



Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation

Division of Professional Regulation

BRUCE RAUNER
Governor

BRYAN A. SCHNEIDER
Secretary

JAY STEWART
Director

Illinois Department of Financial & Professional Regulation Division of Professional Regulation Tax Return Preparation Task Force Minutes

Date: July 30, 2015

Call to Order: 10:05 am – Jay Stewart, Chairperson

Location: IDFPR – Division of Professional Regulation
100 W Randolph, 9th Floor Room 9-171B&C
Chicago, IL 60601

Board Members Present: Jay Stewart, Chairperson; Stephen W. DeFilippis, Member; Geoffrey Harlow, Member; Andrew Jennison, Member (via phone); Representative Natalie Manley, Member; Senator John Mulroe, Member; Jim Nichelson, Member; Michael T. Specha, Member

Board Member(s) Absent: N/A

Staff Members Present: Martha Reggi, Associate General Counsel; Stephanie Rosienski, Law Clerk; Aaron Curry, Law Clerk

Guests: Daniel Setter, Independent Accountants Association of Illinois; Dick Lockhart, Independent Accountants Association of Illinois

Via phone: Douglas Blackstone, Executive Director, Maryland Board of Individual Tax Preparers; Richard Ernst, Deputy Commissioner of the Office of Professional Responsibility of the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance; Howard Moyes, Executive Director of the Oregon Board of Tax Preparers; Celeste Heritage, Administrator of the California Tax Education Council; Marty Green, Illinois CPA Society

Topic	Discussion	Action
Motion to Allow Member to Attend via phone		A motion was made by Stewart / seconded by Specha to allow Jennison to attend by phone due to personal issues pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/7 of the Open Meetings Act. Motion passed unanimously.
Roll Call	Jay Stewart, present Stephen W. DeFilippis, present Geoffrey Harlow, present Andrew Jennison, present via phone Representative Natalie Manley, present Senator John Mulroe, present Jim Nichelson, present Michael T. Specha, present	
Introductions	Each Task Force member, Department staff, and guest introduced themselves.	
Approval of June 25, 2015 Meeting Minutes		A motion was made by DeFilippis / seconded by Stewart to approve the June 25, 2015 meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.
Analysis of Task Force Action	<p>Chairperson Stewart reviewed the meetings that have taken place to date and reviewed the agenda.</p> <p><u>Guest Douglas Blackstone, Executive Director, Maryland Board of Individual Tax Preparers</u> Mr. Blackstone reviewed the regulatory structure of Maryland, including registration for individual tax preparers, the Maryland State Board for Individual Tax Preparer, and FAQs.</p> <p><u>Guest Richard Ernst, Deputy Commissioner of the Office of Professional Responsibility of the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance</u> Mr. Ernst reviewed the standards and conducts and regulatory structure of tax return preparers in New York.</p> <p><u>Guest Howard Moyes, Executive Director of the Oregon Board of Tax Preparers</u> Mr. Moyes reviewed the Oregon Board regulation of tax practitioners and businesses and an overview of complaints received.</p>	

	<p><u>Guest Celeste Heritage, Administrator of the California Tax Education Council</u> Ms. Heritage reviewed CTEC's regulatory structure and the Tax Preparers Act.</p>	
Old Business	<p>The Task Force reviewed potential future guests. The Task Force plans to meet in August, September, October, and November. Stewart reviewed the Task Force's December 1, 2015 report deadline.</p> <p>DeFilippis reviewed the Report of the Commissioner's Advisory Group on Regulation and Registration of Commercial Tax Return Preparers from June 1994.</p> <p>Jennison reviewed a white paper entitled, Tax Return Preparer Standards: An Important Tool to Improve Tax Return Accuracy, Combat, Fraud, and Protect Consumers from the Tax Institute at H&R Block.</p> <p>Travel vouchers were distributed to Task Force Members.</p>	
Adjournment		<p>There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Harlow / seconded by DeFilippis to adjourn at 12:01 pm. Motion passed unanimously.</p>