October 29, 2014

ADVISORY: ADV 2014-14

Employer Tax section wins national award

The Rhode Island Division of Taxation's Employer Tax section has won a national award for excellence from the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Unemployment Insurance.

The award was presented at the National Unemployment Insurance Directors Conference and IT/Legal Issues Forum, held last week in Salt Lake City, Utah. The award was for "performance excellence in tax operations" for small states. Receiving the honor on behalf of the Division of Taxation's Employer Tax section on October 22, 2014, was the section's supervisor, Chief Revenue Agent Philip D'Ambra.

"This award recognizes our Employer Tax section's high standards and the hard work that Phil and his team do. Their work reflects well on the Division and on the State of Rhode Island," said Rhode Island Tax Administrator David M. Sullivan. "We are very proud of the accomplishments of our entire Employer Tax section," Sullivan added.

The Division of Taxation's Employer Tax section works closely with the Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training and is involved in the administration and collection of taxes involving unemployment insurance, temporary disability insurance (TDI), and the job development fund.

Deadline is Friday for employer taxes

Friday is the deadline for employers to file their third wage and tax report for 2014 and pay the tax due.

About 32,000 employers have until midnight on Friday, October 31, 2014, to file and pay their Rhode Island state unemployment insurance tax (also known as the employment security, or ES, tax) and job development fund tax, and to file and remit the amount of Rhode Island temporary disability insurance (TDI) tax withheld from employees' wages. (Please click here for more information.)

Tax preparers' seminar

The Division of Taxation is holding a seminar for paid preparers of Rhode Island income tax returns. The chief focus of the seminar will be what's new for the coming filing season and what's new in state tax law -- including the property-tax relief program (Form RI-1040H), the estate tax, and corporate taxes. There'll also be an update on Notices that the Division of Taxation sends to taxpayers.

The seminar is offered free of charge, but advance registration is required. The seminar will be at the Community College of Rhode Island's Newport campus on November 6, 2014, from 9:00 a.m. to Noon. (A repeat session in December at CCRI in Warwick has already sold out, but seats remain available for the Newport session.) Click here for the seminar flier and for more information about registration.

Tax news in brief

- The Division of Taxation recently posted, as final, <u>Regulation PIT 14-23</u>, which involves paid preparer penalties. The agency also formally repealed two corporate tax regulations that have become outdated: <u>Regulation CT 88-09</u> and <u>Regulation CT 11-15</u>.
- The Division of Taxation recently posted information about interest rates that will apply in 2015 to overpayments and delinquencies. Click here for more details.
- The Division of Taxation recently posted two new Administrative Decisions, one dealing with the sale and use tax, the other with an untimely claim for a refund of personal income tax. To view all Administrative Decisions recently posted, click here.

Contact: Neil Downing
Chief Revenue Agent
Rhode Island Division of Taxation
Neil.Downing@tax.ri.gov
(401) 574-8115