

## Employee Plans Customer Education & Outreach

# Talking Points

April 2006

*Spring 2006 Edition of Employee Plans News* – This edition includes: TE/GE Commissioner Speaks at Benefits Conference of the South; EP Connections: Interview with Betty McClernan; Additional Filing Relief for Katrina Victims; New User Fees Reminder; Critical FewPoints...by Michael Julianelle (Director, EP Examinations); Enrolled Retirement Plan Agent (ERPA) Update; DOL Corner; PBGC Insights; The Corner of Forms & Pubs; Form 5500: It's That Time of Year, Again; Identity Theft DVD; Employee Plans Published Guidance; Web Spins - The Retirement Plans Site; Timing remains Everything; Standing by Now!; Northeast Area Benefits Conference; 2006 Great Lakes Benefits Conference; Mid-Atlantic Benefits Conference; 2006 Cincinnati Employee Benefits Conference; 2006 Los Angeles Benefits Conference. Check out the latest edition at [www.irs.gov/ep](http://www.irs.gov/ep) by selecting "Newsletters" under the "Retirement Plans Community Topics" section. Want to receive e-mail notification of issued editions, please subscribe on-line.

**Note:** The lead story of this edition features remarks from Steven T. Miller, IRS Tax Exempt and Government Entities Commissioner, before the inaugural "Benefits Conference of the South" on March 20, 2006 with key points about the IRS role, shift in demographics and efforts to increase IRS enforcement presence in the EP community. First, Mr. Miller talked about the IRS role and whether it is changing. Second, he explained why IRS Employee Plans continues its drive to re-balance its compliance message - to increase enforcement presence in the EP community. For a complete [transcript of Mr. Miller's remarks](#) and for more information on the EP Examinations/Enforcement activities, visit [www.irs.gov/ep](http://www.irs.gov/ep).

*Employee Plans News & Retirement News for Employers - Special Editions - March 2006* – These special editions provide information on SIMPLE IRA Plan EGTRRA Relief Initiative. EP is offering employers with SIMPLE IRA plans an extended time to update their plans for the provisions of EGTRRA. Employers that previously failed to amend their SIMPLE IRA plans for EGTRRA have until **December 31, 2006**, to either adopt the latest version of the IRS model SIMPLE IRA plan (revised August 2005) or adopt another SIMPLE IRA plan document that has been updated for EGTRRA. Check out these special editions at [www.irs.gov/ep](http://www.irs.gov/ep).

*Employee Plans News - Special Edition - February 2006* – This special edition includes information on:

- **Proposed Regulations** (IRS and Treasury issued 1/26/2006) on **designated Roth accounts**. For additional information on designated Roth accounts, see the [Treasury Press Release](#), the [proposed regulations](#) and the *updated* [Designated Roth Accounts FAQs](#).
- Overviews of the **Employee Plans Compliance Unit (EPCU)**. EPCU would like to involve the employee plans community by partnering with actuaries, attorneys, certified public accountants, enrolled agents, and other tax practitioners. We have an e-mail address and we encourage you to send us your suggestions on areas that you feel are potentially non-compliant. Please contact EPCU at [te/ge.epcu@irs.gov](mailto:te/ge.epcu@irs.gov).
- **Determination Letter Program Opens for Cycle A Individually Designed Plans**. The IRS is now accepting applications for determination letters for Cycle A defined benefit and defined contribution individually designed plans.

Check out this special edition at [www.irs.gov/ep](http://www.irs.gov/ep).