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## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

### **TAX RETURN PREPARER PENALTIES, SUBPRIME MORTGAGE TAX ISSUES AMONG TOPICS AT ABA TAX SECTION MEETING IN LAKE LAS VEGAS, NEVADA**

**WHAT:** American Bar Association Section of Taxation Midyear Meeting

**WHEN:** Jan. 17 – Jan. 19

**WHERE:** Loews Lake Las Vegas Resort  
101 Montelago Blvd., Henderson, Nevada  
702/567/6000  
AND  
The Ritz-Carlton Lake Las Vegas  
1601 Lake Las Vegas Parkway, Henderson, Nevada  
800/265-3187

**WHO:** Top IRS and Treasury Officials, U.S. Tax Court Judges, National Legal Experts

WASHINGTON D.C., Jan. 4, 2008 – More than 1,200 tax lawyers and other tax professionals from around the country will gather in Lake Las Vegas, Nevada in coming days to debate and discuss recent developments in tax law and policy. The ABA Section of Taxation Midyear Meeting will be split between two hotels, the Loews Lake Las Vegas Resort, and The Ritz-Carlton Lake Las Vegas, both in Henderson, Nevada.

Among the topics on the agenda for the Jan. 17-19 meeting are new rules on penalties for tax return preparers, tax issues arising from subprime mortgage defaults, an ethics report from the IRS and a report from the National Taxpayer Advocate.

More than 100 government officials and policy-makers will be on hand for the meeting, including **Eric Solomon**, assistant secretary for Tax Policy, Treasury; **Michael Desmond**, tax legislative counsel, Treasury; **Nina Olson**, national taxpayer advocate, IRS; **Dana Boente**, deputy assistant attorney general, Tax Division, DOJ; **Catherine Livingston**, assistant chief counsel, IRS; **Deborah Butler**, associate chief counsel, IRS; **Lois Lerner**, director, Exempt Organizations Division, IRS; **Tamara Ashford**, acting director, Joint International Tax Shelter Information Center; **Hon. John Colvin**, chief judge, U.S. Tax Court; **W. Thomas Reeder**, benefits tax counsel, Treasury; **Michael Chesman**, director, Office of Professional Responsibility, IRS; **Patricia Brown**, Centre for Tax Policy & Administration, OECD; and many others.

Other program highlights include:

- **Tax Incentives Under Attack! Which Shall Live and Which Shall Die?**
- **Discovery Issues in Civil Tax Litigation**
- **Employment Tax Aspects of the Gaming Industry**
- **Living with FIN 48**
- **Circular 230, Tax Shelter Transactions and Preparer Penalties**
- **Changes on the Horizon for Cafeteria Plans**
- **Tax Issues of Native Americans**
- **Form 990 Update**
- **Cash Benefit Plan Developments**
- **Litigation with the IRS' Office of Professional Responsibility**
- **Defining Insurance for Tax Purposes**
- **R&D Credit in the Energy Industry**

Several ABA Tax Section awards will be presented at the Midyear Meeting, including the *Pro Bono* award for outstanding *pro bono* service, the Nolan Fellowship awards for young lawyers who exhibit leadership, and the Law Student Tax Challenge awards for those J.D. and LL.M. students whose work is selected and judged in a contest on site.

For a complete listing of programs and events at the 2008 Midyear Meeting, or to register online, check the section's Web site at <http://www.abanet.org/tax/meetings/midyear08/>

***Editor's note:*** *Members of the news media are welcome to attend any or all sessions for free. Course materials are available upon request. For further information or to arrange for press credentials contact Anne Nicholas at 202/662-8648 or [nicholaa@staff.abanet.org](mailto:nicholaa@staff.abanet.org).*