IRS PARTNERS IN PROPAGANDA AND PLUNDERING

By Free Inhabitant Dave

Many of you have had an employer, big law firm, CPA, religious leader or media outlet ignore your claims on what the tax laws truthfully state. It’s enough to question your own sanity at times. However, you must see “the bigger picture.” These people are the stated PARTNERS of the IRS!

In this piece I identify who the IRS claims are its partners. The list includes about every big association with any prestige. As you read, you will see that even faith-based organizations are enticed with funding to join in the partner network. So much for your 26USC501c3 church leader who sold-out to the devil in exchange for a few pieces of federal reserve notes… huh?

I have helped you see the bigger picture by underlying key words. For example on a piece-by-piece basis you will witness:

- A list of the “partners”. Notice the prestige of these “practitioners.”
- That the goal of the private-sector “partners” has been re-directed from helping clients and people to “collecting taxes” on behalf of the government and IRS.
- That although the practitioner-partner’s allegedly help “clients”—aka client pays practitioner for help—that the actual help they provide is the “IRS battle”! This explains what you witness with the W-4 and SSN number insistence; the private sector being encouraged to “do the work of government.”
- Notice it is the IRS that helps with “information services” for those who THREATEN the practitioner’s “industry.” [aka partners in the plundering industry].
- That “faith based”, “educational”, “financial” and “public service” organizations are invited WITH FUNDING opportunity to JOIN the “partner network” in the “EDUCATION” of COMPLIANCE. [Closer to re-education huh?]?
- That encouraging “compliance” via “information” it is supposedly “Education”.
- That the “good news” for the “Tax Practitioners”’ is that the IRS has a “STRATEGY” of “PUBLICITY” “INFORMATION” for them-- masquerading of course as “EDUCATION”. Further, it is “MARKETTED” as “STORIES”.
- That the private “tax practitioner’s” have a [government IRS] “ROLE” in “COMPLIANCE” !
- That the IRS is “STEERING REPORTERS”.
- That the goal of the information masquerading as education is “public reassurance” to convince people to communistically “pay their fair share.”
- That this is a “comprehensive and sophisticated” “strategy”!!!!
- That in honor of Joseph Goebbels, Minister of Propaganda and Information Officer for the Nazi party in WW2, that the IRS now incredibly created a new officer title: “Public Information Officer.”

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I want to salute our partners who have been such a big help at these forums. I want to thank, in alphabetical order, the American Bar Association, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the National Association of Enrolled Agents, the National Association of Tax Professionals, the National Society of Accountants, and the National Society of Tax Professionals.

Let me conclude by thanking you all for being part of this forum. You are our partners in collecting taxes. You help your clients follow the law and understand their tax obligations and as I said, that is most of our battle. We will try to help you as best we can – by continuing to improve our electronic and information services, updating our computers, and vigorously enforcing the law against the unscrupulous few who threaten the integrity of your industry.


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2009 IRS Tax Professional Partners Meeting Calendar

http://www.irs.gov/taxpros/article/0,,id=186575,00.html

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Become an IRS Partner to Help in Your Community

Thousands of organizations nationwide are partnering with IRS to make a difference in their communities. For the first time ever, qualifying organizations competed for matching grant funds to offer tax assistance in their local communities. The grant application period closed September 2, 2008. Applications were received from 379 organizations, requesting more than $30 million in matching grant funds….We invite you to join our partner network and provide your clients, employees, organization representatives and/or community members with the information and assistance they need, want and value. Our approach to educating individual taxpayers is to join with other organizations, combining resources for greater impact in the community. Organizations of all types -- corporate, faith-based, non-profit, educational, financial, public service, and government -- join in these community-based coalitions to educate taxpayers and provide hands-on assistance to help them comply with their tax responsibilities.

http://www.irs.gov/individuals/article/0,,id=119374,00.html

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IRS Office of Taxpayer Burden Reduction Partners with Public to Make Complying with Tax Laws Easier

The IRS often partners with members of the public, tax professionals, businesses and others to obtain input on a variety of issues relating to tax administration.

http://www.irs.gov/newsroom/article/0,,id=158513,00.html

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Good News for Tax Practitioners

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Mark Matthews, Chief of IRS Criminal Investigation, discusses recent efforts to publicize CI indictments and convictions.

On July 2, 2000, Criminal Investigation (CI) reorganized under the newly modernized IRS. One feature of modernization that might be of interest to you is how we go about publicizing some of our cases in order to educate the practitioners and public in general. We believe that this new publicity philosophy recognizes the practitioner’s role in compliance. When I came on the job last year, many practitioners, members of the American Bar Association and industry leaders kept asking me, "Mark, when are you guys going to do something about abusive trusts? When are you going to bring some criminal cases in this area?" And I would reply, "Did you know that we had 35 indictments last year and that we have 130 open criminal investigations in the area of abusive trusts?" And of course the common answer was, "No, and why are you keeping it a secret? That information would have been useful to us in our practice." And so we started looking at what we did with those cases. We found that we were taking standard press items from CI indictments and/or convictions, writing up a short press release and dropping it in the court house regular press box for court house reporters. We did not pay sufficient attention to whether those reporters or the readers they wrote for were interested in tax stories. We also tended to provide a fairly narrow range of information about the case and our work in the particular enforcement area. And so our stories got viewed in isolation, focused only narrowly on the individual defendant involved, and wound up in the Metro section of the papers.

When we work a case, we understandably put 99 percent of our effort into the lengthy, complex investigation, from initiation to sentencing. In the past, we have spent less than one percent of our time focusing on the broader deterrence value of our work, obtaining appropriate publicity on that case. This is where the taxpayers as a whole reap maximum value from our efforts. The Commissioner asked a consultant to conduct a public opinion survey about taxes. The results showed that the majority of taxpayers make an honest effort to file accurate and timely tax returns. The survey also showed that those honest taxpayers
wanted to know that everyone else pays his or her fair share of taxes—in fact, the survey said that taxpayers believe that they end up paying the tax bill for those who cheat. This reminds us that CI has two audiences for our deterrence message—the honest taxpayer and those who are tempted to cheat. We believe that our publicity efforts serve as a warning to those who may be tempted to cheat that there are criminal consequences for their actions. However, to a greater degree, we believe that the publicity reassures those honest taxpayers, who write a check every April 14 or 15 to the IRS, that we will investigate and refer for prosecution those taxpayers who deliberately decide not to pay their fair share.

Our new more comprehensive and more sophisticated media strategy has worked nothing short of a revolution in improving the effectiveness and profile of our work. Let me quickly say that we are doing all of this very carefully within the confines of the IRS disclosure provisions under Code Sec. 6103. To continue to use abusive trusts as an example, we created an Abusive Tax Schemes area on irs.gov. Available on the website is a description of the schemes that were occurring in the abusive trusts area. We provide information about the number of indictments, the number of open investigations, the number of sentences and the average length of the sentences. Toward the end of the page on the website, we list the five or six biggest, most significant recent cases. We also provide the text from the IRS brochure, Should your financial portfolio contain Too Good To be True Trusts, a good source of information that the public should be looking for when considering a trust.

This has worked like a charm. Every time we get a new indictment or conviction in that area, we steer the reporters to that website. We tell the reporter, "Here’s a press release on a conviction regarding an abusive trust; if you want more information for your story, here is the website; go back and pull everything off that." We are getting some great examples where reporters have done that—even including a little box story on the side with samples from the Too Good to be True Trust brochure.

So, we want to make as much information as possible available to the press. We want to make the stories less about the individual case and more about the big compliance problem the IRS is facing, by saying, "Here is what they are losing in terms of dollars; here are the schemes that are going on; and here is what IRS is doing in response, at least in the criminal area." It gives the media a better look at, and allows others to judge, what we are doing.

A great example of this new concept is the lead story in Tax Analyst on October 2, 2000: "IRS cracks down on abusive trusts." This is new for CI; we used to get relatively small blurbs about a case. This is a much more comprehensive story in which a reporter included information from our website and included details from a huge conviction we had in Sacramento and a significant sentencing in Michigan. This is also an example of marketing our stories to periodicals that reach specific important reader segments like tax professionals.

We also need to focus on marketing stories about defendants in particular occupational codes to publications that cater to readers in the same professional areas. Surveys demonstrate that those readers are the most avid audience for those stories and, therefore, those well-placed stories maximize the deterrent effect of our work. The Wall Street Journal has cited the CI website on the front page and several United States Attorneys have started citing the
webpage in their press releases, so we think this is beginning to work. At another level, these better-placed and more comprehensive stories increase the public’s and tax professionals’ understanding and appreciation of the work we do.

Lastly, we now have 35 special agents serving as Public Information Officers (PIOs). They are working with their local media contacts to make sure that IRS Criminal Investigation does a better job of educating the public about areas of noncompliance. With the support of the Commissioner and the newly trained special agent public information officers, I know we can significantly improve our impact on tax compliance for each case we pursue.

This is a very exciting and challenging time for CI and, together, we can look forward to an exciting future.

As mentioned in Mark Matthew’s article, Criminal Investigation has web content on irs.gov. The website also has a page devoted to abusive trust schemes including descriptions of abusive trust schemes and significant cases that CI has investigated.

Not long ago, an example of the work of IRS Criminal Investigation was publicized by the Department of Justice. As part of a series of investigations of alleged illegal offshore trust programs, the IRS recently took the largest enforcement action in its history, executing over three dozen search warrants and making four arrests. Two others were not immediately apprehended, but were also charged in the federal criminal complaint. Criminal Investigation special agents are investigating the case.

http://www.irs.gov/compliance/enforcement/article/0,,id=112344,00.html

What is the purpose for a public information officer?

Lest you forget what a Public Information Officer is, I remind you of this man and one of his titles:

Joseph Goebbels (Paul Joseph Goebbels), 1897-1945, Nazi Party: “INFORMATION OFFICER”

Here’s his picture doctored by friend Jim to put things in perspective.
After you read the above article, read some of Joseph Goebbels quotes paying attention to words like “steer” from the IRS above and the word “control” from Goebbels:

- Think of the press as a great keyboard on which the government can play.
- It is the absolute right of the State to supervise the formation of public opinion.
- Not every item of news should be published. Rather must those who control news policies endeavor to make every item of news serve a certain purpose.
- The most brilliant propagandist technique will yield no success unless one fundamental principle is borne in mind constantly - it must confine itself to a few points and repeat them over and over.
- If you tell a lie big enough and keep repeating it, people will eventually come to believe it. The lie can be maintained only for such time as the State can shield the people from the political, economic and/or military consequences of the lie. It thus becomes vitally important for the State to use all of its powers to repress dissent, for the truth is the mortal enemy of the lie, and thus by extension, the truth is the greatest enemy of the State.
- We have made the Reich by propaganda.
- Propaganda may be facilitated by leaders with prestige.
- Propaganda is not a matter for average minds, but rather a matter for practitioners.