



JULIE A. FOERSTER

Project Director , Digital Assets
IRS

Julie Foerster serves as Project Director for IRS Digital Assets Initiative in the office of the Deputy Commissioner for Services and Enforcement. In this role, she oversees development, implementation and execution of the IRS Enterprise Digital Assets Strategy and works with a team of leaders across business units on executing efforts involving enhancing compliance and enforcement, improving customer service, and establishing data/technology protocols.

Prior to this position, Julie served as Director, Examination, Headquarters in the SB/SE Division, where she oversaw policy, quality/technical support and workload selection operations for Examination - Field and Campus Policy, Specialty Policy and Quality areas. She has a diverse background and an array of experience in SB/SE Field and Headquarters Examination, and while serving in her role in the latter, she became a member of the Digital Assets Advisory Committee. Julie holds a Bachelor of Business Administration degree with a major in Accounting from Gonzaga University.

Julie is a native of Washington state and lives in Atlanta, Georgia. She enjoys outdoor activities and spending time with family and friends.



MARK HANSMEIER

Senior Revenue Agent
IRS

Mark Hansmeier is a Senior Revenue Agent in the Large Business and International division of the IRS, and he is currently on detail to the office of the Deputy Commissioner for Services and Enforcement. On this detail, Mark serves as a team member for the IRS Digital Assets Initiative and primarily works on digital asset tax guidance related matters.



JARED BALLEW

Past ETAAC Chair, Vice President of Government Relations
TaxWell

Jared currently serves as the Vice President of Government Relations for Taxwell, representing both Drake Software and TaxAct, as a tax administration professional with 21 years of experience. Jared served as the 2022-23 Congressional Electronic Tax Administration Advisory Committee (ETAAC) Chairman and currently serves as the President of the National Association of Computerized Tax Processors (NACTP), promoting standardization and simplification between government tax agencies and the tax processing industry. Jared is also actively engaged in the Security Summit, serving as a co-lead for the Tax Pro Working Group.



TIMUR TALUY

ETAAC Chair, and CEO
FileYourTaxes.com

Timur Taluy and his family founded FileYourTaxes.com where he currently serves as the CEO. FileYourTaxes.com was founded in the 90s democratizing access to electronic filing of tax returns, which at the time was mostly only available through paid preparers or at an additional fee. Timur is a seasoned and articulate proponent of tax policy and an integral part of the policy and technology development affecting our industry. As an active CERCA Board Member and board Vice-Chair, he champions to increase CERCA's influence in our industry promoting the needs of its diverse members. Timur is a founding member of the IRS Security Summit and serves as a co-lead of the STAR working group. As the current Chair of ETAAC, and previous board and committee member in other industry groups, he champions public policy that benefits the public good, reducing the burden on taxpayers and helping to make the tax system work for more Americans. Timur holds an engineering degree and is chairman of the board of a \$750M credit union



DR. SANITH WIJESINGHE

Technical Fellow
MITRE

Sanith Wijesinghe has extensive experience developing and operating trading systems for the capital markets industry. As a technical fellow, Wijesinghe applies economic and game theory to key challenges and innovation aspects of science and technology and the Great Power Competition.

As a technical fellow at MITRE, Wijesinghe furthers our capabilities in applied modeling and simulation to help address pressing national challenges associated with climate change, economic growth, and social equity.

Wijesinghe joined MITRE in 2021 and led the Agile Connected Government innovation area. In that role he mentored more than 50 principal investigators to develop technologies that help agencies improve citizen services, adopt novel acquisition technologies, and accelerate policy implementation. These initiatives have collectively resulted in several industry licenses, patents, and applied capabilities for MITRE sponsors.

Wijesinghe previously developed and operationalized algorithms that trade U.S. Treasury bonds and futures contracts. He also served as the vice president for deployment at a financial services company that helped modernize the American Stock Exchange and London Stock Exchange legacy trading floor. After joining MITRE, he developed a genetic algorithm-based approach to combat tax fraud. This work received the 2015 Peter Jackson award from the International Association of Artificial Intelligence and Law and was featured in the New York Times.

Wijesinghe's initial research, supported by the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, focused on developing novel computational algorithms to analyze fluid instabilities in fusion reactors.

He holds a master's in aeronautics engineering from Imperial College in London and a master's and Ph.D. in aeronautics and astronautics from Massachusetts Institute of Technology.



KATHY PICKERING

Chief Tax Officer, H&R Block and the Security Summit IDTTRF ISAC Senior Executive Board Member

Kathy Pickering is the chief tax officer at H&R Block. In this role, Pickering leads the relationship-management strategy with the IRS and state taxing agencies and is responsible for the strategic direction and management for a team of the nation's top experts on tax issues. She oversees the enrolled agents, CPAs and attorneys who make up The Tax Institute and provide information and analysis on the real-world implications of tax policy and tax proposals.

Pickering serves on the boards of multiple tax industry associations, including serving as chair of the Council for Electronic Revenue Communication Advancement (CERCA) and co-chair of the Identity Theft Tax Refund Fraud – Information Sharing and Analysis Center (IDTTRF-ISAC). She represents H&R Block on the Security Summit, the public-private partnership of the IRS, the states and the tax industry, and is a member of the Electronic Tax Administration Advisory Committee (ETAAC). Through these organizations, she leads the way towards improving tax administration through industry and agency collaboration.

Pickering has more than 20 years of experience in tax operations. Prior to joining H&R Block, she was in information technology and worked with Sprint PCS, Olsten Health Services, Leprino Foods and various consulting firms where she focused on implementing large scale accounting and financial systems.

Pickering speaks about taxes and tax administration policy issues to policymakers, journalists, tax policy experts and tax preparers. She has appeared in broadcast and print news from FOX News, CNN, CNBC, the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, USA TODAY, HuffPost, the Los Angeles Times and more.

Pickering received her bachelor's degree from The Catholic University of America and became an enrolled agent in 2017.



KEN CORBIN

Commissioner, Wage and Investment Division and
Chief Taxpayer Experience Officer
IRS

Ken Corbin is the Commissioner of the Wage and Investment Division, with responsibility for 37,000 employees, located in approximately 400 sites nationwide, who are administering tax laws governing individual U.S. wage earners. In January 2021, Ken was appointed as the IRS' first Chief Taxpayer Experience Officer. In this role, he is responsible for setting the strategic direction for improving the taxpayer experience and identifying opportunities to make continuous improvements in real time for taxpayers and the tax professional community. Ken began his career at the IRS Atlanta Service Center in 1986. Ken holds bachelor's degrees in chemistry and philosophy from Emory University. Ken and his wife have two children.



TRACEY C. CARTER

Director, Stakeholder Partnerships, Education and Communication (SPEC)
IRS

Tracey Carter is the Director, Stakeholder Partnerships, Education and Communication (SPEC) in the W&I Division. In this role, she is responsible for the delivery of tax education, free return preparation services, and financial education to our nation's low-income, elderly, disabled, Native American, non-English speaking, and rural taxpayers.

Prior to this position, Tracey served as Area Director, SPEC, Atlanta, where she was responsible for maintaining and establishing partnerships with key stakeholders in 16 states, along the east coast and Puerto Rico.

Tracey previously served as the Area Director, Field Assistance, Austin; Acting Director of Human Capital Office, W&I; Acting Director Accounts Management, Fresno; Acting Director SPEC, Fresno; and has held leadership positions in Field Assistance and Equal Employment Opportunity and Diversity Field Services. Tracey's IRS career started in 1987 in Dallas, TX as an Account Analyst.

Tracey holds a Master of Arts in Organizational Management with an emphasis in Conflict Resolution from Dallas Baptist University. Her certifications include Crisis Counseling, Mediation (Basic and Family), EEO Investigation, EEO Counseling, Facilitation and Certified Classroom Instructor. Tracey is an Executive and Life Coach and is a graduate of the summer 2015 Candidate Development Program.



JIM CLIFFORD

Director, Return Integrity and Compliance Services)
Wage & Investment Division, IRS

James (Jim) Clifford is the Director, Return Integrity and Compliance Services in the W&I Division. In this role, he is responsible for strengthening the integrity of the tax system through pre-refund revenue protection and the oversight of refundable credits. This includes screening returns for potential fraud and identity theft and compliance activities to prevent improper refunds.

A native of Boston, Jim began his Internal Revenue Service (IRS) career in 1991 as a Revenue Officer in Brockton, MA. Jim has gone on to provide executive leadership over nearly every taxpayer-facing program the IRS administers, across both compliance and service environments.

Jim served as part of the Taxpayer First Act Office (TFAO), where he was able to bring together his expansive and crosscutting experience to lead the development of TFA strategies, reimagine the way IRS serves taxpayers, and oversee Recruiting and Employee Experience as part of IRS NEXT.

Jim is passionate about supporting our military veterans. He is one of the founding members of the Military Outreach for Service-IRS (MOS-IRS) employee organization. He also led the effort to bring the Warrior Internship Program (WIP) to the IRS.

Jim is a graduate of Boston College, Boston Massachusetts, with Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Sciences degrees in Economics and English. He has also pursued studies in Law and Accounting. He and his wife, Gail, have three beautiful children John, Emma, and Michael.



CONGRESSMAN RANDY FEENSTRA (IA-4TH), U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Member of the House Ways and Means Committee

Congressman Randy Feenstra represents Iowa's 4th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives, and serves on the House Ways and Means Committee and the House Agriculture Committee.

He was born and raised in Hull, Iowa where he and his wife, Lynette, raised their four children – Taylor, Erika, Dawson, and Savannah.

Before being elected to Congress, Randy worked for the Foreign Candy Company in Hull as Head of Sales, and later served as Hull City Administrator, Sioux County Treasurer, and Chairman of the Iowa Senate Ways and Means Committee where he authored, and Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds signed into law, the largest income tax reduction in state history back in 2017.

Randy also taught business and economics at his alma mater, Dordt University. In addition to earning his bachelor's degree from Dordt, Randy received a master's degree in Public Administration from Iowa State University.

In February of 2022, Randy completed his PhD by successfully defending his dissertation in Business and Healthcare Administration from Northcentral University, focusing specifically on maternal healthcare outcomes and healthcare deserts in rural America.

Randy is a strong voice for Iowa and a committed advocate for the unborn, fiscal responsibility, border security, and Iowa's family farmers, livestock producers, and thriving biofuels industry.



TOMMY SMITH
Director, Strategic Integration, Transformation & Strategy Office
IRS

Tommy Smith serves as the Director of Strategic Integration in the IRS Transformation and Strategy Office. In this role, he oversees and supports the implementation of the transformational initiatives set forth in the IRS Strategic Operating Plan.

Prior to this role, Tommy served as the Deputy Chief Information Officer (DCIO) for Strategy and Modernization, reporting to the IRS CIO in providing executive oversight of IT services and large programs, and driving the development and execution of the IRS IT Modernization Plan and technology contributions to the IRS Strategic Operating Plan.

Tommy began his IRS career in 1991, as a Revenue Agent in Examination, after which he held positions with increasing levels of responsibility within Small Business / Self-Employed Research and Field Collection. Tommy became an executive in 2012 and has served in various additional executive roles at the IRS related to program evaluation and risk analysis, investment and strategic planning, IRS-wide coordination with GAO and TIGTA oversight, and IT strategic planning and financial, acquisition, risk, and demand management.