

Legislation Varying Interpretations and Unintended Consequences

Description:

Laws regarding the assessment process are constantly evolving as legislators seek to find solutions for taxpayer concerns about increasing property tax bills and the administrative burden of correcting assessment errors. This one-hour session will examine recent legislation and cases in various jurisdictions to see how tribunals have parsed language, looked at legislative intent, and sometimes tortured dictionaries, to arrive at their decisions. Lessons for legislation drafting will be drawn from examples and personal experience, including the importance of being specific, defining terms, and understanding current processes and procedures thoroughly before amending them.

Bios:

Justin Kirvan

jkirvan@cookcountytreasurer.com

Director of Policy

Cook County Treasurer's Office

Mr. Kirvan began his legal career at the Cook County Treasurer's Office, where eventually he became Chief Legal Counsel. Mr. Kirvan left the Treasurer's Office to work at the Cook County Assessor's Office, where, as Director of Legal he supervised attorneys and staff of the Legal Department and reviewed the office's assessed valuation principles and procedures. He also worked in private practice for Worsek & Vihon LLP before returning to government as the Director of Policy for the Cook County Treasurer. He has drafted revisions to sections of the Illinois Property Tax Code and the Cook County Code of Ordinances that were adopted by the General Assembly and the Cook County Board of Commissioners.

Mr. Kirvan holds a B.A. in Philosophy from Rutgers University, an M.A. in Philosophy from UCLA, and a J.D. from Northwestern University School of Law. He was admitted to the Illinois bar in 2009.

Nicholas P. Jordan

njordan@wvproptax.com

Partner

Worsek & Vihon, LLP

Joined Worsek & Vihon in 2018 after almost twenty years of government service. Mr. Jordan started his career in the office of Senator Richard J. Durbin of Illinois. He continued assisting individuals as a Director of District Operations, and later as District Director, for Congresswoman Melissa Bean, a member of the U.S. House of Representatives in the northwest suburbs of Chicago.

Mr. Jordan most recently served as the First Assistant Commissioner to Commissioner Michael Cabonargi at the Cook County Board of Review, where he supervised a team of analysts that reviewed the assessment appeals of approximately 400,000 parcels annually.

Mr. Jordan graduated from The John Marshall Law School and obtained his undergraduate degree from Northwestern University. Mr. Jordan sits on the Board of his condominium association and is a member of the Illinois State Bar Association, International Association of Assessing Officers, Institute for Professionals in Taxation, Illinois Property Tax Lawyers Association, Civic Federation, & Illinois Housing Council.