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FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
PROPERTY TAX OVERSIGHT
PUBLIC RULE WORKSHOP
(Virtual Webinar)

DATE: November 17, 2020
TIME: 10:00 a.m. - 10:20 a.m.
LOCATION: 2450 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida

Reported by:
Deborah Alff, RPR
For the Record Reporting, Inc.
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 140
Tallahassee, Florida 32308

P R O C E E D I N G S

1
2 MS. FORRESTER: Good morning. My name is
3 Janice Forrester. I am the Revenue Program
4 Administrator for the Technical Assistance Section
5 and Property Tax Oversight Program. I will be the
6 moderator for today's workshop. My role as
7 moderator is to preside in a neutral fashion.

8 Staff from the Department are here today to
9 receive comments on the draft amendment. At this
10 time, I would like staff to introduce themselves.

11 MS. HARPER: My name is Jenna Harper. I am
12 the Compliance Process Manager with Property Tax
13 Oversight.

14 MS. GOLDSTEIN: Rachel Goldstein and I'm one
15 of the attorneys with the Department.

16 MR. KELLER: I'm Stephen Keller, I'm one of
17 the attorneys with the Department of Revenue.

18 MS. DAVIS: I'm Kathryn Davis and I'm also one
19 of the attorneys with the Department of Revenue.

20 MR. JACKSON: Anthony Jackson, Jr., Senior
21 Tax Specialist.

22 MS. FORRESTER: Thank you. Today is November
23 17, 2020 and this is a public rule workshop
24 scheduled under subsection two of section 120.54,
25 Florida Statutes.

1 The Department is holding this workshop to
2 discuss the draft amendments to rules and forms.
3 The Department published a notice of rule
4 development in the October 28, 2020 edition of the
5 Florida Administrative Register, Volume 46, number
6 211, pages 4657 through 4659.

7 For those at the computer, the draft rules
8 and forms are on the Department's proposed rule
9 web page at FloridaRevenue.com/rule. Select the
10 property tax proposed rules drop-down at the bottom
11 of the page. Then select the rule you would like
12 to review.

13 I'll now ask Anthony Jackson to explain the
14 process that we will use for taking comments on the
15 agenda items. Please note, the Department offices
16 are still temporarily closed to the public. This
17 workshop is taking place using electronic media.

18 MR. JACKSON: Good morning, ladies and
19 gentlemen. If you are attending this workshop
20 using your computer, raise your hand using the icon
21 on the grab-tab to the left of your control panel.
22 We will address you when it's your turn to speak.
23 Please state your name and whom you represent. If
24 you experience difficulty, use the quick-chat
25 option to send me a message.

1 If you are attending this workshop using the
2 option telephone with audio pin, and you have a
3 question or comment, send an e-mail to
4 dorpto@FloridaRevenue.com to let us know you wish
5 to speak. We will address you by name and unmute
6 your phone when it is your turn to speak.

7 If you are using the option telephone with no
8 audio pin, and want to ask a question or make a
9 comment, you must send an e-mail to
10 dorpto@FloridaRevenue.com. Please use the subject
11 line November 17 Workshop. In the e-mail, add your
12 name and whom you represent. We will acknowledge
13 your e-mail or read your comment out loud. All
14 comments received during the hearing will be
15 recorded by the court reporter. Written comments
16 will be posted to the proposed rule page with the
17 transcript. Thank you.

18 MS. FORRESTER: Thank you, Anthony.

19 We will take comments on each agenda item from
20 anyone present or from conference call attendees.
21 When you speak, please tell us your name and who
22 you represent. We ask that you provide only
23 comments or suggested changes that are directly
24 relevant to the draft. Please hold all other
25 general comments until after we have discussed the

1 agenda item.

2 I am now turning the workshop over to
3 Ms. Goldstein to present the draft rules and forms.

4 MS. GOLDSTEIN: Thank you. Good morning,
5 everyone. Today's workshop is intended to discuss
6 the draft rules and forms related to chapter 12-9
7 for the Department certification program for
8 various certifications, including for property
9 appraisers and tax collectors. So I'm going to go
10 through the rules one by one, explain any changes
11 or improvements and open it up for comments.

12 These drafts rules are intended to preserve
13 current taxes so the drafts reflect what the
14 Department is currently doing, with the addition of
15 a few updates and program improvements. Before we
16 begin, I kind of just want to do, go over a few
17 highlights of the changes made to these drafts
18 since the last workshop.

19 The first thing I would point out is that the
20 committees and the current drafts before you reflect
21 the status quo, so the Department's existing use of
22 committees. The second thing is, since the nature
23 of these education courses is to constantly be
24 changing and be in flux, we've decided to not adopt
25 the course (inaudible) into rule. The third thing

1 is we have expanded our digital accessibility,
2 making registration, submission of forms and
3 tuition payment available online. And then lastly
4 we have removed the continuing education
5 requirements for staff.

6 So if you will now turn to the rules, I'll
7 start with the agenda item Rule 12-9.001 entitled
8 Definitions. And here we simply just updated
9 definitions for clarity. So do we have any
10 comments on this rule?

11 (Pause.)

12 MS. FORRESTER: Let the record show that there
13 are no comments on Rule 12-9.001.

14 MS. GOLDSTEIN: Great. Okay. Moving on to
15 Rule 12-9.002, this is just a rule explaining the
16 various certification programs, including the
17 addition of the Certified Cadastralist of Florida
18 into the rule text. Also to provide, the
19 Department will publish an informational guide on
20 the rules themselves and the program overall.
21 That's not going to be promulgated, but it is going
22 to be publicly available. Are there any comments
23 on this rule?

24 (Pause.)

25 MS. FORRESTER: Let the record reflect that

1 we've received no comment on Rule 12-9.002.

2 MS. GOLDSTEIN: Okay. The next is Rule
3 12-9.003 entitled Qualifications. This rule is
4 just to establish updated qualification criteria
5 and specify the coursework for the professional
6 certification of the property appraisers, tax
7 collectors, their employees and employees with the
8 Department. And it also adds certification
9 criteria for the cadastralist program. Based on a
10 comment we received from the last workshop, we've
11 also incorporated the clarification about
12 unlicensed attendance constituting presence in the
13 classroom. Are there any comments on this
14 particular rule?

15 (Pause.)

16 MS. FORRESTER: Let the record reflect that
17 we've received no comments on Rule 12-9.003.

18 MS. GOLDSTEIN: Okay. Rule 12-9.0031.
19 Approval of Courses. This particular rule is
20 intended to specify the criteria and the procedures
21 for the approval of courses for credit toward
22 certification, recertification or reinstatement of
23 a professional certification. It also incorporates
24 the use of a new form which we'll cover at the end,
25 for obtaining approval of a course for either

1 certification or continuing ed. (10:00)

2 The last workshop we got a few comments about
3 the course approval process and that I just point
4 out that feedback for your consideration. We have
5 also, you know, counted the fact that unavoidable
6 situations might arrive last minute that would
7 require the substitution of either the course
8 itself or an instructor, so we have built in some
9 flexibility to address that concern. Do we have
10 any questions on this rule?

11 (Pause.)

12 MS. FORRESTER: Let the record reflect that
13 we've received no comments on Rule 12-9.0031.

14 MS. GOLDSTEIN: Okay. Next, we have
15 Rule 12-9.0032. This one is Department sponsored
16 courses and this rule sort of spells out the
17 procedures for registration, payment, cancellation,
18 refunds for Department sponsored courses. As I
19 mentioned earlier, we have tried to implement some
20 improvements for ease of use and digitize some of
21 the processes to try to make it easier to do many
22 of those functions online. So do we have any
23 comments on that rule?

24 (Pause.)

25 MS. FORRESTER: Let the record reflect that

1 we've received no comments on Rule 12-9.0032.

2 MS. GOLDSTEIN: Okay. Next, we have Rule
3 12-9.004 entitled Application for Certification.
4 This is just the rule talking about the application
5 process for those applying for the professional
6 certifications, and it incorporates the new
7 application form which we will cover at the end.
8 Do we have any comments?

9 (Pause.)

10 MS. FORRESTER: Let the record show that we've
11 received no comments on Rule 12-9.004.

12 MS. GOLDSTEIN: Okay. Rule 12-9.0055. This
13 is the season tuition rule. This clarifies fees
14 associated with obtaining and re-obtaining
15 professional certification. It also explains
16 the payment process for Department sponsored
17 courses via the new online registration and payment
18 portal. Do we have any comments on that rule?

19 (Pause.)

20 MS. FORRESTER: Let the record show that we
21 have received no comment on Rule 12-9.0055.

22 MS. GOLDSTEIN: Okay. Rule 12-9.006, this is
23 the certification process. This just clarifies the
24 certification application approval process by the
25 admissions and certifications committee. Do we

1 have any comments on that rule?

2 (Pause.)

3 MS. FORRESTER: Let the record reflect that
4 we've received no comments on Rule 12-9.006.

5 MS. GOLDSTEIN: Okay. Rule 12-9.007. This is
6 a recertification rule. We've proposed an
7 amendment in these drafts related to updates to
8 requirements for all certified professionals to
9 annually certify their government employment and
10 also to acknowledge the Florida Code of Ethics for
11 public officers and employees, and to pay annual
12 recertification fees using our new forms. Do we
13 have any comments on this rule?

14 (Pause.)

15 MS. FORRESTER: Let the record show that we
16 have received no comments on Rule 12-9.007.

17 MS. GOLDSTEIN: Okay. Rule 12-9.0077, the
18 reinstatement rule that specifies procedures for
19 individuals seeking to reinstate their certification
20 after it had lapsed. Do we have any comments on
21 this rule?

22 (Pause.)

23 MS. FORRESTER: Let the record show that we've
24 received no comments on Rule 12-9.0077.

25 MS. GOLDSTEIN: Okay. And then lastly we have

1 Rule 12-9.008. We're just repealing this one as
2 unnecessary. Do we have any comments on this rule?

3 (Pause.)

4 MS. FORRESTER: Let the record show that we've
5 received no comments on Rule 12-9.008.

6 MS. GOLDSTEIN: Okay. And then lastly we have
7 the two forms in the package. This is in Rule
8 12D-16.002, Index to Forms. The first form is
9 DR-4001, the Application for Florida Professional
10 Certification. This is our former DR-410. We have
11 amended this form to apply to any applicant for
12 professional certification, annual recertification
13 or for reinstatement. We've also added an
14 acknowledgment of the Florida Code of Ethics for
15 public officers and employees, and the ethics
16 standards set forth in the Florida Constitution.

17 As I mentioned with our (inaudible) -- we've
18 also updated and improved our online portals so
19 you're able to submit this application and any
20 associated fees online. Do we have any comments
21 on this?

22 (Pause.)

23 MS. FORRESTER: Let the record show that
24 we've received no comments for Rule 12D-16.002 or
25 Form DR-4001 or Form DR-4002.

1 MS. GOLDSTEIN: Okay. That's the last form
2 that I was going to cover, the DR-4002. This is
3 the application for approval of a course for
4 continuing ed credit hours. And as you just
5 mentioned, we want to open it up again for comments
6 on that?

7 MS. FORRESTER: We can.

8 (Pause.)

9 MS. FORRESTER: Let the record show we have
10 received no comments on Form DR-4002.

11 MS. GOLDSTEIN: Okay. The last four forms,
12 the DR-410, DR-516, DR-516E and DR-591, those are
13 all slated for repeal as redundant to the draft
14 DR-4001. So do we have any comments on the repeal
15 of those forms?

16 (Pause.)

17 MS. FORRESTER: Let the record show that we've
18 received no comments on the four forms for repeal.

19 MS. GOLDSTEIN: Great. So with that, I will
20 turn it back over to the moderator, Janice
21 Forrester.

22 MS. FORRESTER: Thank you. On behalf of the
23 Department, I want to thank everyone, for
24 participating and sharing your comments with us.
25 Your participation is very helpful during the rule

1 promulgation process.

2 You may provide written comments to us. Please
3 bear in mind that they do become part of the public
4 record. We ask that any written comments be
5 provided to us by the close of business November
6 20, 2020. You may send these comments by e-mail to
7 dorpto@FloridaRevenue.com, or mail your comments to
8 Property Tax Oversight, Florida Department of
9 Revenue, Post Office Box 3000, Tallahassee, Florida,
10 32315-3000.

11 All right. This concludes the workshop.

12 Thank you.

13 (Whereupon, the meeting was concluded at
14 approximately 10:20 a.m.)

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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

COUNTY OF LEON)
STATE OF FLORIDA)

I, DEBORAH ALFF, do hereby certify that I was authorized to and did report the foregoing proceedings, and that the transcript pages one through 14 contain a true and complete record of my stenographic notes and recordings thereof.

Dated this 25th day of November, 2020, at Tallahassee, Leon County, Florida.

Deborah Alff

DEBORAH ALFF, COURT REPORTER