



Tax Recovery and Criminal Enforcement Task Force
Los Angeles Regional Board Meeting
LA CLEAR 5801 E Slauson Avenue, Commerce, CA 90040
July 11, 2018

Meeting called to order at 1:05 p.m. by Marzo Sacasa, Chairman, Los Angeles TRaCE Regional Board.

Members Present:

Marzo Sacasa, Southern Administrator, CDTFA Investigations
 Scot Hunter, proxy for Jim Biscailuz, Special Agent in Charge, DOJ
 Maura Krajewski, Acting Special Agent in Charge, IRS CI
 Frank Waldschmitt, Chief, EDD Investigations (joined conference call late)
 Jeremy D. Scott, Assistant Special Agent in Charge, DHS
 Vito Scattaglia, Deputy Chief, DMV Investigations
 Nathan Cocklin, proxy for Sal Randazzo, Assistant Special Agent in Charge, FBI
 Zsuzsanna Abeln, Deputy Chief, FTB Investigations

Members Absent:

Vikram Mandla, Deputy Attorney General, DOJ

Discussion Items:

- New Regional Board Member Confirmation
 - Jeremy Scott motioned to approve Maura Krajewski, Assistant Special Agent in Charge, IRS CI, as new board member. Motion was seconded by Zsuzsanna Abeln.

Vote: 6 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 not eligible to vote, 1 not participating
Resolved: Motion Approved
- March 14, 2018 Minutes (handout)
 - Jeremy Scott motioned to approve the March 14, 2018, open session minutes. Motion was seconded by Nathan Cocklin.

Vote: 7 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 not participating
Resolved: Motion Approved
- Regional Board Vice Chair Election/Nomination/Vote

Chairman Marzo Sacasa suggested that the Regional Board support a motion to allow the Chairman to appoint a proxy from its members to vote on his behalf and to coordinate and the meeting in his absence (normally this would fall under the Vice-Chairman's responsibility but there is no Vice Chairman on the Regional Board). If this motion were to be approved, Chairman Sacasa would like this added to the by-laws. Nathan Cocklin motioned and was seconded by Zsuzanna Abeln.

Vote: 7 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 not participating
Resolved: Motion Approved
- 1st and 2nd Quarter Accomplishments (handout)

- A handout was provided reflecting the TRaCE Program activities completed in the quarter and also what was on the horizon for the next quarter.
- LA TRaCE HSI Slot Reimbursements
 - This agreement includes reimbursement for certain equipment, training, travel, etc. when working joint operations with HSI, including expenses related to the usage of the tobacco dog for IPR/Tobacco related investigations.
 - Reimbursements will be made via ACH fund transfer to the existing DOJ Special Deposit Fund (SDF) account.
- TRaCE Federal BJA IPR Grant – Interagency Agreements still pending
 - CDTFA contract for overtime related to IPR cases is in process EDD has a signed contract for overtime related to IPR cases and FTB as well as DMV would like to take a look at the CDTFA contract once executed and signed to consider participation.
- Prop 56 Positions & Status on Hiring Updates
 - CDTFA’s hiring is almost complete, one for tobacco and two for other related investigations (three in total will be added to the LA TRaCE Task Force). DOJ So Cal, hired two Tobacco Special Agents June 1st. DOJ Nor Cal, has two Tobacco Special Agents in background (background should be completed soon).
- DOJ Legislation Initiative SB 1272
 - SB 1272 Bill has passed the Senate and has been amended in committee under the Assembly. Currently the bill is with Assembly Appropriations and will be heard after the recess in August 2018.
 - Amendments were made because there were concerns regarding disclosure of confidential information, and the Assembly wanted additional verbiage to be added to properly identify and secure the confidential nature of the information being shared. The Amendments limit disclosure of confidential information only to be shared with Law Enforcement for Felony’s, as “need to know, right to know”. It prohibits disclosure of tax information to anyone unauthorized. Although those receiving the information must be a peace officer, there is verbiage allowing Federal agents and CDTFA limited peace officers.
- Request for updated media contacts – (name and phone number – per agency)
 - Gina Fong requested each agency provide updated media contacts for all press releases. The media protocol indicates that the lead investigator’s agency as the first right of refusal with respect to putting out the press release. Members should be prepared to bring their agency’s PIO contact information to the next meeting or e-mail it to Gina Fong.

The Open Session meeting adjourned at 1:44 p. m. by Marzo Sacasa, Chairman, Los Angeles TRaCE Regional Board.

The next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, September 12, 2018, 10:00 am at CDTFA Investigations Division, in the city of Norwalk