Special Projects Committee
Taxpayer Panel (TAP)
Meeting Minutes
August 8, 2019

Members Present
- Gina Gray – Nichols Hills, OK
- John Hughes – Memphis, TN
- Robert Moretti – Great Falls, MT
- Richard Russell – Owens Cross Roads, AL
- Laura Snyder – Paris, France
- Cheryl Williams – Shelton, WA

Members Absent
- Kimberly Mason – Chicago, IL
- Tiffany Mosely – Santa Monica, CA
- Kristen Petersen – Colorado Springs, CO

TAP Staff Present
- Kevin Brown – Management Assistant, TAP
- Susan Jimerson – Designated Federal Official (DFO)
- Fred Smith – Program Analyst

IRS Employees Present
- Debra Awalt – Program Analyst, W&I
- Tamikio Bohler – Management and Program Analyst, W&I
- Gary Lindsey - Senior Tax Analyst
- Paula Johnson - Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA)

Welcome/Opening
Jimerson welcomed everyone and declared the meeting opened.

Roll Call
Brown conducted roll call. There were no public participants on the call. Quorum was met for this meeting.

Welcome/Announcements/Comments/Acknowledgement
Williams and Moretti welcomed the members to the call and indicated a change to the agenda. The subcommittees will report first since Richard Russell has to leave early.

Jimerson reported:
- The Joint Committee (JC) planning meeting will be held on August 13-14, 2019, in Phoenix, AZ, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. MT. The access code is 8874267 and this call is open to the public. Matthew O’Sullivan is the current analyst.
- The Internal Communications committee meets on August 20, 2019, 3:00p.m. ET.
- The Outreach Committee will meet on August 21, 2019, at 11a.m. ET.
- The regular JC monthly meeting will be August 29, 2019, at 1:30 p.m. ET.
Approval of Minutes
The following dates were corrected in the minutes: the last meeting was held on July 11, 2019, and the next meeting was scheduled for August 8, 2019. The minutes were approved, with these amendments, to be posted to www.improveirs.org. Hughes motioned, Snyder seconded.

Subcommittee 1
- 36399 Ogden UT Center Tax Return Processing- Snyder wrote a draft to be circulated to the subcommittee. We are still waiting to see if Systemic Advocacy (SA) will take this since if they do, we must drop it. Moretti recommended it be shared with the committee despite of the pending decision from SA.
  Action: Issue tabled until it is determined if SA will take this.
- 40164 TAP Representation for US Virgin Islands- This issue may require more than the committee can be involved in. Moretti added that we need to speak to the Local Taxpayer Advocate (LTA) of Puerto Rico along with possible changes to the TAP charter. Because of this, it may be something that requires the National Taxpayer advocate (NTA) to resolve at a higher level.
- 41230 Foreign Trusts IRS Penalty Notices For Late Forms- Taxpayers surprised about getting notified that they did not filing a form. This is a possible issue.
- ID Theft victims being asked to appear in IRS Taxpayer Assistance Centers (TACs). Victim of ID theft requiring personal appearance at TAC.

Subcommittee 2 – John Hughes
- 35423 Victims of ID Theft issued Form CP 5747C- We are waiting on some answers from Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR) and Wage and Investments (W&I)
- Issue # 35920 - IRS Check Endorsement- We got feedback on some of our questions.
- Issue # 36550 - Mandatory IP PIN Issuance- We will follow-up to ensure this has already been resolved before possibly closing it out.
- Issue # 37026 – Prevention of Identity Theft Relating to Refunds- We posed questions to a Subject Matter Expert (SME) and are awaiting their response.

Screening Committee
N/A

Action Items
Subcommittee 1
36399- Returned to SA.
40164- Referred to staff and NTA
41230- Tabled

Subcommittee 2
35423- Awaiting answers
35920- Questions for that.
36550- Checking to see if resolved before closing.
Awaiting answers from SME

- 40164 referred to staff and NTA
- 41230 tabled
- 35423 awaiting answered
- 36550 may be resolved
- 37026 awaiting SMEs
- 35920 IRS Check Endorsement - The social security number is the taxpayer’s identification number, according to Awalt. Direct pay, credit card or payment by mail are options to avoid this issue.
- Smith indicated we are fixing www.tapspace.org and will let the committee know when it is resolved.

Outreach Report
Moretti reported the National Harbor tax forum had 176 visitors. We picked up eight possible issues. Moretti recognized Laura Snyder for her trip to Washington D.C. Snyder attended the trip with Associations of Americans Resident Overseas (AARO) and Federation of American Women’s Club Overseas (FAWCO). They meet with Congress, the State Department, Government Accountability Office (GAO) and Taxpayer Advocate Services (TAS). She was able to discuss some issues that Americans overseas face and she learned more about the TAS roadmap project during her meeting with Maryclaire Ramsey.

176 visitors at the National Tax Forum in Washington, D.C.; Picked up possibly 8 issues. Recognized Laura Snyder for the DC trip. Snyder reported Associated of Americans located overseas and FALCO to congress, state department, GAO, TAS. Met with Maryclaire Ramsey and spoke about issues with Americans overseas. Taxpayer roadmap was reviewed.

Moretti worked with Stephen Selden who specializes in helping veterans with their taxes. Moretti reported that he sends monthly reminders to the chairs for their newsletter articles. Petersen will submit the next one for this committee.

Closing
Williams thanked everyone for joining the call. Williams reminded the committee of the JC face to face meeting next week and reminded each member they can join the call. Jimerson explained that JC meeting will be working on potential projects for next year. Bridget Roberts is the acting NTA and Bonnie Fuentes acting DNTA. Jimerson then closed the meeting.

The next TFP full committee meeting will be on Thursday, September 12, 2019, 11:00 a.m. ET.

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