REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

2015–2016 Nominees

In accordance with Sections 4.2, 6.1, and 6.3 of the Section of Taxation Bylaws, the following nominations have been submitted by the Nominating Committee for terms beginning at the conclusion of the 2015 Annual Meeting in August. Under the Section Bylaws, the current Chair-Elect, George C. Howell, III of Richmond, VA, becomes Chair of the Section at the close of the ABA Annual Meeting.

Chair-Elect: William H. Caudill, Houston, TX

Vice Chairs: (For a one-year term)
- Charles P. Rettig, Beverly Hills, CA (Administration)
- Thomas J. Callahan, Cleveland, OH (Committee Operations)
- Joan C. Arnold, Philadelphia, PA (CLE)
- Peter H. Blessing, New York, NY (Government Relations)
- C. Wells Hall, III, Charlotte, NC (Pro Bono and Outreach)
- Julie A. Divola, San Francisco, CA (Publications)

Secretary: Catherine B. Engell, New York, NY (For a one-year term)

Assistant Secretary: Katherine E. David, San Antonio, TX (For a one-year term)

Council Directors: (For a three-year term)
- John F. Bergner, Dallas TX
- Thomas D. Greenaway, Boston, MA
- Roberta Mann, Eugene, OR
- Carol P. Tello, Washington, DC
- Gary Wilcox, Washington, DC

Often develop projects on our own to suggest ways in which the Internal Revenue Code or Treasury Regulations can be simplified. Working on comment projects or legislative reports is a great way for Tax Section members to improve the tax system. Getting involved in these efforts is easy: just reach out to the leadership of any of our committees, either at one of our upcoming meetings or through the Tax Section website.

If you need ideas for projects where you can volunteer, take a look at the annual submission that the Tax Section makes to the Treasury Department and the Service for input on their annual guidance priority plan. For the vast majority of suggestions included on that submission each year, the Tax Section can prepare a more detailed paper outlining how Treasury and the Service might consider addressing the particular area of guidance.

Another option is to get more involved in the work of the Tax Section. This usually starts by becoming active in a committee, and over time volunteering to move into the leadership of a committee. Tax Section members who have successfully served as a committee chair are eligible to be nominated to serve on Council. The Nominating Committee typically identifies former Council directors as potential Officers. The process of identifying Tax Section members to serve as Council directors or Officers starts at the fall meeting each year, when the Nominating Committee meets to begin identifying prospective candidates. The committee typically reports its recommendations at the Section’s Midyear Meeting and publishes them in the NewsQuarterly (see this page above), and the slate of candidates is elected in August at the ABA Annual Meeting. If you have served in committee leadership and are interested in moving up, or if you have suggestions for other Tax Section members who should be considered for leadership positions, please reach out to someone on the Nominating Committee. While the deliberations of the Nominating Committee necessarily are confidential, it is critical that the committee considers a diverse array of members for leadership positions, and your input into the process will help ensure that we continue to identify and nominate leaders who will represent the breadth of our membership.

Give Back However You Can

Rule 6.1 also encourages lawyers to provide financial support to organizations that provide legal services to persons of limited means. There are worthy organizations in practically every community. If you have not already made a pledge, please consider supporting the Tax Section’s Tax Assistance Public Service (TAPS) endowment, through the ABA Fund for Justice and Education (http://www.americanbar.org/groups/taxation/taps_endowment.html). We hope to raise $2.5 million over the next five years for the TAPS fund, and I am pleased to report that all of the Tax Section’s Officers and Council directors have made contributions or pledges to help reach that goal.

Each of us has a responsibility to give back to the tax system. Please do your part by getting involved in pro bono work, volunteering to help the Tax Section, and supporting the TAPS fund.