



# 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: August 20, 2015

Call to Order: 10:34 am – Jay Stewart, Chairperson

Location: IDFPD – Division of Professional Regulation  
100 W Randolph, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor Room 9-171C  
Chicago, IL 60601

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

Board Member(s) Absent: Representative Natalie Manley, Member

Staff Members Present: Martha Reggi, Associate General Counsel; Stephanie Rosiensi, Law Clerk; Steven Monroy, Law Clerk

Guests: Dick Lockhart, Independent Accountants Association of Illinois; Pat McGuiness, Independent Accountants Association of Illinois; Eric Sternberg, Center for Economic Progress; Dylan Bellisle, Center for Economic Progress; Martin Lieberman, Community Currency Exchange Association; Michael Frizel, Community Currency Exchange Association; Stan Hutchinson, Tax Tech Inc.

Via phone: Marty Green, Illinois CPA Society; Robert Kerr, National Association of Enrolled Agents; Carol Campbell, IRS Return Preparer Office; Sue Gaston, IRS Return Preparer Office

Topic	Discussion	Action
Motion to Allow Member to Attend via phone		A motion was made by Stewart / seconded by Specha to allow Nicholson to attend by phone due to employment 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 Representative Natalie Manley, absent Senator John Mulroe, present Jim Nicholson, present via phone Michael T. Specha, present	
Introductions	Each Task Force member, Department staff, and guest introduced themselves.	
Approval of July 30, 2015 Meeting Minutes		A motion was made by DeFilippis / seconded by Harlow to approve the July 30, 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>IRS Return Preparer Office Guests Carol Campbell, Director of RPO Office &amp; Sue Gaston, Director of Continuing Education Management</u> Ms. Campbell reviewed IRS Return Preparer Oversight, including the history of the IRS Return Preparer Office, return preparer categories, the enrolled agent credential, annual filing season program, and directory of federal tax return preparers with credentials and select qualifications.</p> <p><u>Guest Eric Sternberg, Center for Economic Progress</u> Mr. Sternberg explained the purpose and role of the Center for Economic Progress and identified various problems the Center's legal clinic typical sees. He and Dylan Bellisle explained the</p>	

	<p>Center's relation to the IRS' VITA program.</p> <p><u>Guest Robert Kerr, National Association of Enrolled Agents</u> Mr. Kerr addressed the issue of return preparer oversight, including fundamental principles for reform, the federal state of addressing the <i>Loving v. IRS</i> opinion, and the IRS' voluntary registration program.</p> <p><u>Guest Stan Hutchinson, Tax Tech Inc.</u> Mr. Hutchinson addressed common issues that have arisen over his lengthy experience as a paid tax preparer across the United States, including earned income tax issues, fraudulent filings, and consumer/client problems.</p> <p><u>Community Currency Exchange Association</u> <u>Guests Martin Lieberman and Michael Frizel</u> Mr. Lieberman explained the role of the CCEA and its relation to the tax preparer industry. He addressed the issues of potential tax preparer regulation.</p>	
Old Business	<p>The Task Force reviewed potential future guests. The Task Force plans to meet in September, October, and November. Stewart reviewed the Task Force's December 1, 2015 report deadline.</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 DeFilippis / seconded by Specha to adjourn at 12:05 pm. Motion passed unanimously.</p>