

TAPIA Times



Spring 2018 Conference ★ February 27 - March 1 ★ Houston

Register today: mytapia.org

Drop what you're doing, go to mytapia.org, and register for TAPIA's Spring 2018 Conference! You don't want to miss what we have planned!

For starters, we've invited representatives from the Texas Windstorm Insurance Association (TWIA), to speak and have a Q&A with participants. You know that will be an informative and lively session.

Beyond that, our speakers address the theme of *Public Adjusting: Industry Best Practices from A to Z*. They'll cover a range of topics related to what PAs need to know and do to solicit, assess, negotiate, and settle property loss claims on their own. Something for everybody here—whether you're still learning the ropes or in need of a refresher.

We've applied for seven CD credits. That alone makes for a meaningful conference. But there's more! Along with our always-fabulous meals and receptions (thanks to our excellent sponsors), we've added a golf tournament (see back page), a great group dinner buffet, and karaoke! You read that right—karaoke!

It's going to be a worthwhile and fun conference with a lot of opportunities to get better acquainted with the great people who make TAPIA so great!

Coming to Houston?

Reserve your room now to get the special rate!

Deadline is February 7!

Hotel Derek

2525 West Loop South
Houston, Texas 77027

**Special TAPIA Rate:
\$139 Double or King**

Reserve online using the link on mytapia.org

OR

Call 1-866-292-4100

Tell them you're with TAPIA!



The Texas Association of Public Insurance Adjusters promotes the highest standard of professional and ethical practice in the field of public adjusting. TAPIA members are the leaders in the industry. We protect the rights and interests of insured home and business owners dealing with property loss after a fire, severe weather, or other disastrous event.



It's Up To Each of Us To Make A Difference

YOU are invited to a very special upcoming event, exclusively for public adjusters. We are just a few short weeks away from TAPIA's 2018 Spring Conference taking place in Houston, February 27 thru March 1. That's right around the corner!

I know we are all busy helping policyholders after the destruction wrought by Harvey, but I hope you will take advantage of this unique opportunity. We need to join forces, share our war stories, and learn something valuable that we can take home and put into practice while planning for the future of public adjusting in Texas.

TAPIA is applying for seven continuing education credits on claims adjusting topics. You will be treated to great cocktail parties, karaoke, golf, and delicious food and beverages throughout, all for under \$200! It's a great value and an important opportunity for public adjusters in Texas to unite.

TAPIA has met a number of milestones in our brief existence. It was in 2010 that TAPIA was created to protect our industry and build a voice. Today we serve a diverse membership and we enjoy representation in the Capitol. I am proud of you and of TAPIA. We've come a long way, but there is so much more to do, and we need your participation.

Each of you play an important role in representing policyholders through the insurance claim process. TAPIA plays an important role in representing our industry and providing you with an opportunity to add your ideas to strengthen our voice through collaboration and unity.

One industry with one voice. We must stand strong and united to face the numerous challenges we are confronted with year-round. To those of you who have recognized and met the challenge through membership with TAPIA, I thank you. Our small industry would have no voice, or a smattering of differing voices that would go unnoticed, if it weren't for you.

To those of you who have not yet experienced the value of joining

forces with other professionals in our industry – I invite you, especially, to join us in Houston to see what you're missing. I'm confident you will see the value in the work TAPIA is doing for you and will choose to join the fight for our industry and the policyholders we represent.

I am honored to serve as TAPIA's President. I will be reaching out to each of you to get your feedback and suggestions on what TAPIA can do to continue to be a valuable resource to you and your business.

We all know there is strength in numbers. So one of my goals is to not only continue the great work of our Past Presidents in protecting and furthering the interests of public adjusters, but also to make a concerted effort to strengthen TAPIA. For in strength, we can accomplish all things. I am asking each and every one of you to reach out to your fellow public adjusters who have not yet joined TAPIA. Ask them to help play a role in protecting our industry by joining TAPIA.

It's up to each one of us to help make a difference. ***See you at the conference!***



TAPIA Officers & Directors

Visit mytapia.org for contact info

President: Lorinda Mikesell

Vice President: Gary Pennington

Treasurer: Loy Vickers

Secretary: Brian Haden

Directors:

Michael Fried

Chris Lackey

Kelli Rogers

Kermith Sonnier, Sr.

Tim Woodard

Past Presidents

2017 - Curtis Hordge, Jr.

2016 - Don Wood

2015 - Gary Timmons

2014 - Thomas Ross

2013 - Doug Morris

2012 - Clay Morrison

2011 - Art Jansen, Jr.

2010 - Jim Beneke

Kaye Beneke, Executive Director

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Austin, TX 78703

512-299-6680

TAPIA@mytapia.org

One disaster is enough.
Don't let your insurance claim be another.
Get an expert. Call a TAPIA member.

Introducing the NEW mytapia.org

TAPIA's new website has a fresh look, updated information and easier navigation. But TAPIA members who have already tried it out say one of the best features is the directory—searchable by geographic location. Visitors can find TAPIA members within varying distances of a ZIP code or city.

Now, TAPIA members have more control over their own member listings—including updating contact details and adding logos, information about services, etc. Visit the Members Only page for sign in instructions to get started.

The new site was developed by Steve Cook of Austex Websites. He continues to work with TAPIA to add a few new features soon.

2018 Committee Chairs Appointed

Make a difference! Join a committee!

TAPIA President Lori Mikesell announced the following committee chair appointments in January:

- Appraisal (ad hoc): Chris Lackey
- Conference: Brian Haden & Mike Fried
- Ethics & Grievance: Kelli Rogers
- Legislative: Loy Vickers
- Membership: Tim Woodard
- Public Relations: Gary Pennington
- TDI Relations: Don Wood



In making the announcement, President Mikesell invited TAPIA members to get more involved in the association through committees. “Like most strong organizations, TAPIA relies on committees to carry out its mission,” she said. “The more members involved in committees, the more effective and powerful TAPIA can be.”

To find out more about a committee, contact the chair via their directory listing on the website or send email to TAPIA@mytapia.org.

TAPIA GOLF TOURNAMENT



A flyer for the TAPIA Golf Tournament. The top half features a golfer in mid-swing on a green field under a bright sun. Text on the flyer includes: 'WILDCAT GOLF CLUB', '12000 Alameda Rd. Houston, TX', 'FEBRUARY 28TH 1:30 TEE OFF', and 'SCRAMBLE STYLE!! (means best ball out of your team). You do not need to be an avid golfer to play. This is for fun and to build relationships.' A circular logo for TAPIA (Texas Association of Public Insurance Adjusters) is shown in the bottom right corner of the flyer.

Golf Anyone?

TAPIA introduces its first-ever golf tournament at the 2018 Spring Conference. You don't have to be a great (or even good) golfer to join the fun. Just let us know if you want to play and we'll get you on a team.

If you'd like to sponsor a team, hole, longest drive, or closest to pin, let us know that, too.

QUESTIONS?

Mike Fried: mike@mytxpa.com

Michelle Cruff: mcruff@gplawfirm.com

TAPIA: TAPIA@mytapia.org

There's strength in numbers—

TAPIA invites YOU to join our ranks!

TAPIA represents the leaders in public adjusting and related fields in Texas. Our members uphold and promote the highest standards in professional and ethical conduct. We are a respected voice for the industry in the Texas Legislature and Texas Department of Insurance.

All members get discounted conference registration, TAPIA news and legislative updates, use of the Association logo, and listing on the TAPIA website.

Affiliate and Attorney Affiliate members enjoy increased visibility in the PA community through select sponsorship opportunities and participation in TAPIA events.

Currently there are three membership levels. For more detailed information about the criteria for each, visit the website.

Public Adjuster Member – \$500

- Public Adjuster licensed by the State of Texas.

Affiliate Member – \$2000

- An individual, partnership, corporation, or nonprofit organization that directly supports the work of public insurance adjusters (e.g. accountant, business insurance provider, data professional, supplier, or other professional that supports the work of public adjusters).

Attorney Affiliate Member – \$2500

- An individual attorney or a law firm that supports the work of public adjusters.

It's easy to apply for TAPIA membership:

1. Visit mytapia.org
2. Find the forms on the Join TAPIA.
3. Follow the instructions on the forms.

Questions? Send email to TAPIA@mytapia.org.