**Promo**

**Title**

The Internal Revenue Service in the *Not So Good News*: Understanding the Problems and the Impact on You and Your Clients

**Description**

Historically the IRS has never been a popular government agency. Today is no exception as it is being attacked by many different sources such as Congress, President Obama, the federal courts, political parties, nonprofit organizations, businesses, tax practitioners, and taxpayers. While the IRS can be an effective partner in tax administration, it is often one of the greatest stressors in the conduct of our day-to-day work.

Clients are confused by what is transpiring and being reported in the media. They need clarification, and very often guidance, to cope with this complex and troubled economy. They look to their practitioners for a bit of wisdom that will help them comprehend the often confusing daily news. It is also important for practitioners to understand what is occurring, because it affects their livelihood.

This short poignant webcast is timely and essential. It is presented in a concise manner by a tax expert Stu Sobel who has practiced in the private sector for the last 17 years and before that for 30 years in a number of leadership positions in the IRS. Stu is referred to by the media as the “Guru of Giving” and as an expert in IRS practice and procedure. He has assisted more than 2500 organizations in obtaining tax exempt status, strategic planning, and tax compliance. Stu who is the author of four books, a former faculty member at Indiana University, and host of a nationally syndicated program on AM, FM, and PBS stations will share perspectives that are difficult to find elsewhere. He will explain the following topics:

1. IRS actions taken with 501(c)(4) conservative groups that are currently impacting the creditability and framework of the agency
2. IRS lost *Loving vs. Commissioner*, the registered tax preparer case, when District Court in District of Columbia ruled that tax preparation is not tax practice – how this decision will impact the tax profession
3. How the sequester is hurting the IRS – how will the lack of adequate funding impact on taxpayers’ and practitioners’ needs for timely and quality service?
4. The IRS is looking for *offshore tax stashes* – its methods and impact
5. Other IRS targets in 2013 and beyond

**Learning objectives**

* Understand the current status of the IRS exempt organization determination process with special emphasis on IRC 501(c)(4) organizations
* Secure information to be able to advise clients about recent IRS developments
* Explain the controversy regarding registered tax preparers
* Secure planning tips to overcome IRS problems when IRS accessibility is restricted
* Identify IRS areas of focus in 2013 and beyond

**Level:** Basic