



FTA bulletin

Federation of Tax Administrators
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B-14/04
April 9, 2004

FTA ANNUAL MEETING • JUNE 6-9, PROVIDENCE, R.I. *Preliminary Program*

SUMMARY

The 72nd Annual Meeting of the Federation of Tax Administrators will take place June 6-9, 2004, at the Westin Providence Hotel. The conference will feature a mix of general and concurrent educational sessions. The conference registration deadline is May 24 and the hotel deadline is May 4.

This bulletin features the preliminary program. Program updates will be available at:
http://www.taxadmin.org/fta/meet/am_bulletin.html.

The 72nd Annual Meeting of the Federation of Tax Administrators will take place June 6-9, 2004, at the Westin Providence Hotel in Providence, R.I.

Conference Schedule

The meeting begins with registration on Sunday, June 6, and concludes at noon on Wednesday, June 9. General sessions will be held Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday mornings. In-depth breakout sessions – organized around legal/policy developments, management and compliance initiatives, and technology developments – are scheduled for Monday and Tuesday afternoons. A preliminary program is attached.

The opening reception will be held Sunday evening and will feature Providence's unique WaterFire, a fire sculpture on the river running through the city.

The President's Awards luncheon will be held on Monday, featuring keynote speaker IRS Commissioner Mark Everson, and there will be a special Commissioners Only breakfast on Monday and Tuesday. Tuesday evening will feature a banquet with entertainment at the Westin Providence. The FTA Annual Business Meeting will take place on Wednesday morning.

Local Arrangements

This is your opportunity to experience the renaissance of the vibrant city of Providence. After decades of historic preservation and smart development, Providence has soared to new heights as a popular travel destination. Its unique mix of the new and the old in terms of arts, culture, architecture and academia makes it the perfect place to visit. Providence is home to the oldest mall in America, the Arcade, built in 1828. It also boasts of one of the newest and largest malls in New England, which is connected to the Westin Hotel by a walkway. Providence is also one of the hottest food destinations in the country, with accolades coming from sources such as *Bon Appétit*, *Gourmet*, *Sante*, *Saveur*, and *Nation's Restaurant News*. Restaurants citywide offer an array of ethnic and creative cuisine.

Sunday evening attendees will be treated to an opening reception at Ristorante Bella Vista overlooking Waterplace Park. The evening will be highlighted by WaterFire, artist Barnaby Evans' award-winning fire sculpture on the river in downtown Providence. The conference will also feature a banquet Tuesday evening with entertainment by the Ocean State Follies presenting a ribald mix of current events and Rhode Island humor. There will also be a golf outing on Sunday morning. Play will take place at Triggs Memorial Golf Course, a classic Donald Ross-designed course.

Links to these places and additional information about spouse and guest activities can be found on the conference Website at:
<http://www.tax.state.ri.us/FTA2004/index.htm>.

Continuing Education Credits

Participants seeking continuing education credits will be asked to complete attendance forms and evaluations on site.

Conference Registration

Registration fees for the annual meeting this year are:

- \$350 for government attendees
- \$450 for non-government attendees

\$150 for guests

To register, complete the enclosed Conference Registration Form (or register online) with payment made payable to FTA 2004 Annual Conference. Send registration and payment to:

FTA 2004 Annual Conference
P.O. Box 28375
Providence, RI 02908

The registration deadline is May 24; after that date, please add a \$50 late fee. For questions on registration, please e-mail <fta20004@tax.state.ri.us> or call 401-222-3050. To register for the golf outing or to register a guest, be sure to check the appropriate information on the registration form and include payment when sending in the conference registration form.

You may also register and/or pay online at
<<http://www.taxadmin.org>>.

Hotel Reservations

The conference headquarters for this year's annual meeting is The Westin Providence hotel, located at One West Exchange Street, Providence, RI 02903. The rate at the Westin is \$207 plus tax per night (single or double). To make your reservations, call 401-598-8000 or 888-627-8449 and be certain to ask for the Federation of Tax Administrators room block. The deadline for making reservations is May 4.

Rooms are also available at the Providence Biltmore Hotel, located less than one block from the Westin. Rates there are \$161 plus tax per night for a traditional room and \$195 for a junior suite. Call 800-294-7709 or 401-421-0700 to make your reservations. Again, be certain to ask for the Federation of Tax Administrators room block. The deadline for making reservations is May 4.

2004 FTA Annual Meeting

Preliminary Program

Program updates will be available at
http://www.taxadmin.org/fta/meet/am_bulletin.html

Sunday, June 6

1:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Registration

7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. Opening Reception (Ristorante Bella Vista)
(Bella Vista is a short walk from the Westin.
Shuttle busses will also be available.)

Monday, June 7

7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Registration

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast
Commissioners Only Breakfast

8:30 a.m. – Noon **GENERAL SESSION**

Presiding: Stephen M. Cordi, Deputy Comptroller, Maryland
Comptroller of the Treasury, and President, Federation of Tax
Administrators

Welcome to Providence

California Efforts to Combat Abusive Tax Avoidance Transactions

Representative, California Franchise Tax Board

New York's Efforts to Combat ATAT: Thinking Strategically

Andrew Eristoff, Commissioner, New York State Department of
Taxation and Finance

Multistate Tax Commission Compliance Project

Representative, Multistate Tax Commission

Streamlined Sales Tax Update
TBD

Noon – 1:45 p.m. **FTA President's Awards Luncheon**

Presentation: Compliance Award
 Management Award
 Leadership and Service Award

Keynote Speaker: The Honorable Mark W. Everson,
 Commissioner,
 Internal Revenue Service

2:00 p.m. – 5:15 p.m. **CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

Technology

Predictive Modeling and Earned Income Tax

Tom Heinz, New York State Department of Taxation and Finance

Panel: Experience with State Digital Filing Mandates

Alan LeBovidge, Massachusetts Department of Revenue
Floyd Schmitzer, Michigan Department of Treasury (Invited)
King Woolf, Trustfile
Loren Chumley, Tennessee Department of Revenue
Cheryl Sullivan, Wisconsin Department of Revenue (Invited)

Legal and Tax Policy

Recent Developments in State Tax Case Law

Marilyn Wethekam, Horwood, Marcus & Berk, Chicago, Illinois

California's Treatment of Tax Shelters

Representative of the California Franchise Tax Board (Invited)

Panel: Emerging Online Sales and Use Tax Issues

Moderator: Marshall Stranburg, Florida Department of Revenue
(Invited)

Panel: SSTP Intrastate Sourcing Issues

Moderator: Loren Chumley, Tennessee Department of Revenue

Compliance

Panel: Compliance Roundup

North Carolina's Project Compliance – John Sadoff, North Carolina
Department of Revenue (Invited)

Plain and Doable – Patrick Carter, Delaware Division of Revenue

Tax Compliance Checks – Bob Geruso, Rhode Island Division of
Taxation

FTA Compliance Award Co-Winner

Pennsylvania's Pass-through Unit

Joe Breen and Bob Coyne, Pennsylvania Department of Revenue

FTA Compliance Award Co-Winner

Data-Driven Decisions

Ralph Osgood, Washington State Department of Revenue

National Overview of State Use Tax Activities

Delena Bratton, ACS

Tuesday, June 8

7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Registration

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast
Commissioners Only Breakfast

8:30 a.m. – Noon **GENERAL SESSION**

Presiding: Mary Jane Egr, Commissioner, Nebraska Department of
Revenue and First Vice President, Federation of Tax
Administrators

Technology and the Future of Tax Administration

Karla Pierce, Microsoft Corporation, Washington, D.C.

Federal Tax Policy and the States

Leonard E. Burman, Urban Institute, Washington, D.C.

VOIP: What Is It and What Do You Need to Know?

James B. Ramsay, National Association of Regulatory Utility
Commissioners, Washington, D.C.

What's Ahead for the U.S. Economy

Mark Zandi, Economy.com, West Chester, Penn.

Invitation to FTA 2005, San Antonio, Texas (June 12-15, 2005)
Billy Hamilton, Texas Office of the Comptroller

Noon – 1:30 p.m. Lunch - on your own

1:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Technology

New Integrated Tax System

Representative TBD, Arizona Department of Revenue

New Era in Benefits Funding

Karla Pierce, Microsoft (Invited)

Alternative Method for Implementing 2-D Bar Code Filing

Stan Farmer, Missouri Department of Revenue

GPS/Route Management Enhancements for Wireless-Based Compliance

Albert Perez, Texas Office of the Comptroller

Tips on Implementing Tax Jurisdiction Sourcing Databases

Tim Blevins, Kansas Department of Revenue

Stan Farmer, Missouri Department of Revenue

Legal and Tax Policy

States' Problems with the Internet Tax Freedom Act

Matt Tomalis, Federation of Tax Administrators, Washington, D.C.

Issues Presented by the Federal BAT Nexus Bill

Frank Katz, Multistate Tax Commission, Santa Fe, New Mexico
(Invited)

Panel: Reducing Tensions Between Taxpayers and Tax Agencies

Moderator: Doug Lindholm, Council on State Taxation, Washington, D.C.

Management

A Change In Direction: Repairing Local Relationships

Lewis Easterly, Alabama Department of Revenue

Where to Look for Savings

Billy Hamilton, Texas Office of the Comptroller

Multiple Uses for a UPC Matrix Database

Richard Schrader, New Jersey Division of Taxation

Management Award Winner

Organization Development Initiative: Integration, Innovation and Involvement

Wendy Fraser, Washington State Department of Revenue

Improving Tax Administration Through Stakeholder Survey Data Analysis

David Mader, Sirota Consulting, Washington, D.C.

Wednesday, June 9

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. **FTA Business Meeting**

9:00 a.m. – Noon **GENERAL SESSION**

Presiding: Stephen M. Cordi, Deputy Comptroller, Maryland
Comptroller of the Treasury, and President, Federation of Tax
Administrators

The (Sad) State of State Budgets

Scott Pattison, National Association of State Budget Officers,
Washington, D.C.

Tax Reform in the Commonwealth

Kenneth W. Thorson, Commissioner, Virginia Department of Taxation
(Invited)

Federal Legislation Affecting the States

Harley Duncan, Federation of Tax Administrators, Washington, D.C.