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### **MEDIA ADVISORY**

## **GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND TAX POLICY-MAKERS TO ADDRESS CURRENT ISSUES AT ABA TAX SECTION MAY MEETING**

### *Tax Regulation and Penalties, and Effects of Economic Downturn Among Highlights*

**WHAT:** American Bar Association Section of Taxation 2009 May Meeting

**WHEN:** May 7 – May 9

**WHERE:** Grand Hyatt Hotel  
1000 H Street, NW  
Washington, D.C.

**WHO:** IRS, Treasury, DOJ and other Federal Agency Representatives;  
Tax Policy-makers and Experts

WASHINGTON, D.C., April 6, 2009 – Hundreds of tax lawyers from around the country will meet in Washington, D.C. to discuss and debate the latest developments in the tax world – including how tax planning is affected by the economic downturn, penalties for tax shelter abuse and for tax-exempt organizations, tax accounting issues for companies in distress, and much more – when the American Bar Association Section of Taxation meets May 7-9.

Nearly 200 government officials and policy-makers will be on hand for the event, including **Eileen Mayer**, chief, Criminal Investigation Division, Internal Revenue Service; **Karen Gilbreath-Sowell**, deputy assistant secretary, Office of Tax Policy, Department of Treasury; **Nina Olson**, national taxpayer advocate, IRS; **John DiCicco**, acting assistant attorney general, Tax Division, Department of Justice; **Sarah Ingram**, national director of Appeals, IRS; **Deborah Butler**, associate chief counsel, Procedure and Administration, IRS; **Steven Frost**, senior counsel, Office of Tax Policy, Treasury;

**William Alexander**, associate chief counsel, Corporate, IRS; **W. Thomas Reeder**, benefits tax counsel, Office of Tax Policy, Treasury; **John Cross**, associate tax legislative counsel, Treasury; **John Colvin**, chief judge, and **Peter Panuthos**, chief special trial judge, U.S. Tax Court; **Francis Allegra**, judge, and **Victor Wolski**, judge, U.S. Court of Federal Claims; **Victoria Perry** and **Michael Keen**, International Monetary Fund; **and staff from the Departments of Labor and Justice, House Ways and Means Committee, Senate Finance Committee and Joint Committee on Taxation.**

Program highlights include:

- **Prosecuting and Defending Tax Shelter Indictments;**
- **Tax Issues in Reorganizing or Acquiring Troubled Companies;**
- **President Obama and International Tax: Potential Administration Initiatives and Foreign Reactions;**
- **Someone Made Off With My Money: Tax Issues for Ponzi Scheme Victims;**
- **Application of Penalties to Tax-Exempt Organizations;**
- **Tax Accounting Issues for Companies in an Economic Downturn;**
- **Structuring a Federal Value Added Tax;**
- **Tax Issues in Large Case Chapter 11 Bankruptcies;**
- **Criminal Enforcement Against Alleged Trust Fund Violations;**
- **Employee Benefits in a Recessionary Economy;**
- **Tax Aspects of Alternative Energy Investments;**
- **The Effect of a Bankruptcy Filing on Federal and State Employment Tax Liabilities; and**
- **“Gimme Shelter:” A Primer on Complex Tax-Motivated Transactions.**

Also, on May 7, 1 - 6:30 p.m., the Section of Taxation will feature a workshop to train lawyers representing low-income taxpayers in IRS collection matters. Sponsored by the section’s Low-Income Taxpayer and Pro Bono Committees, the workshop will focus on trends in IRS collections as they relate to low-income taxpayers, and will describe typical collection notices and issues taxpayers may face, as well as the importance of financial analysis in collection. Separate registration is required to attend the workshop.

For a complete listing of programs and events at the 2009 May Meeting, or to register online, check <http://meetings.abanet.org/meeting/tax/MAY09/>.

***Editor’s note:** Reporters are welcome to attend any or all sessions for free. Course materials are available upon request. For further information or to arrange for press credentials contact Anne Nicholas at 202/662-8648 or on-site at 202/624-8036/35.*

