Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Office of Chief Counsel

Notice

[CC-2004-020]

June 03, 2004

2003 Office of Chief Counsel Subject: Presidential Rank Award Winners Cancel Date: After reading

The Office of Chief Counsel is pleased to announce the selection of three of their career executives for receipt of the FY 2003 Presidential Rank Award. Winners of this prestigious award are strong leaders, professionals, and scientists who achieve results and consistently demonstrate strength, integrity, industry, and a relentless commitment to excellence in public service. The President selected award recipients after a rigorous review process coordinated by the Office of Personnel Management. Recipients of this award may be given one of two ranks: Distinguished or Meritorious.

This year's Office of Chief Counsel winners are:

For the rank of Distinguished Executive

Sarah Hall Ingram Division Counsel/Associate Chief Counsel (Tax Exempt and Government Entities)

Ms. Ingram has provided outstanding tax law leadership in the highly sensitive and complex areas of employee benefits, exempt organizations, and government entities. Under her direction, her office initiated and executed new pension distributing regulations which were widely praised by the press, practitioners and taxpayers as the single most important tax simplification for the average individual taxpayer in the last 10 years significantly reducing the time, money and frustration otherwise experience by employers, plan administrators and individuals. She has also been highly effective in the effort to address those financing terrorism through the use and abuse of exempt organizations.

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For the rank of Meritorious Executive:

Deborah A. Butler Associate Chief Counsel (Procedure and Administration)

Ms. Butler has provided outstanding leadership in the areas of federal tax procedure and administration including reporting and paying taxes as well as assessing and collecting them. She has been extremely effective in supporting issues involving lowincome taxpayers across the nation by implementing and expanding the low-income tax clinic grant program. When Counsel's New York offices were destroyed on 9/11, her efforts with the recovery were nothing less than extraordinary. She took the lead in getting the workload of the New York office reestablished, reconstituted the tax litigation and collection files, and expedited efforts to issue disaster relief notices and announcements for affected taxpayers.

Cynthia J. Mattson Division Counsel (Large and Mid-Size Business)

Ms. Mattson, supervising a staff of nearly 300 tax attorneys and support personnel in the headquarters office and in the field, has been a pioneer in changing the orientation of attorneys from active litigation to providing proactive advice in handling tax issues to forestall unnecessary litigation. She has also worked mightily to combat abusive corporate tax shelters involving a very complex and changing area of tax law. Under her direction, improved audit technique guidelines for tax shelters and penalty issues associated with such shelters have been developed and implemented. She has effectively worked with IRS to develop new training with regard to shelters as well as explored and implemented settlement approaches.

/s/

DENNIS M. FERRARA Associate Chief Counsel (Finance & Management)