

Mitchell, Williams, Selig, Gates & Woodyard, P.L.L.C.

Mitchell Williams 25th Annual Tax Seminar – Agenda

8:00 AM **REGISTRATION and BREAKFAST**

8:30 – 9:20 AM **Estate Planning Hot Topics, Christopher T. Rogers**

Stay up to date on current estate planning topics, including the Beneficiary Defective Inheritor's Trust (the "BDIT"), a variation on the traditional IDGT, and the recently issued proposed regulations under §2704(b), the IRS' most recent challenge to valuation discounts in family limited partnerships and family controlled businesses.

9:20 – 10:10 AM **Estate and Tax Planning with Trusts, Trav Baxter**

This presentation will provide an in-depth review of types and uses of trusts, including: the establishment and funding of trusts, non-tax uses and benefits of trusts, opportunities for tax planning, and common mistakes encountered when planning with trusts.

10:10 – 10:20 AM **BREAK**

10:20 – 11:10 AM **The New Consistent Basis and Value Reporting Rules, Jennifer R. Pierce**

Two new provisions, §§ 1014(f) and 6035, were added to the Code to implement the new basis consistency rules for certain estates. Section 1014(f) provides the basis consistency rule. Section 6035 sets forth the reporting requirements that an executor of the estate must fulfill. This presentation will examine new IRS Form 8971 and its Schedule A, review the reporting requirements for Form 8971 and explore the challenges presented with this new form.

11:10 – 12:00 PM **Government Investigations: What to Do (and Not Do) in the First 24 Hours,**

Jane W. Duke, Karen Freeman, Anton L Janik, Jr., Wendy L. Johnson, and Chris Plumlee

Knowing how to respond when the government launches an investigation or simply makes an inquiry can have a significant impact on the tone of the investigation and the magnitude of the events that follow. This program will address how to best handle the first, critical 24 hours after an investigation or inquiry is launched and how to set a positive tone to your response.

12:00 – 12:20 PM **Employment Law Update: New Salary Test for Exemptions under the Fair Labor Standards Act**

Bryce Crawford / Kathlyn Graves

12:20 – 1:05 PM **LUNCH**

1:05 pm – 1:55 PM **Employee Benefits: The Year in Review, Tod Yeslow**

2015 has introduced changes to reporting and disclosure requirements, agency enforcement, and court rulings impacting employee benefit plans. Topics include: changes to Forms 5500, 6055, and 6056, IRS' extension of ACA reporting due dates, new SEC Executive Compensation disclosure rules, the treatment of gig-workers, IRS/DOL audit procedures, the DOL fiduciary rule, the definition of joint-employer, year-end guidance, and changes to employee benefits as proposed by Secretary Clinton and Mr. Trump.

1:55 – 2:45 PM **Ahead of the Curve: Preparing for Changes to Partnership Audit and Tax Collection Rules, Craig Cockrell**

Title XI of the Bipartisan Budget Agreement of 2015 (BBA) enacted new IRS procedures for partnership audits and collection processes for tax years beginning January 1, 2018. , The BBA allows the IRS to audit and collect taxes directly from partnerships in order to streamline collection efforts. Smaller partnerships may be able to elect out of these rules, but only if their ownership structures meet certain guidelines. This presentation will examine the rules and discuss what tax advisers can do to help their clients prepare for these changes.

2:45 – 3:00 PM **BREAK**

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3:00 – 3:50 PM **Gimme Shelter: Offshore Tax Planning, Evasion, Investigation, and Compliance,**
Anton L. Janik, Jr.

What can you learn from the Rolling Stones, Apple Inc., Swiss Bankers, and the Panama Papers? This program looks at famous and infamous uses of offshore tax planning strategies, including U.S. and international investigations and IRS requirements for individuals reporting offshore assets and interests. This program will also cover IRS voluntary disclosure programs available to clients who have previously failed to report their offshore interests.

3:50 – 4:50PM Ethical Dilemmas Facing Tax Practitioners Today
Ashley L. Gill

This presentation will analyze ethical requirements and considerations for today's tax practitioners by comparing and contrasting recent ethical violations of accountants and attorneys in tax practice. Topics include: due diligence, candor to the IRS, conflicts of interest, competence, and confidentiality.

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Speakers:

Trav Baxter provides counsel to business entities, individuals and tax-exempt organizations concerning income, estate and state and local tax matters. He represents purchasers and sellers of real estate, and provides counsel on various agricultural law issues.

Craig R. Cockrell provides counsel to individuals and families in all aspects of estate planning, wealth transfer, and trust and probate administration. Craig also advises individuals and businesses in the formation, operation, sale and purchase of closely-held entities, and in all aspects of state and federal tax controversies.

Bryce G. Crawford is a litigation attorney practicing in the areas of medical malpractice, tort litigation, business disputes, construction litigation, education litigation and commercial litigation.

Jane W. Duke represents corporations regarding internal investigations and fraud including directing internal investigations of corporations regarding violations of policy, and government and regulatory compliance matters. Jane is a former Acting United States Attorney.

Karen P. Freeman represents clients on complex commercial litigation including defending clients in "Bet-the-Company" cases, multi-party product liability cases, and other business disputes. Karen routinely counsels clients on legal issues involving, for example, e-Discovery, social media governance and corporate security, workplace violence, and threat management programs.

Ashley L. Gill is a Little Rock-based tax attorney who focuses her practice on estate planning and administration, taxation, commercial transactions and corporate law.

Kathlyn Graves represents management in all areas of labor and employment law and litigation.

Anton L. Janik, Jr. provides counsel on complex litigation matters including tax controversy, and matters of cybersecurity, privacy, and data protection. Anton also represents clients in matters of corporate compliance and investigations. Anton is a former Trial Attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington, D.C.

Wendy L. Johnson represents individuals and corporations on tax controversy matters, internal investigations and fraud, violations of policy and regulatory compliance issues. Wendy is a former First Assistant United States Attorney.

Jennifer R. Pierce provides counsel to individuals, business entities and tax-exempt organizations concerning taxation and tax planning, as well as individual estate planning advice. She also serves as counsel to business entities regarding the formation, restructuring, merger, acquisition and sale of businesses.

Christopher D. Plumlee represents clients in matters of complex internal corporate investigations, anti-corruption/compliance reviews, and enforcement actions related to regulated areas including FCPA and OFAC. Chris is a former Assistant United States Attorney who has served as Chief of the Criminal Division.

Christopher T. Rogers is counsel to corporations, partnerships, and limited liability companies concerning formation, reorganization and other tax planning matters. He is counsel to corporations, partnerships and individuals concerning structuring real estate transactions to qualify for income tax deferral as like-kind exchanges. Chris is also counsel to individuals concerning preparation of complex estate plans.

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Tod D. Yeslow advises clients of diverse industries, size, and business models on the taxation and ERISA rules involved in designing, creating, sponsoring, funding, operating, and administering employee benefits and executive compensation programs.