The Tax Section is continuing its proud legacy of excellence in leadership, education, legislative advocacy, and professional development during the 2025–2026 Bar year.

One of the Section's key priorities this year is to enhance and expand its New Tax Lawyers Committee and Fellowship Program for newer tax attorneys, focusing on broadening recruitment efforts, creating meaningful mentorship opportunities, and cultivating the next generation of Section leaders. Now in its 17th year, the Fellowship Program is part of a sustained effort to attract, develop, and retain new tax lawyers through education, networking, and leadership opportunities. Fellows are Tax Section regular or affiliate members who are either 35 years old or younger as of July 1 or have been in practice for fewer than 10 years. Three fellows are selected each year for three-year terms in the leadership development initiative, designed to foster active participation and long-term engagement in Tax Section work. The Section will announce its 2026–2029 class of Fellows this spring.

Our advocacy efforts remain a central focus. The Tax Section will continue to represent our members' interests in Tallahassee before the Florida Legislature and the Department of Revenue, while maintaining strong relationships with federal agencies including the IRS, the U.S. Department of the Treasury, and the Joint Committee on Taxation. Participation by Section members helps ensure that the collective voice of our profession is heard and respected on issues that matter most.

Active involvement in the Tax Section offers tremendous value—complimentary monthly CLEs, meaningful committee participation, leadership development, and invaluable networking. Our educational programs throughout the year provide unparalleled opportunities for growth and engagement. The 2026 International Tax Conference and International Tax Boot Camp, held live in Miami and via live webcast, attracted more than 750 registrants and continue to be our premier CLE offerings. The annual programs, offered in conjunction with the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants, are designed for global tax practitioners facing complex cross-border issues, and offer cutting-edge insights, top-tier speakers, and CLE and certification credits in multiple practice areas.

Starting with the July 3–5 Organizational Meeting in Amelia Island and continuing with the October 23–25 Fall Meeting in Clearwater Beach and the February 5–7 Directors' Retreat in Charleston, the Section's signature events have been well attended. Each features numerous opportunities for networking and professional development. We are looking forward to hosting the Tax Section Annual Meeting and Tax Attorney of the Year Dinner in Key Biscayne from May 14–16. The Section's 2026 Gerald T. Hart Tax Attorney of the Year honoree is former Tax Section Chair Joel Maser, a Shareholder with GreenbergTraurig in Fort Lauderdale.

We genuinely appreciate our members' ongoing dedication to the practice and to one another. Together, we are continuing to make this a year of connection, growth, and success for the Tax Section.

Gerard "J.J." Wehle, 2025–2026 Tax Section Chair