

**Immediate Release**

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**TAX TALK TODAY FEATURES KAREN HAWKINS, DIRECTOR, IRS  
OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY PRESENTING  
CHANGES IN CIRCULAR 230**

***May Program Covers Rules Affecting Paid Tax Return Preparers***

**WASHINGTON, DC (May 4, 2011)** — [Tax Talk Today](#)®, an online series of webcasts designed to educate tax professionals on current and critical tax issues, today announced the topics for discussion for its May program, “**Ethics – Circular 230 Update**”. The 100-minute, 2 CPE, Live webcast is scheduled for Tuesday, May 10, 2011, at 2 p.m. ET. Tax professionals will learn about changes in the professional and ethical standards that govern them and how to avoid noncompliance. Viewers are encouraged to email questions before and during the program. The broadcast will also be Archived for 12 months for viewers who are unable to watch the Live program, or wish to review the material.

During the opening segment, **Karen Hawkins** of IRS’ OPR will discuss the recent and proposed changes that affect the rules governing paid tax return preparers.

“Having Karen Hawkins on the program will enable our tax professional viewers to gain first-hand knowledge of the changes to Circular 230. Further they will understand the impact of the ethical standards that govern them”, stated Lisbeth Bagnold, President & CEO of Tax Talk Today, Inc.

Other [panelists](#) include:

- **Rita Cavanagh**, *Partner, Latham & Watkins, Washington, DC*
- **Lonnie Gary**, *EA, USTCP, Young, Craig & Co., LLP*
- **Sherrill Trovato**, *MBA, MST, EA, USTCP*

The following list of topics will be discussed:

- Role of the IRS's Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR)
  - Mission & Organization
  - Impact of Circular 230 Proposed Revisions
  - Responsibilities of OPR vs. Return Preparer Office
  - Coordination with internal and external stakeholders
- OPR Business objectives for 2011
  - Regulation and Oversight of tax practitioners
  - Initiatives for identifying and addressing noncompliance
  - Enforcement and Sanction initiatives
  - Referrals

- Stakeholder outreach and awareness (publications and other communications)
- Planned Guidance Priorities
- Interrelationship of Circular 230 and section 6694
- Due diligence under new Accuracy standards and other standards of conduct
- Conflict of interests
- Recordkeeping and Documentation requirement

Viewers needing [Continuing Professional Education credit, \(CPE Credit\)](#), can take advantage of a *Tax Talk Today* [subscription price](#) of \$217.50 for 15 CPE credits, which includes all 8 programs. Fewer CPE credits can also be purchased.

**About *Tax Talk Today*, The Tax Show for the Tax Pro**

An 8-program, 15 CPE, webcast series designed to educate tax professionals with reliable information about complex tax issues. [Tax Talk Today](#) features roundtable discussions and real-time interaction with industry professionals, and IRS officials. *Tax Talk Today* collaborates with [Tax Analysts](#), [Tax.com](#) and [NAEA](#) to provide content meeting CPE Credit requirements for CPAs, enrolled agents, attorneys, and all professionals needing CPE credits in the tax area. Programs are available live, archived or podcast. For additional information, contact Paul Lamonía at 202-559-9330 or [Lamonía@TaxTalkToday.com](mailto:Lamonía@TaxTalkToday.com) or visit [www.TaxTalkToday.com](http://www.TaxTalkToday.com).