NPL MEETING May 21, 2015

Welcome - John Lipold, Chief, Relationship Management, NPL

<u>**Repair Regulations**</u> – Andrew Keyso, Associate Chief Counsel, Income Tax & Accounting and Scott Dinwiddie, Attorney, Chief Counsel

Still sorting through comments sent during comment period. Some were from individuals and many were from the Partners. The requested range seemed to go from \$750 to unlimited. Realistic was up to the \$5K. TP need to keep in mind that these are SAFE HARBOR. It doesn't mean that you can't have more than these levels. LBI expressed concerns with the \$500 level.

Several groups also requested that there be a mechanism to adjust the levels over time (i.e. inflation).

Initially, IRS had wrong impression of Review vs. Compilation. After lengthy discussion, a better understanding has been obtained. They also now understand that if the limits are set the same, the AFS discussion becomes moot. There was also discussion on TP burden and the impact of this especially on rental properties. The IRS needs to consider that the more complex the issue, the greater likelihood of lack of compliance.

Form 3115 WILL be updated, but the timing is still open and is based on the calendar year filing cycle. The new form WILL NOT be released in June.

Decisions on this regulation should be released over the next few months.

Return Preparer Update - Preston Benoit, Deputy Director, RPO

Refunds are being issues (\$116) to anyone who took the RTRP test. They will be issued to the individual who registered. All will be paper checks. Unfortunately, they could not insert a letter with the check. A letter dated May 28 will be sent to all affected and the checks will be sent June 2. A phone number will be available to check on refund status.

The RTRP credential will be removed from the IRS site. Overall, this is due to the Loving case. Approx. 77K refunds (88K tests) taken and the refunds will total over \$10M. this info will be on the IRS site today.

OPR will be responsible to update the appropriate publications and will be addressed by IRSAC. Circ 230 is much more difficult to edit and the credential is also on Form 2848.

Courses for the annual filing season program can begin as of June 1.

As of 05/01/15, 710K PTIN holders.

For 2016, there will be limited representation rights for AFSP participants. This is for the year the return is prepared and the year they look to represent.

<u>**Taxpayer Digital Communications**</u> – Jim Weaver, Director Product Mangement & Delivery, Office of Online Services

Three new areas:

- 1. Account to help TP resolve issues
- 2. Digital Communications
- 3. Improve authentications & e-authentications

We are discussing TDC. Currently, mail, phone fax and walk-in are the means of communications. IRS is looking at:

- Secure messaging
- Text chat
- Click to Call
- Video Meetings
- Co-browsing

Jim realizes that online POA is a major component to the success of the program.

IRS is looking at an existing platform, not one being developed in-house. It is currently out for proposal. E-Auth is needed to get this program where it needs to go. Overall, these services will reduce paper for both TP and IRS.

Within Secure Messaging, they are looking at correspondence exam, installment agreements, ACA insurance fees and TAS Levy & EITC. These programs do not require a live IRS agent. The other TDC areas DO require live participation by the IRS agents. The data can be downloaded both by TP and IRS.

The IRS is envisioning this as a gateway to other digital services, such as balance due, payment agreements, etc. Online signatures could also be added to documents as necessary. In addition, auto fill would be implemented into these forms through single sign on.

IRS is also working on means to combat fraud by raising the level of authentication.

<u>Affordable Care Act Updates</u> – Marty Pippins, Dir. Customer & Stakeholder Relations, ACA Implementation

New FAQs on new 1095 forms.

AIR webinar is set for 05/28 (3;00 PM). Search for AIR on www.irs.gov. Pub. 5164 and 5165 are in draft form and will be discussed during the webinar.

From individual perspective:

1095C – offer of insurance by applicable large employer 1095B – will be provided IF the TP takes up employers offer of coverage.

It will be possible that TP could receive ALL 1095 forms (A, B & C) and have received APTC for a portion of the year.

The 2015 affordability threshold is 9.56%. also, for small employers, we need to ask if the TP was offered coverage by employer to determine if APTC applies.

IRS Nationwide Tax Forums - Carl Medley, Chief, Liaison/Tax Forum Branch, NPL

IRSAC – open season announced this month. Looking for about 5 or so new members.

Tax Forums

DC - 07/11Denver - 07/28 new venue San Diego - 08/11 Atlanta - 08/25 Orlando - 09/01

What's on Your Mind? Candice Cromling, Director NPL

Next meeting – SB/SE June 25

Commissioner pulled software vendors, banks and states to combat ID theft. On 06/11, some public announcements will be made. The next step in engaging the practitioner community.

Not expanding IP Pin pilot program yet. Low participation.