



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & ECONOMIC GROWTH
LANSING

Keith W. Cooley
DIRECTOR

September 24, 2008

Dear Tax Tribunal Practitioner,

As part of the Tribunal's on-going efforts to streamline our hearing process, the Tribunal transitioned from a prehearing general call practice to a scheduling order practice. Although the scheduling order practice was designed to provide parties with more control over the processing of their appeals, it has created problems for both practitioners and the Tribunal. Such problems include, but are not limited to, submission of separate proposed scheduling orders rather than a stipulated proposed scheduling order, failure to submit a proposed scheduling order, processing of proposed scheduling orders after one or more of the dates stipulated to by the parties has passed, establishing of dates when no proposed scheduling orders are submitted, and continued processing of requests for extensions of time for the filing and exchange of valuation disclosures.

As a result, the Tribunal is proposing to arrange a meeting in the Detroit area to discuss:

- a. the revision of the current proposed scheduling order practice;
- b. the adoption of a combined scheduling order/prehearing general call practice; or,
- c. a return to a prehearing general call practice.

If you are interested in attending the proposed meeting, please e-mail the Tribunal by October 31, 2008 at wakleym1@michigan.gov to let us know of your interest. Thereafter, the Tribunal will arrange the proposed meeting and inform those who have expressed an interest in participating of the date, time and location of the meeting.

If you not interested in attending the proposed meeting or are otherwise unable to attend the meeting, but would like to express a preference regarding the above-noted options, please e-mail the Tribunal by October 31, 2008 at wakleym1@michigan.gov to express your preference.

In the meantime, if you have any questions regarding the above, please e-mail those questions to the Tribunal.

On August 26, Judge Richard Southern resigned his position at the Tribunal. The Tribunal wishes him well in his future endeavors.

If you have members, colleagues or acquaintances that would benefit from keeping up-to-date with Tribunal developments, simply send an e-mail message to Marijo Wakley at wakleym1@michigan.gov with "SUBSCRIBE" in the subject line. To unsubscribe, simply reply to this e-mail with the word "UNSUBSCRIBE" in the subject line.