

Today's Message

Today, I have attached and issued [Chapter 18, What's Broken and How to Fix It - Part 2](#). I hope you find this chapter as interesting as prior chapters. Please share it with like-minded friends.

Today's message is "Jabesh-Gilead." You say, "What does this have to do with auditing?" Jabesh-Gilead is more than just an ancient town located east of the Jordan River. It is the origin of a story about doing what is right, and that relates to auditing.

Maybe you know someone who has let you down. Maybe that individual was a teacher who took advantage of a student. Maybe the person was a minister who did not live up to the moral expectations that he or she preached. Maybe that individual was a financial advisor who stole some money from you. How about a politician who made a promise or commitment, received a contribution from you, and then decided to use your contribution for something else. All of these examples are of unethical behavior that leads to resentment and distrust.

After the [Enron scandal, which included their auditor Arthur Andersen](#), the auditing profession has been focused on raising their image to a level much higher than other professions, and that is why a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) has to take classes in *ethics* (see [Chapter 2: Ethical Principles in Government Auditing](#)).

Section 2.08 is very specific and addresses *Integrity*. It states, "*Integrity* includes auditors conducting their work with an attitude that

is objective, fact-based, *nonpartisan*, and *non-ideological* with regards to audited entities and users of the auditors' report.”

Is the job of State Auditor a job for a professional politician or a job for a professional who has the education, skills, background, training, and discipline of a CPA? The answer is obvious; any other answer would jeopardize the *integrity* of the Office of the State Auditor.

I have heard individuals say that they want to run government like a business. From the point of view from a CPA, that would include following the professional standards of the auditing profession and that would include endorsing a candidate for State Auditor who is a CPA.

Of all candidates, including both parties, I am the *only* CPA; a distinct advantage to the GOP in the general election for State Auditor against a DFL incumbent who is a non-CPA.

The wind is at our backs for clean government and new ideas. I am one of *the few* with genuine ideas. I'm Jeff Wiita, I'm a CPA, [I drive a truck](#), and I'm asking for your vote for State Auditor at the Republican Convention.

Keep Smiling 😊
Jeff Wiita, CPA