

# Public Awareness Expands Outreach

Getting taxpayers engaged through testimonies and storytelling will continue to be the focus of the 2023 public awareness campaign. The strategy includes producing new episodes (English and Spanish) on the podcast, "Taxpayer Beware," to educate taxpayers about how to choose a tax preparer, avoiding fraud, as well as true stories about "ghost" tax preparers.

In addition to podcasts, the advertising campaign will target taxpayers with multiple messages, including videos (English and Spanish), about choosing a tax preparer. The campaign will run on social media, Google Ads, mobile ads, and audio platforms.





CRTPs are encouraged to listen and share CTEC podcasts. Links to the podcasts are provided on <u>CTEC.org</u> or can be downloaded at

#### taxpayerbeware.org.

## Late Renewals Due January 17, 2022

CRTPs who failed to meet the October 31, 2022 renewal deadline have until January 17, 2023 to pay the \$55 late fee, plus the \$33 registration fee. Normally the deadline is January 15th, however, due to the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday, the deadline has been extended to January 17th.

Missed the Late Renewal Deadline? What to Know...

CRTPs who miss the January 17th deadline to renew late will have to start over, pass a criminal background check and submit fingerprint images to CTEC, PLUS retake the 60-hour qualifying education course, obtain a bond, provide proof of a PTIN from the IRS, and pay CTEC fees.

Due to legislative changes that took effect July 1, 2020, CTEC cannot approve the status of *applicants* to register or reregister until a background check is passed.

### RENEW LATE NOW

### **2022 Enforcement Results**

Unregistered tax preparers who are caught preparing, or assisting with preparing, tax returns for a fee will be issued a \$2,500 penalty letter from the Franchise Tax Board (FTB). They have 90 days to register with CTEC before the penalty is enforced.

If a tax preparer does not comply, the \$2,500 penalty is assessed. If a tax preparer still fails to comply the next year, a \$5,000 penalty will be issued each year until they either register with CTEC or agree to stop preparing tax returns for a fee.

CTEC pays for the entire enforcement program. All penalties collected by FTB are deposited into the state's general fund. Taxpayers can report unregistered tax preparers at <u>CTEC.org</u>.





## **New CTEC Board Members**

**Tom O'Saben** was appointed by the National Association of Tax Professionals (NATP). He is an enrolled agent and currently holds the position as Director of Tax Content and Government Relations at NATP. Tom earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Southern Illinois University Edwardsville in political science and is currently enrolled in a master's program concentrating in adult education.

**Michael Carr** is a CTEC-registered tax preparer. He currently operates a seven office income tax preparation franchise. He has worked in the industry for over 25 years.

Aaron Chambers is a CTEC-registered tax preparer. He has over ten years of sales and operations experience in small businesses. Aaron was granted the Certified Value Growth Advisor (CVGA) designation, recognizing the satisfaction of Corporate Value Metrics' stringent criteria of professional standards in business operations and financial advisory. He has also received both a Master of Accountancy from National University

and a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration from Fresno Pacific

University.

Upcoming CTEC Meetings May 16-18, 2023 Sacramento November 15 - 16, 2023 Healdsburg Call 877.850.CTEC if you would like to attend. CTEC Board Members Registration Renewals
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Government Partners CTEC partners with IRS, Franchise Tax Board and Covered
California to help reach taxpayers and tax preparers regarding California requirements for professional tax preparation.
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