

# Tax

Foster Garvey's Tax group is dedicated to helping clients minimize risk and maximize tax benefits. We work closely with our clients to develop solutions reflective of their business objectives and assist in a wide range of tax matters – from handling complex transactions to resolving tax controversies and valuation disputes.

Clients look to us to address sophisticated tax matters for corporations, limited liability companies, closely held companies, high-net-worth individuals, partnerships, municipalities, trusts and nonprofit organizations relating to a variety of issues, including real estate transactions, corporate acquisitions and reorganizations, financial institutions, the formation and operation of partnerships and limited liability companies, and international transactions.

Our attorneys offer counsel to clients on federal, state and local tax issues associated with the structuring of domestic and international mergers and acquisitions, corporate formations and restructurings, debt workouts, liquidations, joint ventures, divestitures, and spin-offs. We have extensive experience in business and occupation tax (B&O Tax), sales and use tax, real estate excise tax, leasehold excise tax, and property tax.

Foster Garvey assists clients in matters involving:

## **Accounting Firms**

Foster Garvey represents a large number of accounting firms throughout the Pacific Northwest. Our attorneys assist accounting firms with many legal issues, including: entity formation, agreements among owners, quality assurance, ethics, claims defense, and the drafting of engagement letters. We also provide accounting firms with support on tax and accounting matters, tax opinions, tax appeals and controversy, and tax planning. Additionally, our firm and its attorneys regularly host seminars and forums for accounting firms and CPAs, providing the opportunity to discuss hot tax issues and understand the ever-changing tax laws and regulations, enabling accounting professionals to better serve their clients. We are dedicated in

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### **Related Professionals**

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J. Scott Galloway
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William G. Tonkin

#### Areas Of Focus

Federal Tax
Property Tax
State & Local Tax



our support of the accounting profession. Foster Garvey's tax attorneys regularly publish insights and legal updates on Larry's Tax Law, a blog dedicated to providing technical support to tax and accounting professionals.

# **Corporate Transactions**

Our lawyers help business clients plan for, identify and resolve tax issues arising in mergers, acquisitions, divestitures, recapitalizations, real estate and other transactions.

# **Disputes**

We represent clients in disputes with the Internal Revenue Service, the Oregon Department of Revenue, the Washington Department of Revenue, and other state and local taxing authorities throughout the audit process, at the various levels of administrative appeal and in litigation. We have assisted a number of clients regarding tax consequences incident to civil litigation, as well as in divorce matters. Additionally, we provide representation in criminal tax investigations, appeals and trials.

#### **Federal Taxation**

We represent clients in disputes with the Internal Revenue Service at the audit level, at the appellate level, and in litigation. Our experience also includes obtaining private letter rulings or technical advice from the Internal Revenue Service. We regularly address the special concerns of tax-exempt entities under the Internal Revenue Code, including participating mortgage loans, unrelated business taxable income, prohibited transactions under ERISA, and the Department of Labor's plan asset rules defining real estate operating companies and venture capital operation companies. We are also experienced in organizing and operating REITs and have set up REMICs for our financial institution clients.

# **International Tax**

We have substantial experience in advising clients with respect to the tax aspects of international transactions under U.S. tax laws and tax treaties with other countries. This includes advice regarding outbound transfer of assets; inbound investments into the U.S.; considerations in the formation of joint ventures and the holding of other investments from the standpoint of both income tax and estate tax; considerations under the Foreign Investment in United States Real Property Tax Act and other withholding tax requirements, as modified by relevant treaties; and the tax treatment of non-resident aliens and foreign corporations (with and without permanent establishments in the U.S.) under various circumstances. We also advise our U.S. clients about the special federal income tax rules of international transactions such as controlled foreign corporations, foreign tax credits, passive foreign investment company rules, foreign personal holding company rules, tax treaties, and transfer pricing.

# **Nonprofits & Tax-Exempt Organizations**

We have extensive experience representing nonprofit and tax-exempt entities. This includes providing tax advice regarding investments and joint ventures in order to avoid or minimize the tax on unrelated business taxable income (UBTI). Also, we advise tax-exempt entities regarding



the special rules associated with the acquisition of debt-financed property.

# **Partnerships & Joint Ventures**

Our tax attorneys are experienced in identifying and addressing the issues imbedded in the complex regulations specifically applicable to these entities governing capital contributions, taxable and nontaxable distributions, tax allocations, apportionment of liabilities in investors' tax basis, the award of interests to service members, dispositions of entity interests, and dissolution and terminating transactions.

#### Real Estate

Our tax attorneys handle matters for our various real estate clients, including taxable institutional and private investors, corporate real estate users, financial institutions, foreign investors, developers, syndicators, tax-exempt organizations, and public and private pension funds. Foster Garvey tax attorneys frequently assist clients with real and personal property taxation, as well as real estate transactions and personal property exchanges. We are particularly skilled at structuring and restructuring partnership, limited liability company, and joint venture ownership vehicles.

### State & Local Tax

In addition to helping clients with entity formation and business and real estate transactions, we handle a broad range of state and local taxes, including income, sales, estate, employment and special excise taxes.

# **Blog Posts**

A Journey Through Subchapter S / A Review of The Not So Obvious & The Many Traps That Exist For The Unwary: Part IX – Taking the Mystery Out of the S Corporation Distribution Rules Larry's Tax Law, 7.17.24

The U.S. Supreme Court Overrules the Landmark Decision in *Chevron – Loper Bright Enterprises v. Raimondo Larry's Tax Law*, 7.1.24

A Journey Through Subchapter S / A Review of The Not So Obvious & The Many Traps That Exist For The Unwary: Part VIII – Shareholder Eligibility & The Peril of Having an Ineligible Shareholder Causing the Termination of the S Election Larry's Tax Law, 6.27.24

The Newest Chapter in the Tumultuous Journey of the Washington State Capital Gains Tax – Judge Allyson Zipp Rules From the Bench *Larry's Tax Law*, 6.10.24



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The Corporate Transparency Act Is Under Attack – The Battle Continues to Rage *Larry's Tax Law*, 5.29.24

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A Journey Through Subchapter S / A Review of The Not So Obvious & The Many Traps That Exist For The Unwary: Part I – The Built-In-Gains Tax Larry's Tax Law, 1.10.24

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Disregarded Entities Under the Check-the-Box Regulations Are Not Disregarded for All Tax Purposes

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The Oregon Legislature and the Oregon Department of Revenue Bring Some New Year Cheer to the State's Taxpayers and Tax Community – The Office of the Taxpayer Advocate Is Here to Help

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The Washington State Supreme Court Renders a Decision Impacting Financial Institutions Doing Business in the State

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The Calm Before the Storm – The Anticipation of the Current Administration's Federal Tax Legislation Is Creating Anxiety Among Many Taxpayers

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Get Ready – The Internal Revenue Service May Be Knocking on Partnership Doors Next Year *Larry's Tax Law*, 12.8.20

The Changing Face of Employer State Tax Reporting and Payment Obligations in the Coronavirus Telework "New Normal"

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The IRS Provides Some Good News to Oregonians During a Time When Positive News Is Rare – News Releases OR-2020-23 and IR-2020-215

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No Final Word From Congress – It Is Late in the Game and We Still Do Not Know If the Use of Forgiven PPP Loan Proceeds on Business Expenses Will End Up Being Deductible *Larry's Tax Law*, 9.8.20



Potential Payroll Tax Deferral Is Available – Employers Must Understand the Program and Use Extreme Caution Before Blindly Jumping Into the Deferral Pool *Larry's Tax Law*, 9.1.20

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What House Bill 4212 and Chief Justice Order No. 20-027 Mean for Oregon Taxpayers *Larry's Tax Law*, 7.28.20

Curiosity Killed the Cat – Unfortunately the Oregon Legislature's Curiosity Has Not Gone That Far With Respect to Our CAT: The Oregon Corporate Activity Tax Larry's Tax Law, 7.14.20

He Who Pays the Piper Calls the Tune – The IRS Announces in Notice 2020-142 That It Is Now Time for Taxpayers to Resume Paying Taxes Larry's Tax Law, 7.8.20

Required Minimum Distributions From Retirement Plans Have Been Waived for 2020 – IRS Notice 2020-51 May Give Taxpayers That Have Already Received Distributions a "Mulligan" If They Act Timely Larry's Tax Law, 7.2.20

The Oregon Department of Revenue Held Its CAT Call as Scheduled – The Business and Tax Community Were Represented

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Let the Good Times Roll – The SBA Issues Interim Final Rules on PPP Loan Forgiveness, Including Guidance on the Payment of Bonuses and Hazard Pay, Loan Prepayments and the Loan Forgiveness Application

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Lawmakers May Not Have Abandoned Small Businesses After All – The Paycheck Protection Program Flexibility Act of 2020 May Be Just What the Doctor Ordered Larry's Tax Law, 5.28.20

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