

# NATIONAL TAXPAYER ADVOCATE PUBLIC FORUMS

HOSTED BY NINA E. OLSON, NATIONAL TAXPAYER ADVOCATE

AND THE HONORABLE PETER ROSKAM, MEMBER OF CONGRESS, ILLINOIS 6TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

CLAYTON ROOM | 535 DUANE STREET | GLEN ELLYN, IL

MARCH 9, 2016 | 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM



## Nina E. Olson

Nina E. Olson, the National Taxpayer Advocate, is the voice of the taxpayer at the IRS and before Congress. Under her leadership, the Taxpayer Advocate Service helps hundreds of thousands of people every year resolve problems with the IRS and addresses systemic issues within the IRS. Her Annual Report to Congress identifies the most serious problems facing taxpayers and recommends solutions. In 2014, the IRS adopted the Taxpayer Bill of Rights for which Ms. Olson had long advocated, placing dozens of existing rights in the Internal Revenue Code into ten fundamental rights, and making them clear, understandable, and accessible for taxpayers and IRS employees alike. She is a graduate of Bryn Mawr College and North Carolina Central School of Law, and she holds a Master of Laws degree in taxation from Georgetown University Law Center.



## The Honorable Peter Roskam

Chicagoland native Peter Roskam is in his fifth term in the United States House of Representatives, serving the 6th District of Illinois. Roskam is a member of the House Ways and Means Committee, where he sits on the Health Subcommittee and chairs the Oversight Subcommittee—a key watchdog post with jurisdiction into the spending and operations of tax-writing and healthcare programs within the federal government. Roskam was at the center of the Committee investigation into the IRS after it was revealed the agency was targeting Americans for their personal, religious, and political beliefs, authoring legislation to protect against these abuses that became law.

Roskam serves on the House Select Committee on Benghazi, a group tasked with a full and complete investigation of the events leading up to, during, and after the terrorist attack on the U.S. diplomatic facility in Benghazi, Libya. Active on national security issues and promoting America's role in the world, Roskam leads the House Democracy Partnership, assisting legislatures in emerging democracies; serves as a co-chair of the House Republican Israel Caucus, the largest Republican congressional organization dedicated to strengthening the U.S.-Israel relationship; and serves on the Board of Directors for the National Endowment for Democracy.

Roskam played an active role in securing a landslide House majority in 2010.

Roskam graduated from the University of Illinois before spending his early career in the office of his mentor, legendary Congressman Henry Hyde. He later earned his J.D. from IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law and began a law practice, where he developed significant experience as a litigator. Roskam has represented Chicago's western suburbs in both the Illinois House of Representatives and Senate.

Roskam lives in Wheaton with his wife of over 26 years, Elizabeth. They have four children.



## David Marzahl

David Marzahl serves as the President and CEO at the Center for Economic Progress (CEP) in Chicago, Illinois. David is a leading voice and strategist on economy security issues, seeking to advance policies and practices to create a financial system that works for all Americans. CEP is one of the nation's premier providers of tax and financial services for low-income families, reaching 25,000 customers each year, and giving them the tools to make sound choices.

Prior to joining CEP, Marzahl was the founding director of the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant & Refugee Rights, a

statewide coalition promoting the rights and responsibilities of immigrants and refugees. Mr. Marzahl has a Master's Degree in Political Economy from Northwestern University and a Certificate in Non-Profit Management from the Kellogg School of Management. He serves on the board of directors for the Illinois Asset Building Group and Youth & Opportunity United (YOU) and is an advisory board member of Second Federal Community Credit Union.



### **Mark Mirsky, CPA MST CGMA**

Mark Mirsky leads the Taxation and Management Advisory Services teams at ROI Business Services, LLC. Mark focuses on partnership, S corporation, and multi-state taxation as well as counseling startups, acquisition and disposition of businesses, and international taxation. While Mark works with manufacturing/distribution, service firms, and related industries, he also represents a variety of clients including healthcare, technology and web based companies, real estate, construction companies, and individuals. Mark's background includes working in the international tax group at one of the largest accounting firms in the world as well as two middle market firms located in the Chicago suburbs, focusing on closely held businesses serving as a firm wide resource for partnership taxation, international taxation, and multi-state taxation. Mark is an Illinois licensed CPA. He also has a Master's in Taxation from University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. He is a member of the AICPA and ILCPAS. Mark was selected to teach fellow CPAs at the AICPA National Tax Education Program and was awarded the Five Star Professional award from Chicago Magazine for 2010-2014. Mark currently teaches around the country for the AICPA teaching partnership, S corporation, C Corporation, and individual taxation.



### **Vijay Raghavan**

Vijay Raghavan is an assistant attorney general in the Consumer Fraud Bureau of the Illinois Attorney General's Office, where he litigates violations of federal and state consumer protection laws. Prior to joining the Attorney General's office, Mr. Raghavan was a public service fellow at Prairie State Legal Services, Inc., and a tax associate at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP in Chicago. Mr. Raghavan graduated from the University of Chicago Law School in 2007.



### **Andrew J. VanSingel**

Andrew J. VanSingel is the Director of the Low Income Tax Clinic at Prairie State Legal Services. Mr. VanSingel is admitted to practice in Illinois, New York, and the United States Tax Court. Mr. VanSingel is also a member of the Taxpayer Advocacy Panel, a Federal Advisory Committee dedicated to making systemic improvements to the IRS. Mr. VanSingel received his undergraduate degree from Western Michigan University in 2006, and his J.D., cum laude from Touro Law Center in 2010.

Mr. VanSingel is involved in the American Bar Association, and holds leadership positions in the Section of Taxation (Vice Chair, Pro Bono & Tax Clinics Committee) and the Young Lawyers Division (Director, Disaster Legal Services Program). Mr. VanSingel is deeply involved with the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program, and organized the Will County Low Income Tax Assistance Coalition. He also regularly volunteers with Ladder Up, a Chicago-based VITA Clinic.