

IRS News Release

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Taxpayer Advocacy Panel Members Selected

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WASHINGTON — The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) today announced the selection of 26 new members to serve on the nationwide Taxpayer Advocacy Panel (TAP). The TAP is a federal advisory committee charged with providing taxpayer suggestions to improve IRS customer service.

The new TAP members will join 51 returning members to round out the panel of 77 volunteers for 2013. The new members were selected from almost 400 interested individuals from across the country who applied during an open recruitment period last spring or the pool of alternate members who applied in prior years.

"TAP members provide an important voice for taxpayers and provide valuable insights to help run the nation's tax administration system," said IRS Acting Commissioner Steven T. Miller.

The TAP listens to taxpayers, identifies issues and makes suggestions for improving IRS service and customer satisfaction. Oversight and program support for the TAP are provided by the Taxpayer Advocate Service, an independent organization within the IRS that helps resolve taxpayer problems and makes recommendations to avoid future problems.

"It is critical that the IRS listen to the needs and preferences of America's taxpayers," said Nina E. Olson, National Taxpayer Advocate. "The vital work of these citizen volunteers helps the IRS provide all taxpayers with the top-quality service they deserve."

TAP members work with IRS executives on priority topics, primarily those involving the Wage & Investment and Small Business/Self-Employed operating divisions. Members also serve as a conduit for bringing grassroots concerns raised by the taxpaying public to the attention of the IRS.

TAP members are U.S. citizens who volunteer to serve a three-year appointment and are expected to devote 200 to 300 hours per year to panel activities. TAP members are demographically and geographically diverse, providing balanced representation from all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

Taxpayers can contact the TAP representative for their geographic area by calling 888-912-1227 (a toll-free call) or via the Internet at www.improveirs.org. Taxpayers can also send written correspondence to the TAP at the following address:

Taxpayer Advocacy Panel (TAP)
TA: TAP, Room 1509
1111 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20224

Individuals interested in volunteering to serve on the TAP for 2014 may submit an application via the website www.improveirs.org during the next open recruiting period, which will begin in late February 2013.

A list of the new TAP members by location is included below.

Last name	First Name	City	State
Boyea	Ralph	Keaau	HI
Butler	John	Knoxville	TN
Campbell	Stephanie	Farmington	MO
Chartier	Kirk	Atlanta	GA
Dosdall	Patricia	Huntsville	AL
Doty	James	Charleston	SC
Edwards	Philessia	Austin	TX
Goldfarb	Eugene	Syosset	NY
Gonzalez	Leni	Arlington	VA
Gould	Carolyn	North Haven	CT
Grinnan	Francis	Rochester	NY
Hayes	David	Mt. Juliet	TN

Kanack	Suze	Riverton	WY
Khan	Zafrulla	Louisville	KY
Mayo	Gilberte	Lincoln	ME
Phillips	Robert	Dallas	TX
Piard	Alphonse	Miami	FL
Reilly	Daniel	Wahpeton	ND
Seelbach	Louis	Huntington	WV
Swartz	Michael	Austin	TX
Thomson	Mary Jo	Oklahoma City	OK
Tscherny	Elena	Washington	DC
Veal	Angela	Byron	GA
Watson	Theresa	Jacksonville	AR
Webster	Walter	Las Cruces	NM
Welles	Dawn	Milwaukee	WI