



## Multistate Tax Commission Audit Committee Meeting April 21, 2020

### 1. Productivity

The Audit Program completed parts of nine (9) corporate income tax audits during the first three quarters of fiscal year 2020. The Audit Program also completed and closed five (5) sales tax audits and parts of nine (9) other sales tax audits. Currently, there are nineteen (19) income tax audits and thirty-five (35) sales tax audits in progress.

The MTC Audit Program proposed assessments of \$144,288,206 for completed corporate income tax audits and \$1,833,091 for completed sales tax audits during the first three quarters of fiscal year 2020.

### 2. Chicago Office Closing

After having offices in New York and Chicago, the Joint Audit Program staff have been transitioning to a work from home model over the last several years. This transition has allowed us to recruit more experienced and talented audit staff and save money on rent and utilities.

The Chicago office will close by July 2020 and may close sooner depending on state of the coronavirus pandemic. Most of you will not be affected by this change as most you communicate and share needed documentation via secure email. For those of you who prefer to send paper mail, please note the new address below:

Multistate Tax Commission  
Joint Audit Program  
444 North Capitol Street, N.W., Suite 425  
Washington, DC 20001

### 3. Staffing

I have happy and sad news to share regarding staffing changes:



I'm happy to announce that we have added two new income tax auditors to our staff since we met in November. Brian Staley and Melissa Kopp come to us from the Montana Department of Revenue. Brian joined our team on January 13, 2020 and Melissa joined on March 16, 2020. Both have many years of experience working in corporate tax, so they've been able to hit the ground running.

It is with a heavy heart that I announce that Michelle Becker is retiring at the end of May. She has been working in the Chicago office for 7 years. While we will miss her, we wish her the very best in retirement. We currently have a posting for an administrative assistant position to replace Michelle. This new staff member will report to the Washington DC office as the Chicago office will close by July 2020.

#### 4. Audit Committee

The Audit Committee last met on November 5, 2019 in San Antonio, Texas. This was the second meeting for the Audit Committee in fiscal year 2020. The first meeting was in Boise, Idaho on August 5, 2019.

During our meeting in San Antonio, members voted to allow taxpayer-provided audit narratives to be included, along with MTC staff narratives, in the confidential audit packet provided to Audit Committee members for discussion beginning at the committee meeting scheduled for July 2020 in Little Rock, Arkansas. The Audit Committee also discussed the progress of current audits and heard an update on recent state and local tax cases from Bruce Fort and Chris Barber, MTC staff attorneys.

#### 5. Training

The Joint Audit Program staff provided instruction at three trainings during the first three quarters of the 2020 fiscal year.

- Focused Corporate Income Tax Class  
September 27-28, 2019 in Columbia, SC  
Larry and I were instructors for this class.



- Corporate Income Tax Class  
September 24-27, 2019 in Itasca, Illinois  
Cathy, Jeff and I were instructors for this class.
- Statistical Sampling Class for Sales and Use Tax Audits  
October 8-11, 2019, in Portland, Maine  
Bob and Jantha were instructors for this class.
- Upcoming training opportunities:

Corporate Income Tax Training  
October 5-9, 2020 in Leesburg, Virginia

For information regarding upcoming MTC training, contact Sherry Tiggett at [STiggett@MTC.gov](mailto:STiggett@MTC.gov) or (202) 650-0296 or visit our website at <http://www.mtc.gov/Events-Training>.