



Tax Law in a Day

CLE: 8 hrs/1.5 hr Ethics CPE: 9.5 hrs

Course No. 174036208

Friday, January 25, 2019

Belo Mansion, 2101 Ross Ave, Dallas, Texas 75201

7:30 Registration

7:55 Announcements

8:00 You Mean You Can Go To Jail For That? Employment Tax Fraud .75 hr/.25 hr Ethics

David Gair, Gray Reed & McGraw, Dallas

When businesses fail to pay employment taxes "responsible persons" may face criminal as well as civil penalties. Criminal prosecutions for failing to pay employment taxes have become a favorite IRS target. This presentation will advise you how to assist your clients with avoiding these traps for the unwary.

8:45 Is Estate Planning Still Necessary? The Importance of Estate Planning for Nontaxable Estates .75 hr

Eric Marchand, Meadows Collier, Dallas

In the wake of the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 (ATRA), estate planning has seen a return to its genesis. At its core, estate planning is about making sure assets pass to the right people, at the right time, and in the right manner. For most estates, the transfer tax tail no longer wags the dog due to historically high estate tax exemption amounts which have effectively eliminated the estate tax for all but a few estates. This presentation will focus on why estate planning is still necessary, both from a non-tax perspective and from an income tax perspective.

9:30 Buying or Selling a Business: Texas Tax Issues

.75 hr/.25 hr Ethics

Jimmy Martens, Martens, Todd, Leonard & Alrich, Austin

Buying and selling a Texas business often presents a host of Texas tax issues. Using a hypothetical sale of a group of related businesses that produce, sell and transport construction materials, the presenter will cover a variety of problems arising under the Texas sales tax and motor vehicle sales tax laws for assets sold that are both leased and owned outright, along with determining when the sale, in general, may occur Texas tax-free. The presenter will also discuss how the purchaser will be liable for any tax mistakes the seller committed well before the acquisition date, unless appropriate procedural steps are taken.

10:15 Break

10:30 Employee Benefits: Current Developments and Common Pitfalls to Avoid .75 hr/.25 Ethics

Misty Leon, Wilkins Finston Friedman Law Group LLP, Dallas

This presentation will focus on issues that small businesses need to consider in relation to employee benefits. In particular, it will address fiduciary obligations and concerns that apply to small employers with respect to benefit plans they sponsor, even if the plan sponsor does not intend to act as a fiduciary. In addition, attendees will learn to identify and avoid common and potentially costly compliance errors under retirement and health plans and employment and severance agreements. The presentation will also include a brief overview of current developments in benefits tax issues.

11:15 Keeping Current on Charitable Law Changes .75 hr

Terri Helge, Texas A&M University Law School, Fort Worth

This presentation will include a discussion of recent developments in laws affecting donations to charitable organizations and reporting by charitable organizations.

12:00 Break/Lunch

12:30 Property Taxes in Texas .75 hr

Daniel Smith, Popp Hutcheson, Austin

Ken Nolan, Chief Appraiser for Dallas Appraisal District, Dallas

Jeff Law, Chief Appraiser for Tarrant County Appraisal District, Fort Worth

This panel will describe the property tax valuation and taxation process in Texas, and will discuss unique procedural vehicles for property tax cases and common pitfalls to avoid.

1:15 Federal Income Tax Basics and Recent Developments

1 hr/.25 hr Ethics

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

2:15 Choice of Entity Considerations Post-Tax Reform .75 hr

Kelly Rubin, Jones Day, Dallas

With tax reform all the buzz, this presentation will provide the most current information on how the new tax laws affect business structures currently in existence and best practices for considering how to structure new businesses.

3:00 Break

3:15 International Tax Law Compliance .75 hr/.25 Ethics

Jason B. Freeman, Freeman Law, Frisco

In an increasingly global economy, international tax issues have become more commonplace. Tax reform has dramatically impacted the tax laws affecting international tax reporting requirements. This session will provide an overview of the tax issues that a general tax practitioner needs to know, and will cover international tax enforcement trends; tax reporting obligations of U.S. citizens and residents who own assets or have income generated abroad; and U.S. tax laws that affect people and entities who are not residents of the United States.

4:00 Interacting with the IRS 1.0 hr/.25 Ethics

Abbey B. Garber, Thompson & Knight, Dallas

Based on his extensive knowledge from over 30 years of experience with the Office of Chief Counsel at the Internal Revenue Service, Mr. Garber will discuss how a typical case proceeds with the IRS, including Exam, Appeals, Chief Counsel conferences, Tax Court proceedings, and Collection. This presentation will be invaluable for all tax practitioners and should not be missed!

5:00 Networking HappyHour

Please join fellow participants in a networking opportunity following the conference. There will be appetizers, beer and wine and ample time to visit with participants and speakers.

Proudly presented by the Tax Section of the State Bar of Texas

Co-Sponsored by:

Dallas Bar Association Tax Section

General Practice, Solo and Small Firm Section of the State Bar of Texas