CDs were updated three times per year.

24/7 – Wherever you are, whatever time it is, and on any given day, as long as you can access the internet, you can get the latest compliance updates at www.stateandfed.com

The ALERTS Bonus – For our ALERTS consulting clients, all the Executive Source Guides are provided AT NO ADDITIONAL COST as part of the package. This allows our clients to research key questions or statutes related to their compliance activities when needed.



2007 Florida Renewal Issues

YOU SHOULD KNOW

It is important to review all materials provided by the various state agencies. The Florida Executive Lobbying Division rejected registrations prepared on the 2007 registration form that was available online. Instead, the state required a pre-populated renewal form be submitted by all lobbyists



registered in 2006. The Florida Legislative Lobbying Division did accept registrations prepared on the 2007 registration form.

Innovate to Motivate Wrap-up

At "Innovate to Motivate," the National Conference for Political Involvement Professionals held January 30-February 2 at the Don CeSar Beach Resort in Florida, the State and Federal Communications team had the chance to again visit with clients and colleagues in the industry. We had an exhibit during the conference, and also hosted a "Super Bowl" themed party one evening that had continuously packed attendance. At our hospitality suite we previewed the movie, The Longest Yard and offered real "stadium food" for our guests. Thanks for attending! We look forward to next year.



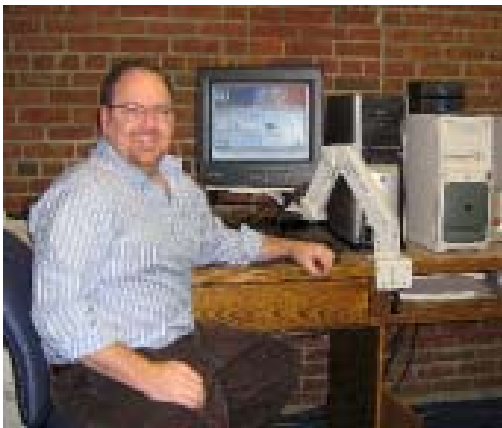
Organization Highlight

Here is another resource that Compliance Now readers will be interested in...The US Chamber of Commerce – "Vote for Business" program. The US Chamber of Commerce is the world's largest business federation representing more than three million businesses and organizations of every size, sector, and region. It has created a special website www.voteforbusiness.com as the Chamber's commerce advocacy network. The site is very helpful in educating individuals and companies on how to set up and promote pro-business activities. There is also a section that presents the U.S. Chamber's political action committee, USChamberPAC. Get involved now!



Meet Dave

Meet Dave McPeck, IT Systems Analyst. Dave has been with State and Federal Communications for about a year. In his work with the IT Team, Dave assists with department operations, publishing our Research Team data to the website, and general development. Dave is very much looking forward to helping State and Federal Communication leverage technology to bring even more value to our clients and our in-house client support team members. When asked about the value of technology in the field of Government Relations, he stated that database and web advances enable individuals to access so much more information than in previous years. In our data intensive



environment, where accuracy, timing and efficiency bring value to the table, we must constantly work to develop the best tools possible. Good luck to Dave and the IT Team!

Ohio Senator Coughlin



Some members of the State and Federal Communications staff meet with Ohio Senator Kevin Coughlin (R) at an Akron Press Club meeting. Senator Coughlin has served three terms in the Ohio House of Representatives. [pictured are: Susan Stofka, Elizabeth Z. Bartz, Senator Coughlin, John Cozine, Dawn Taussig, Bobbi Simpson, Cy Naumoff]

A Special Mention



Amber K. Fish, Esq., (left) from our team of ALERTS Compliance Associates, took a well-deserved break to tie the wedding knot to Rick Linke. The bride is shown here at the reception with fellow State and Federal Communications Compliance Associate, Cy Naumoff, Esq.

See Us in Person

Plan to say hello at future professional development events where State and Federal Communications will be attending and/or speaking regarding compliance issues.

National Public Affairs Council Conference
February 26 - March 1, 2007
Miami, Florida
www.pac.org

NASPO
March 4-6, 2007
Baltimore, Maryland
www.naspo.org

SGAC
Annual Meeting
March 20-23, 2007
Chicago, Illinois
www.sgac.org

ALEC
Annual Meeting
July 26-29, 2007
Philadelphia, PA
www.alec.org