

Special Projects Taxpayer Advocacy Panel (TAP) Monthly Meeting Minutes Thursday, August 12, 2021

Designated Federal Officer (DFO)

Cedric Jeans Designated Federal Officer

Attendance

•	Michael Avery	San Juan, PR	Member
•	Laurie Brock	Eugene, OR	Chair
•	Gina Gray	Nichols Hills, OK	Member (Absent)
•	Ryan Groff	Beverly, MA	Vice-Chair
•	Dorothy Havey	Belfast, ME	Member
•	John Hughes	Memphis, TN	Member
•	Matthew "Matt" Kinley	Long Beach, CA	Member
•	Robert "Bob" Moretti	Great Falls, MT	National Chair
•	Brandon Smith	Bowie, MD	Member (Absent)
•	Laura Snyder	Paris, France	Member
•	William "Bill" Vetter	Cypress, TX	Member

Staff

Kevin Brown Administrative Assistant
 Fred Smith TAP Program Analyst
 Kudiratu Usman-Olugunna TAP Program Analyst

Michael "Mike" Odom
 Program Analyst, Wage & Investment (W&I)

Welcome Announcements/Comments/Acknowledgements

Cedric Jeans welcomed all attendees and opened the meeting at 11:00am ET.

Roll Call

Quorum was met.

Members of the Public

None

Chair Report

Brock welcomed everyone to the call and noted we have a full agenda.

National Office Report/ DFO Report

Jeans spoke of the upcoming Joint Committee Planning meeting on August 24-25, 2021 at 1:30pm ET. Please share any issues you think TAP should cover for the 2022 year for any committee. Jeans reminded the committee that the TAP year ends in November, so everyone should make a push to get any projects you



want the IRS to consider this year done soon. Jeans thanked members for joining the tax forums.

Moretti spoke about issues experienced during the tax forums. There were connections issues to the site from the vendor. There were members who did not show up and there were two members misidentified to visitors to the site. This has to be corrected and avoided the next time we do this.

Jeans shared that we have been asked by the IRS to review and test the Form W4-P. Contact Smith for access to your one-hour time slot for this project. We need a few more to conduct this test hosted by the IRS. Mike Odom will be away on a 90-day detail and Tamikio Bohler will be covering the TAP in his absence. Jeans reminded the committee that since the year is ending, the committee should start to focus on moving issues they want to complete before then.

Minutes Approval

July 8, 2021 minutes- Hughes motioned; Snyder seconded.

Action: Minutes approved as submitted

Outreach Report

Groff reminded everyone it is not too late to turn in any activity reports. Groff explained it can be about anything that we are doing so other committees know what we are working on. Please send a sentence or more for the TAP newsletter. Groff needs coverage for the next Outreach Committee, August 18, 2021 at 2:00pm ET, meeting since he will not be able to attend it. Moretti volunteered to attend in Groff's place.

Screening Committee

Snyder reported screening about 40 of the 80 issues, resulting two possible issues for Subcommittee 2. They will be meeting again next Tuesday. Issue 48660 relating to establishing an online account in order to verify their identity. They basically have to have debt; this issue is seeking to find other requirements other than debt to establish an account. Issue 49802 has to do with the difficulties that taxpayers have in changes to where the IRS should be directing payments to them. A lot of taxpayers are having these issues and it needs to be addressed.

Subcommittee 1 Report out

Moretti reported on Issue 48702-Eliminate Third Party as a Necessity for Tax Preparations. This issue is regarding the challenges such as identity theft, fraudulent activities and unexpected fees associated with the free filing. The goal is to allow everyone to be able to use this program without a third party and without a fee. Moretti motioned; Snyder seconded.

Action: issue approved to be elevated to the JC for consideration



Issue 42967 has received three responses from the IRS, and we need to get a better understanding about this according to Snyder. Brock noted the IRS responded with a quick rejection so the committee will need to review this response again. There is another issue regarding overseas and out of country taxpayers need to have better service has been reviewed by the Attorney Advisors. This should be added to the next meeting for the committee to vote on it. Brock will work with Ross and Jeans to get this done. This may be Issue 48551. Brock reported this issue may be ready for the next JC meeting.

Subcommittee 2 Report Out

Brock reported:

- Issue 43619-Tax Calculator- Still being worked.
- Issue 43819- New Online Tools Needed to Update Banking Information-Dropped. This issue was resolved through new program for the Advanced Child Credit.

Approval of IRS Responses

- Issue 43867- Impossible to Get an ITIN- Non adopted legislative.

 Jeans suggested including this in the Annual Report. Odom will research options for this issue and report back next month.
 - Issue 42967-Simplified Reporting for Overseas Taxpayers- Nonadopted.

The committee discussed what, if any, options there are for this issue. The response included a reference for Chief Counsel needing to determine legal/policy aspects of this issue. This will be placed on next month's agenda.

• Issue 43798-Online Tax System for Taxpayers Abroad- Non-adopt. There was a reference to a Taxpayer Experience Office that we may want to discuss this issue with. Jeans reported that this is Kenneth Corbin's office, so we will be in touch with them regarding this issue.

Action Items

Antoinette Ross will do the following:

- Submit July 2021 minutes to post to www.improveirs.org.
- Issue 42967 back to subcommittee for review
- Issue 43798 back to subcommittee for review
- Verify that Issue 48551 is on the next JC agenda

Closing

Jeans closed the meeting at 12:02pm ET

Next Meeting: Thursday, September 9, 2021 at 11:00am ET

These minutes have been approved and certified by the committee chairperson.