

## FTB Welcomes a New Taxpayers' Rights Advocate



**Angela Jones,**  
Taxpayers' Rights Advocate

FTB appointed Angela Jones as the new Taxpayer Advocate, effective May 2. She has 16 faithful years with FTB and began her FTB career in the Audit Division where she served as an auditor and program specialist. Angela was formerly a program specialist III, serving as the Trade Media Liaison in the Taxpayers' Rights Advocate's Office (TRAO) where she responded to sensitive and complex inquiries from the trade media and tax professional community.

Prior to joining TRAO, Angela worked in the Individual and Pass-through Entity Audit Bureau as the department's Native American Taxation subject matter expert (SME). She collaborated with the Deputy Tribal Liaison, tribal chiefs, tribal attorneys, and the Governor's tribal staff. She provided further support through the creation of FTB 3504, Enrolled Tribal Member Certification Form and was an integral part of the team that drafted Legal Ruling 2015-1. In addition, Angela managed the Tribal Hotline and facilitated the Multi-Agency Tribal Networking meetings. As a result of her exceptional work on the tribal workload, she received a Superior Accomplishment Award.

Angela was also a SME for sourcing, residency, and community property audit issues. In this capacity, she prepared and presented audit training materials and mentored auditors to assist in their professional growth and development, and has worked on several enterprise teams and projects.

Angela will be a great asset to taxpayers, tax representatives, and FTB. We are honored to have her as our new Taxpayers' Rights Advocate.

## Tax News Flash Links

There were no Tax News Flashes sent for May 2023.



STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
Franchise Tax Board

## Ask the Advocate October 2021 Tax News



**Brenda Voet, EA**  
Taxpayers' Rights Advocate  
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### Chris Smith

It is with bitter sweetness that we say goodbye to our long time Trade Media Specialist, Chris Smith. Though we are happy for his retirement, we are sad to say goodbye to such a valuable public servant.

During Chris' 27 year career with Franchise Tax Board he helped to educate and inform taxpayers and tax professionals about changes in law, common errors and how to correct them, and other important information for how to successfully navigate California's tax filing requirements. He accomplished this as an auditor while acting as our liaison with trade media, and by authoring

articles for Tax News, including "Ask the Advocate" segments.

Congratulations to Chris! Our state is grateful to have benefited from his leadership, mentorship, and all the collaborative relationships he fostered.

### Angela Jones, Trade Media Liaison



We also congratulate three new members to our Taxpayers' Rights Advocate team. I am very pleased to announce, Angela Jones is our new Trade Media Liaison, Janie Tran is a new Technical Advisor to the Advocate, and Ann Wilson is our team Supervisor.

Angela joins the team by way of the Individual and Pass-through Entity Audit Bureau. Angela was the subject matter expert (SME) for Native American Taxation. In this role, she worked with the department's Deputy Tribal Liaison to interface with tribal chiefs, and tribal attorneys, to review issues and legislation that could impact

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FTB and tribal members. She provided further support through the creation of Enrolled Tribal Member Certification Form (FTB 3504), and was an integral member of the team responsible for drafting Legal Ruling 2015-1.

Angela has also worked as a SME for sourcing, residency, and community property audit issues, and provided mentorship for auditors to assist in their development.

Prior to joining Franchise Tax Board, Angela was a Financial and Human Resources Manager for a successful Sacramento based architectural firm.

## Janie Tran, Technical Advisor to the Advocate



Janie has been with Franchise Tax Board for better than 34 years, providing excellent service for the State of California as an Auditor, Technical Lead, Hearing Officer, and as a SME for pass-through entities and personal income and business entity taxes.

Janie served as Franchise Tax Board's liaison to the Board of Equalization Chair where she participated in education and outreach activities in conjunction with her role as the Tax and Policy Advisor for income and sales tax appeals. She also has several years' experience as a project analyst and supervisor, where she led audit discovery projects and a variety of collection and filing enhancement initiatives. In addition to her technical experience, Janie spent six years as an Administrator in the Accounts Receivable Management Division.

Janie is a graduate of Sacramento State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration, with an emphasis in Accounting.

## Ann Wilson, Supervisor



Ann has more than 31 years of government experience, including 21 years with Franchise Tax Board. She is a credentialed teacher and loves to motivate and inspire her staff to continuously learn. She is an effective leader who engages people, processes, and programs to streamline and improve business operations. Ann utilized these skillsets when she recently led a team of 22 division representatives to develop division processes to ensure active content is published on the department's intranet.

Ann comes to us by way of the Communication Services Bureau where she has worked since 2007. She strives to identify new and improved processes look to provide excellent customer service and did so in the Publication Business Services, Multimedia, and Reprographics units. She has been actively involved with Franchise Tax