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***A research and advocacy association, supporting  
efficient, responsive county government in Arizona.***

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In the August 19, 2016, CSA Update:

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## **NACo Western Regional Call: Highlights Arizona**

This week, CSA President Mandy Metzger, CSA President-elect Tommie Cline Martin and CSA Executive Director Craig Sullivan gave presentations to the National Association of Counties (NACo) Western Regional conference call meeting.

Topics addressed during the call included:

- Arizona's water policy history and current drought concerns. Arizona is facing the very pronounced effects of gaps in our water regulatory structure, particularly in rural areas not covered by the Groundwater Management Act. Constituents in many communities across Arizona are growing concerned as they see increased groundwater pumping, land subsidence, and in some cases, wells going dry as water tables are lower.
- Demographic changes that are occurring in rural communities across Arizona, which are putting pressure on local governments. Specifically increases in older populations combined with a decrease in workforce aged population.
- Mental health population history and its current burdening of county governments. Discussion centered on increasing NACo lobbying efforts regarding the Inmate Exception which would save counties money by allowing Medicaid reimbursement for inmate healthcare. This would save county, state and federal resources by avoiding disruption of the continuity of care by incarceration, and lead to better health outcomes for vulnerable citizens.

Please [click here](#) for the notes from the three presentations regarding these emerging Arizona issues. For county supervisors interesting in participating in future calls, please contact Penny Adams.

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## **NACo County Research Day**

On Tuesday, the National Association of Counties (NACo) and the National Council of County Association Executives (NCCAE) hosted a County Research Day in Washington, D.C. with representatives from 19 state associations. The meeting kicked off by having each representative give a brief presentation to the group. While many of the issues were unique to a particular state, many were universal throughout – transportation, revenue caps and state cost shifts.



After the morning session, participants received a series of briefings from NACo staff. NACo Executive Director, Matt Chase, gave a brief overview on NACo's vision for their research program and how it synchronizes with their advocacy efforts. Natalie Ortiz, NACo Senior Research Analyst, discussed the results and process of the newly released [Priorities in America's Counties 2016](#), and then facilitated a discussion on best practices for surveying member counties. NACo Research Assistant, Daniel Handy, and NACo Research Associate, Jonathan Harris, briefed the group on NACo's [County Explorer](#), and participated in a question and answer session on how state associations collect, store, and utilize data. NACo Director of Research and Outreach, Emilia Istrate, closed out the presentations by discussing how to tailor research to target different audiences, potential challenges, and the capacity required to accomplish those goals.

The County Research Day gave research staff from various state associations an opportunity to network and exchange ideas on how to build an effective research program to support both advocacy efforts and professional staff. For more information about NACo's research program, please visit [the Reports and Publications](#) section on the NACo Website.

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## CSA on the Road



Each year after the legislative session ends, CSA staff travels the state to meet with county supervisors and professional staff.

This week CSA staff travelled to Coconino County to meet with CSA President Mandy Metzger, the Coconino County Board of Supervisors and county staff.

The remaining schedule is as follows:

2016 CSA OUTREACH SCHEDULE		
Date	County	Time
September 19	Maricopa County	10:00 a.m.
<i>*Scheduling additional counties in the coming weeks.</i>		

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## This Week in Arizona History...

On August 17, 1883 the foundation was laid for officer quarters at Fort Huachuca in Cochise County. Troops first occupied the fort in 1877 with the base becoming a permanent military post in 1882.

Named for the Apache word meaning "thunder," Fort Huachuca originally protected southern Arizona from both Indians and Mexican revolutionaries. During World War II the base served as an important training camp, and today it continues to be an active military post and the home of the United States Army Intelligence Center of Excellence, the U.S. Army's school for professional training of military intelligence personnel.



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## Upcoming NACo Webinar

The National Association of Counties (NACo) is hosting a webinar and interactive discussion series:

[County Official's Role in Reforming Criminal Justice Fines and Fees](#)

This two-part series on county official's role in reforming criminal justice fines and fees will explore the administration and enforcement of criminal justice fines and fees. The first of this two-part series is a [webinar](#) where experts will discuss the latest research and data around the issue and county leaders will discuss

how they have eliminated or reduced fines and fees and implemented new policies and practices to hold people accountable for minor infractions to reduce incarceration rates, reduce costs and increase individual success and compliance with justice requirements. The second part of the series will be an [interactive virtual discussion](#) with the presenters to dive deeper into their strategies and allow participants to ask questions.

**Webinar: County Official's Role in Reforming Criminal Justice Fines and Fees**

- Date: Thursday, September 15, 2016
- Time: 2pm – 3pm EDT
- [Register Here](#)

**Interactive Discussion: County Official's Role in Reforming Criminal Justice Fines and Fees**

- Date: Thursday, September 29, 2016
- Time: 2pm – 3pm EDT
- [Register Here](#)

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