

62nd Annual Taxation Conference
December 3-4, 2014 • Radisson Hotel and Suites, Austin-Downtown • Austin, TX

Wednesday Morning, Dec. 3, 2014

Presiding Officer:

Catherine C. Scheid, Attorney at Law - Houston, TX

7:30 am	Registration Opens Includes continental breakfast.
8:35 am	Welcoming Remarks
8:45 am 2.00 hrs	Recent Developments in Federal Income Taxation A discussion of the significant court decisions, rulings and statutory and regulatory developments of the past year. Bruce A. McGovern, South Texas College of Law - Houston, TX Martin J. McMahon Jr., University of Florida Levin College of Law - Gainesville, FL
10:45 am	Break
11:00 am 1.00 hr	Texas State Tax Update Learn about the sweeping legislative reforms made to the Texas franchise tax in which transportation, rental and auto repair businesses received generous tax preferences, the Comptroller's corresponding rule changes and the litigation that prompted these changes. Review of the <i>Newpark Resources</i> , <i>Titan Transportation</i> and <i>CGG-Veritas</i> cases which clarified important revenue exclusion and COGS issues arising under the Texas franchise tax. James F. Martens, Martens, Todd, Leonard & Taylor - Austin, TX
12:00 pm	Pick Up Lunch Included in registration.

Wednesday Afternoon, Dec. 3, 2014

Presiding Officer:

Maxine Aaronson, Attorney at Law - Dallas, TX

LUNCHEON PRESENTATION

	Introduction Lawrence B. Gibbs, Former Commissioner, IRS, Miller & Chevalier Chartered - Washington, DC
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12:20 pm 1.00 hr	<p>21st Century Tax Administration</p> <p>An analysis of the implications of reduced budgets for tax administration, including the IRS's ability to promote voluntary compliance, to protect taxpayer rights, and to transform itself into an effective 21st century tax administration.</p> <p>Nina E. Olson, Taxpayer Advocate Service, Internal Revenue Service - Washington, DC</p>
1:20 pm	Break
1:35 pm 1.00 hr 0.50 hr ethics	<p>Windsor One Year Later: Questions Answered?</p> <p>A review of current tax issues that same-sex couples are facing around the country, including the implications of the <i>Windsor</i> decision and Revenue Ruling 2013-17.</p> <p>Patricia A. Cain, Santa Clara University School of Law - Santa Clara, CA</p>
2:35 pm 0.75 hr	<p>IRS Collection Action</p> <p>Protecting the rights of the non-liable spouse from Federal tax liens and levies with respect to Texas homestead properties.</p> <p>Michael L. Cook, Cook Brooks Johnson PLLC - Austin, TX</p>
3:20 pm	Break
3:30 pm 1.00 hr	<p>Getting Our Arms around the New 3.8% Tax on Net Investment Income</p> <p>A discussion of the 2013 proposed and final regulations under Section 1411, dealing with the 3.8% tax on net investment income and its application to trusts and estates, and recommendations and guidance to minimize the net investment income tax for owners of closely held businesses, real estate professionals and private equity investors.</p> <p>C. Wells Hall, Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP - Charlotte, NC Laura Howell-Smith, Deloitte Tax LLP - Washington, DC Adrienne M. Mikolashek, Internal Revenue Service - Washington, DC</p>
4:30 pm 0.75 hr	<p>IRS Appeals: Managing the Process</p> <p>The IRS Office of Appeals remains the cornerstone of dispute resolution for the tax administration system, but the appeals process and implementation has been the focus of the Appeals Judicial Approach and Culture (AJAC) Project. The AJAC's objective is to return the Office of Appeals to a quasi-judicial approach in the way it handles cases, with the goal of enhancing internal and external customer perceptions of a fair, impartial and independent Office of Appeals. Gain insight on how the AJAC Project is changing the Appeals process and what practitioners should keep in mind as that process continues to evolve.</p> <p>Jasper "Jack" Taylor, Norton Rose Fulbright - Houston, TX</p>
5:15 pm	Adjourn

Thursday Morning, Dec. 4, 2014

Presiding Officer:

7:30 am	Conference Room Opens Includes continental breakfast.
8:30 am 1.00 hr 0.50 hr ethics	Offshore Tax Enforcement and Compliance Practical advice for real life client issues including current IRS and DOJ international tax enforcement priorities, initiatives and procedures, practitioner representation strategies and techniques, and recent developments regarding examinations and voluntary disclosures of previously undeclared offshore financial accounts (FBAR) and assets. Charles P. Rettig, Hochman, Salkin, Rettig, Toscher & Perez, P.C. - Beverly Hills, CA
9:30 am 1.00 hr	Collection of Employment Taxes Strategic considerations practitioners face in handling cases involving delinquent employment taxes, both under circumstances where the business is viable and where it is not. By analyzing a variety of factual scenarios, practitioners gain insight on how to respond to Final Notices of Intent to Levy; how to secure penalty abatement; how to propose, to maximum effect, the most advantageous collection alternative; how to make payment remittances in the client's best interests; and how to contest the imposition of the Trust Fund Recovery Penalty (TFRP). Chaya Kundra, Kundra & Associates, P.C. - Rockville, MD Carol M. Luttati, Law Offices of Carol M. Luttati - New York, NY Jaime Vasquez, Chamberlain, Hrdlicka, White, Williams & Aughtry - San Antonio, TX
10:30 am	Break
10:45 am 0.75 hr	Don't Leave Money on the Table! IRS [Mis]Computation of Interest After resolving federal tax deficiencies or refunds, taxpayers and their representatives must still be alert for IRS errors in computing interest. Learn areas in which the law is still uncertain, as well as settled law that the IRS often applies incorrectly. Robert D. Probasco, The Probasco Law Firm - Dallas, TX
11:30 am	Pick Up Lunch Included in registration.

Thursday Afternoon, Dec. 4, 2014

Presiding Officer:

Patrick L. O'Daniel, Norton Rose Fulbright - Austin, TX

LUNCHEON PRESENTATION

11:50 am 0.75 hr	State of the Tax World Why we desperately need tax reform and what it should look like and why a repeat of the 1986 Tax Reform won't work for the 21st Century. Michael J. Graetz, Columbia Law School - New York, NY
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12:35 pm	Break
12:50 pm 2.00 hrs	<p>New Proposed Regulations on Partnership Liability Allocations</p> <p>The new proposed regulations on partnership liability allocations would make the most far-reaching changes to the partnership tax area in 20 years. An up-to-the minute discussion, with practitioners and a key government official, of their effects on partnership tax planning and interactions with critical areas such as partnership income, loss allocations and the cancellation of indebtedness rules.</p> <p>Terence F. Cuff, Loeb & Loeb - Los Angeles, CA Craig Gerson, U.S. Department of the Treasury - Washington, DC Blake D. Rubin, McDermott Will & Emery - Washington, DC</p>
2:50 pm	Break
3:00 pm 1.00 hr ethics	<p>Top 10 Ethics Issues That Get Tax Professionals in Trouble for Malpractice</p> <p>How to avoid potentially costly mistakes in all aspects of your practice including issues arising during the client intake process—conflicts of interest, defending your own tax planning, the scope of your representation, providing tax advice in opinion letters and tax return positions, lack of supervision or inadequate staffing of tax work and coming to the party too late. Suggestions are provided on alternative solutions if, despite the best advice, you've found yourself in trouble with your clients.</p> <p>Randy J. Curato, ALAS, Inc. - Chicago, IL Paul Koning, Koning Rubarts LLP - Dallas, TX Christopher S. Rizek, Caplin & Drysdale, Chartered - Washington, DC</p>
4:00 pm 1.00 hr	<p>Conversion of Ordinary Income into Capital Gains: The Early Termination of Private Trusts and Charitable Remainder Trusts</p> <p>Analysis of the income tax and trust law considerations that need to be addressed when terminating a trust before its scheduled end, including when an early termination can result in income tax savings.</p> <p>Jerome M. Hesch, Berger Singerman LLP - Miami, FL</p>
5:00 pm	Adjourn