

TravelTax News for February 2016

Tax season is in full swing and we have some new items for you

First, join Thursday night February 11 as we present a joint seminar with Nomadicare addressing multistate tax issues for mobile professionals. For more information, visit

<http://app.webinarjam.net/register/20671/001d3250d1>

Be sure to visit our blog! www.traveltax.wordpress.com

Federal Taxes

The IRS had some hiccups with the electronic filing system and had to shut things down for a short period. Probably won't delay returns longer more than an extra week than regular processing.

More crazy scams out there with people pretending to be IRS agents. The IRS has a website to help us notice these things

<https://www.irs.gov/uac/IRS-Urges-Public-to-Stay-Alert-for-Scam-Phone-Calls>

State Tax News

Massachusetts

Personal Income Tax: Rate Reduction for 2016 Announced

The Massachusetts Department of Revenue has announced that revenue growth has met the final threshold needed to lower the personal income tax rate from 5.15% to 5.10% beginning January 1, 2016.

Illinois Delaying Refunds

SPRINGFIELD – The Illinois Department of Revenue (IDOR) is announcing that they do not anticipate releasing Individual Income Tax refunds for the 2016 tax filing season until March 1, 2016. The decision comes as fraud prevention efforts from last year's tax season illustrate the positive impact that additional delays and scrutiny have had in combating tax return fraud and identity theft. IDOR is reminding taxpayers that filing tax returns electronically and requesting direct deposit into a checking or savings account is still the fastest way to receive a refund

Connecticut

Connecticut now requires a non-resident to be present more than 15 days before the income earned in the state is subject to income tax

Drivers Licenses

In order to crack down on identity theft, states like Alabama are requiring Drivers License numbers in tax returns

Staffing Agencies

Staffing Agencies in the Gulf Beware- Your Per Diem policy is being watched!

The New Orleans District Office of the U.S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division recently announced an initiative to investigate the payroll practices of companies in the oilfield, maritime, and maritime fabrication industries throughout Louisiana. The initiative also will involve investigating the practices of staffing companies that provide labor to these employers. The WHD investigations, scheduled to begin in February, will focus on the existence of joint employer relationships, day rate pay practices, and **payments of per diems**, through aggressive on-site visits.