



State Bar of Texas

Tax Law in a Day

CLE: 8 hrs/1 hr Ethics CPE: 9.5 hrs

Course No. 901343615

Thursday, February 11, 2016
777 Post Oak Boulevard, Suite 500, Houston, Texas 77056

7:30 Registration

7:55 Announcements

8:00 Federal Income Tax Basics and Recent Developments

1 hr/.25 hr Ethics

Bruce A. McGovern, South Texas College of Law, Houston

This session will provide an overview of basic income tax laws and an update on recent developments in tax laws for individuals, corporations, partnerships, and tax-exempt organizations.

9:00 Expect the Unexpected: Valuation, Penalty, and Liability Issues in the Context of the Federal Estate Tax .75 hr/.25 hr Ethics

Nikki L. Laing, Capshaw Green, Texarkana

The number of estate tax returns being filed is on the rise, and Texas is among the five states in the U.S. with the highest number of filings. This presentation addresses some general concepts and recent cases regarding valuation, penalties, and liability in the context of the federal estate tax, such as (i) how improper valuation can result in penalties to the estate, the return preparer, and the appraiser; (ii) defenses against penalties for late filing and late payment of estate tax; and (iii) personal liability of the executor and beneficiaries.

9:45 Break

10:00 Community Property Law and Tax Issues .75 hr/.25 hr Ethics

Celeste Lawton, Norton Rose Fulbright, Houston

This presentation will provide an overview of Texas community property law, including methods of tracing separate property and community property. The speaker will discuss marital property agreements and issues to consider when representing both spouses. This presentation also will discuss tax issues that arise with respect to community property, such as basis adjustment and inadvertent gifts.

10:45 Introduction to Donor Advised Funds and Fiscal Sponsorship: Useful Alternatives for Achieving Charitable Objectives .75 hr

Kathleen Gerber, Thompson & Knight, Houston

This presentation will give an overview of how donor advised funds and fiscal sponsorship arrangements can be used as a cost-effective and convenient alternative to forming and operating a new public charity or private foundation. The speaker will discuss the issues that should be considered when choosing the structure for a charitable endeavor and the basic rules governing donor advised funds and fiscal sponsorship arrangements.

11:30 Oil and Gas Tax Law .75 hr

Crawford Moorefield, Strasburger, Houston

This presentation will provide an introduction to basic oil and gas federal income taxation. The speaker will highlight potential pitfalls, as well as structuring planning opportunities.

12:15 Break/Lunch

12:30 Retirement Plans: Common Errors and How to Correct Them .75 hr

James R. Griffin, Jackson Walker, Dallas

Missed Notices, incorrect tests, late contributions, delinquent filings, and more. These are all problems that our clients face in dealing with the intricatemaze of IRS and DOL requirements involving qualified retirement plans. Fortunately, relief is available through various correction and amnesty programs. In this session, the speaker will provide an overview of the most common correction programs and what the tax lawyer can do to help their clients get back into compliance.

1:15 Texas State and Local Tax Overview .75 hr

Kirk Lyda, Jones Day, Dallas

This presentation will provide a general overview of key concepts of the Texas franchise tax and Texas sales tax. The speaker will also discuss the status of pending litigation challenging the current tax system used to fund public education and possible implications on future legislative sessions.

2:00 Challenging State Tax Assessments: Choosing Your Battleground .75 hr

Jimmy Martens, Martens, Todd, Leonard, Taylor & Ahlrich, Austin

Your client has just received a Texas sales tax or franchise tax audit assessment. What should be done? Should your client proceed with an Independent Audit Review conference? File a Petition for Redetermination? Initiate a lawsuit in state district court? Or, undertake a combination of these options? This presentation discusses the advantages and disadvantages of the various forums in which taxpayers may challenge a Comptroller assessment and the approximate attorney's fees involved.

2:45 Break

3:00 Partnership Hot Topics and Hazards .75 hr

Thomas R. Hegi, Kelly Hart & Hallman LLP, Fort Worth

This presentation will include a discussion of current hot topics related to partnership tax including the new audit rules and the new regulations potentially affecting the taxation of certain profits interests. The presentation will also discuss certain partnership transactions that could result in unintended tax consequences for the unwary.

3:45 Introduction to International Tax 1.0 hr/.25 Ethics

John R. Strohmeier, Crady, Jewett & McCulley LLP, Houston

As if the tax laws weren't complicated enough, things get much more complicated when transactions cross borders. This session will describe the additional obligations of U.S. citizens and taxpayers who own assets or have income generated abroad; the U.S. tax laws that apply to people and entities who are not residents of the United States; the structure of United States tax treaties; and planning changes to accommodate this additional layer of tax law.

4:45 Networking Happy Hour

Please join fellow participants in a networking opportunity following the conference. There will be an informal Italian wine tasting to enjoy and ample time to visit with participants and speakers.



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PAYMENT BY CHECK: Make checks payable to: State Bar of Texas Tax Section

Name: _____

Bar Number: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

\$75.00 – Student*

\$149.00 – SBOT Tax Section Member*

\$199.00 – General Registration*

*Registration fee includes continental breakfast, gourmet lunch and afternoon snacks, materials sent electronically in advance, and access to the conference center's wireless Internet.

To register online by credit card visit: <http://www.sbotsections.com/Tax/TaxSurveycart.html>

Send registration to: State Bar of Texas

Attn: Tax Section

P.O. Box 12487

Austin, Texas 78711-2487

Feel free to contact the Course Directors with any questions:

Lora Davis (214) 396-8800 or lora@davisstephenson.com

Melissa Willms (281) 786-4500 or melissa@daviswillms.com

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Event Location

777 Post Oak Boulevard, Suite 500
Houston, Texas 77056

Parking

Parking is available at no charge for guests attending the Tax Law in a Day. The parking garage is located directly behind 777 Post Oak Blvd./Old Republic Title Building.

Heading north on Loop 610 (West Loop South) exit San Felipe and proceed through the light to Post Oak Boulevard. Turn left under the freeway to the second traffic light and turn left on Hollyhurst/Uptown Park Blvd (under the "halo").

Heading south on Loop 610 (West Loop South) exit Post Oak Boulevard and turn right on Post Oak Boulevard. Immediately move to the far left lane at the first traffic light and turn left on Hollyhurst/Uptown Park Blvd (under the "halo").

Accessibility Information

If you need any special arrangements made, please contact Lora Davis, lora@davisstephenson.com, or call (214) 396-8800 prior to February 1, 2016 to ensure your needs will be accommodated.

Refund Information

If you register and are unable to attend, full refunds will be provided for requests received on or before January 28, 2016. After that date, you will be e-mailed a copy of the course materials and no refund will be available.

To request a refund, please contact Sandra Carlson at the State Bar of Texas Section Accounting Department by phone at (512) 427-1408 or by email at sandra.carlson@texasbar.com.

Hotel Accommodations

Below is a list of hotels conveniently located within a 1.5 mile radius of the Tax Law in a Day venue.

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|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| Omni Houston Hotel | 4 Riverway | (713) 871-8181 |
| Hilton Garden Inn | 3201 Sage Rd | (713) 629-0101 |
| JW Marriott | 5150 Westheimer Rd | (713) 961-1500 |
| Hotel Indigo | 5160 Hidalgo St | (713) 621-8988 |
| The St. Regis | 1919 Briar Oaks Ln | (713) 840-7600 |
| Hotel Granduca Houston | 1080 Uptown Park Blvd | (713) 418-1000 |
| Royal Sonesta Hotel | 2222 West Loop S | (800) 766-3782 |
| The Westin Oaks | The Galleria, 5011 Westheimer Rd | (713) 960-8100 |

We look forward to seeing you there!!!