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Welcome to

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The Contemporary Tax Journal Winter 2022

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Letter from the Editor

I and our editorial board are excited to present to you the Winter 2022 issue of *The Contemporary Tax Journal*, a publication of San Jose State University's MS in Taxation (MST) Program. Over the past few months, we worked with SJSU MST students, professors and practitioners to present you this edition. The topics covered in this issue are current and thought-provoking.

Our 11th volume begins with an article written by five professors on countering identity theft and strengthening data security practices across the tax preparer community.

Next, we have our *Tax Maven* interview with Ray Beeman who is co-leader of Ernst & Young's Washington Council. He offers students and new tax practitioners' knowledge from his experiences and valuable advice as a successful tax lawyer. I was honored to have a Zoom interview with him and learn about his remarkable career in the tax field. I hope his insights and experience will inspire your professional goals. Mr. Beeman has been a frequent speaker at past TEI-SJSU High Tech Tax Institutes.

Following the interview, we have our section dedicated to *Tax Enlightenment*. This section includes an article written by SJSU MST student, Jane Lei, CPA where she covers the intricacies of executive compensation.

Our ensuing feature, *A Focus on Tax Policy*, presents the analysis of three tax proposals by SJSU MST students: H.R. 1362, Broadening Online Opportunities through Simple Technologies Act, by Tracy Than and Yulin Ke; California AB 1121, Sales Tax Exemption Emergency Preparation Items, by Pooja Karelia, CPA and Sheetal Partani, EA; and S. 2511, Revitalizing Downtowns Act, by the Fall 223A Tax Research class of MST students and myself. These tax bills were analyzed using the Guiding Principles of Good Tax Policy outlined in the AICPA Tax Policy Concept Statement No. 1.¹

We then present summaries written by MST students on presentations made at the 37th Annual TEI-SJSU High-Tech Tax Institute and the 27th Annual Tax Practitioner/IRS Fall Seminar held in November 2021. The topics covered at the High-Tech Tax Institute include issues with digital services taxes, opportunities and challenges associated with the IRC Section 1202 gain exclusion, and the current state of global mobility taxation.

Lastly, we are grateful to Gleim CPA Review for providing us with practice CPA exam questions that we hope everyone finds stimulating.

¹ American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) Tax Division. (January 2017). Tax Policy Concept Statement No. 1—Guiding Principles of Good Tax Policy: A Framework for Evaluation of Tax Proposals; available at <https://us.aicpa.org/content/dam/aicpa/advocacy/tax/downloadabledocuments/tax-policy-concept-statement-no-1-global.pdf>.

I would like to thank all the contributors of this issue and fellow MST students. Also, I would like to thank Professor Annette Nellen for her continuous support, her invaluable contributions to this journal, and for being an inspiration to me. I am also grateful to our MST coordinator and journal webmaster Catherine Dougherty. Their insights and hard work made this issue of the journal possible.

I invite you to enjoy reading our journal and hope you will consider contributing to our upcoming issues. I now present to you the Winter 2022 issue of *The Contemporary Tax Journal*.

Regards,
Tam Nguyen
Student Editor