

## ***The CACI Advantage***

**Wednesday  
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**By  
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### **CACI Unveils Statewide Voter-Education Program for Employees**

In a statewide press release today, CACI announced the launching of a non-partisan, voter-education program, *The Colorado Prosperity Project*, to educate workers across Colorado about the candidates and issues that affect their lives, jobs and future prosperity and to increase voter turnout on November 7<sup>th</sup>.

The *Colorado Prosperity Project* is a joint venture of CACI and the Business Industry Political Action Committee (BIPAC), which is located in Washington, DC.

The *Colorado Prosperity Project* will spot-lighted tomorrow morning at the special regional CACI meeting hosted by the Longmont Chamber of Commerce. The event, “Strengthening Colorado’s Competitive Economic Future,” will be held from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. at the Radisson Hotel & Conference Center, 1900 Ken Pratt Boulevard, Longmont.

Surveys after the 2004 elections found that 53 percent of voters surveyed wished their employers would have provided more information about issues and how those issues affect their jobs.

Because of this finding, the *Colorado Prosperity Project* provides employers with political tools and non-partisan information. Employers in turn can use Web-based *Prosperity Project* tools to deliver and communicate information to their workers on issues ranging from health care and environment to taxes and tort reform.

A key part of the *Prosperity Project* toolkit is the “Voter’s Guide,” which provides information on candidates running for key positions at the Federal level. The Web-based toolkit includes voter registration information, early and absentee ballot information and polling-place location. An issue-alert system and letter-writer program encourage employees to write their elected officials on issues affecting Colorado. Workers can view online voting records on important issues for their elected federal officials.

CACI members can access the *Colorado Prosperity Project* at the CACI Web site by clicking on the “Take Action” icon, which will soon be replaced by a BIPAC *Prosperity Project* icon:  
[www.COchamber.com](http://www.COchamber.com)

In the coming days, we will communicate more to you about how you as a CACI member—whether you are at a business, trade association, local chamber of commerce or economic development organization—can become involved in the CACI/BIPAC *Colorado Prosperity*

*Project.* CACI staff today and tomorrow will be meeting with a team from BIPAC to map out a detailed work-plan.

BIPAC is an independent, bipartisan organization whose mission is to identify, endorse and elect champions of free enterprise and to encourage greater business participation in the political process. BIPAC developed the *Prosperity Project* in 1999. In 2000, it began partnering with state and local chambers of commerce and state manufacturers' associations to develop state-specific content and tools on key issues for the business community at the state and local levels. For more information about the national *Prosperity Project* or BIPAC, call Lauren Yates at 202.776.7477 or visit [www.bipac.org](http://www.bipac.org)

### **Coors Brewing Company to be Platinum Sponsor of CACI Annual Meeting October 23<sup>rd</sup>**

The **Coors Brewing Company**, whose Vice President of Government Affairs, Al Timothy, is the Chair of the CACI Board of Directors, will be the Platinum Sponsor of the CACI Annual Meeting Luncheon on October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

In addition, there are four new Silver Sponsors: **BP America, Faegre & Benson LLP, Sun Microsystems** and **Qwest**.

Gubernatorial candidates Republican Bob Beauprez and Democrat Bill Ritter will debate critical business issues facing Colorado at the CACI Annual Meeting Luncheon, 12 Noon-1:30 p.m., Monday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, at the Tabor Center Westin. The Luncheon will be preceded at 10:00 a.m. by the Annual Meeting of the CACI Board of Directors, which will elect officers and new Board members.

As mentioned in the August 30<sup>th</sup> issue of *The CACI Advantage*, the Gold Sponsors are **AngloGold Ashanti N.A.** and **Eastman Kodak**. The other Silver Sponsors are **The Boeing Company, CH2M Hill, Lockheed Martin, Pinnacol Assurance, Wells Fargo Bank N.A.** and **Expedx**

Questions about the Annual Meeting should be directed to Denise Reeves, CACI Vice President of Events and Programs, at 303.866.9622 or via e-mail at [dreeves@COchamber.com](mailto:dreeves@COchamber.com)

### **Citywide Banks to Sponsor CACI Breakfast with Kansas City Fed's Economist October 31<sup>st</sup>**

On October 31<sup>st</sup>, Citywide Banks will sponsor a CACI breakfast meeting with Mr. Michael J. Orlando, Vice President, Branch Executive and Economist, Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, at the CACI Office.

Citywide President & CEO Tom Flanagan, Jr., is a member of the CACI Board of Directors.

The meeting is open to all CACI members at no charge. The continental breakfast will be held from 7:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m., and the program with Mr. Orlando will run from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m.

Mr. Orlando is the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City's economist and lead officer for the Denver Branch, which serves Colorado, Wyoming and northern New Mexico. In this role, he is responsible for evaluating developments in the regional economy, which forms the basis for his

participation in briefings prior to the meetings of the Federal Open Market Committee. He also is the principal advisor on energy issues to the President of the Kansas City Fed.

Mr. Orlando joined the Bank's Economic Research Department in June 2000 and was named Vice President and Branch Executive in January 2006. He received a B.S. in Petroleum and Natural Gas Engineering from Pennsylvania State University and acquired six years of experience in the Gulf of Mexico, practicing in the fields of reservoir and environmental engineering. He also holds an MBA from Tulane University and MA and Ph.D. degrees in Economics from Washington University, St. Louis.

Mr. Orlando's research spans a range of topics that includes industrial agglomeration, networks, corporate governance and energy. More information on his areas of research can be found at <http://www.kansascityfed.org/Econres/staff/mjo.htm>.

His areas of expertise include the inter-relationship of national economic trends with the regional economy; energy; technological innovations, including the economics of innovations and the innovativeness of regions; and urban economics.

To RSVP, contact Bonnie Finley at [bfinley@COchamber.com](mailto:bfinley@COchamber.com) or at 303.866.9643.

### **CACI and Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce Schedule Second CACI Regional Meeting on November 14<sup>th</sup>**

The second CACI regional meeting with a local chamber of commerce will be held in Grand Junction November 14<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 a.m. until 9:30 a.m. at the Doubletree Hotel, 743 Horizon Drive. There is no charge to attend the breakfast meeting.

The meeting will be hosted by the Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce and sponsored by Alpine Bank and Colorado Printing Company. Norm Franke, Alpine Bank President, and Dan Thurlow, Colorado Printing Company Board Chair, are members of the CACI Board of Directors.

The event is entitled "Strengthening Colorado's Competitive Economic Future." The purpose of this meeting is to strengthen a two-way dialogue about how CACI and local chambers of commerce can positively affect the 2007 session of the legislature for the statewide business community, given the outcome of the November 7<sup>th</sup> General Election in terms of the composition of the legislature, the new Governor-Elect and the outcome of the votes on Amendments 38 and 42

To RSVP, contact Bonnie Finley at [bfinley@COchamber.com](mailto:bfinley@COchamber.com) or at 303.866.9643.

### **CACI Support's President Bush's Initiative to Promote Transparency in Cost and Quality of Health Care**

Earlier this week, CACI President Chuck Berry sent a letter to Mike Leavitt, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, endorsing President Bush's effort to increase the "transparency" of health care quality and costs. Here is the text of the letter:

**On behalf of the Colorado Association of Commerce and Industry, the state chamber of commerce, I would like to express CACI's support for President Bush's recent executive order that requires four agencies of the Federal**

Government to provide health-care consumers with increased access to information about the quality and cost and quality of health care services.

CACI applauds President Bush for taking this step to promote greater transparency of health-care cost and quality. CACI strongly supports providing health-care consumers with greater access with information in order to help them make better, value-based purchasing decisions.

A bedrock principle of CACI's policy on health-care policy is that consumers, who are being asked to take ever more responsibility for their health and their health-care, require greater transparency of health-care data in order to make better decisions. Making better decisions requires quality, timely information on health-care choices, quality and costs.

In the current marketplace, consumers who can obtain information--especially with access to the Internet--can make informed decisions about the services and products they wish to purchase. Decisions on health care should be no different.

Achieving the President's specific goals (creating value-based competition in health care, using information technology standards, developing quality standards by the medical community, sharing aggregate data on the price of care and creating incentives to measure and promote overall quality in care) will provide valuable lessons for the nation's businesses, their workers and state governments.

This year, for example, CACI supported two bills that passed the Colorado General Assembly and were signed into law by Governor Bill Owens to (a) require hospitals to provide "report cards" and to (b) report hospital infections. Both bills were supported by the hospitals.