



The Payroll Post

Volume 8, Issue 6

A publication for and by the members of the Atlanta Chapter of PayrollOrg (formerly the American Payroll Association)

From your President...

Ah, the signs of summertime in the payroll community - payroll certification study group, summer membership and school supply drives and preparations for National Payroll Week celebrations. All of those things are planned and being planned for you. There will be a lot going on this summer, so please watch your email inbox and our social media accounts so that you can respond and participate with us. We are looking forward to seeing how the activities will bring our chapter together more and strengthen our relationships with each other!

Amleigh

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Upcoming Events:

July 13, 2023 Monthly Meeting
Online 8.30 – 10.30 a.m.



Payroll & Corporate Social Responsibility

Presented by Jim Kohl, CPP

Head of Payroll

Check Technologies

Our July Community Service Project will be to collect Back to School supplies. Bring your donations to our July Picnic!

Free Webinar for National Members!

It's Time to Dispel the Many Myths Surrounding Earned Wage Access: June 28, 2023 at 1 p.m. EST. Join payroll expert and industry analyst Pete A. Tiliakos as he hosts a fun and informative discussion that sorts "the fact from fiction" of earned wage access (EWA) solutions. Register [here](#).

Upcoming Chapter Events

Make sure to mark your calendars!

July 15, 2023 – Chapter Picnic & Membership Drive. If you've not registered yet, please click [here](#). Free for everyone! Bring School Supplies!



August 10, 2023 – Chapter Meeting – Bring School Supplies!

September 7, 2023 – Chapter Meeting – Celebrating NPW!

September 9, 2023 – Atlanta Braves Game! Click [here](#) for more information and join us as part of our National Payroll Week celebration.



October 26-27, 2023 – GA Statewide Payroll Conference. You don't want to miss it! Click [here](#) for more information.

Save the Date
FOR PAYROLL IN WONDERLAND
October 2023



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

 PayrollOrg
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Upcoming Webinars (FREE):

- July 18, 11:00 a.m. EDT - Why Payroll Execs Are Moving to Virtual Payroll Accounts:** As disbursed, remote, and global workforces become more prevalent and managing them becomes more complex - especially from a payroll and international payments standpoint - global organizations are scrambling to find solutions and new ways to streamline these processes. Register [here](#).
- July 25, 1:00 p.m. EDT - The Secret Cost of Payroll to Non-Traditional Employees:** The majority of employees receive their pay through direct deposit, with the number ranging from 70% to 93%, depending on various surveys. But what about those employees outside the norm? Register [here](#).
- July 27, 1:00 p.m. EDT – Payroll, HR, and AP as Strategic Partners:** Engaging human resources and accounts payable as strategic partners in your payroll processes can enable the payroll, HR, and AP departments to be the ring leaders in the payroll show. These departments share common goals, similar needs, and data which can ultimately work together to promote efficiency and meet or exceed your customer requirements. Register [here](#).
- On Demand: Using OCSE’s Child Support Portal to Simplify Processes and Maximize Efficiency:** Processing child support orders can be complex and time consuming for payroll professionals. Join the APA and the federal Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE) for an overview of using the Employer Services applications on OCSE's Child Support Portal. This one-stop shop can be used to report information to all child support agencies and more. Register [here](#).

<p>Virtual Congress On Demand through September 20, 2023 Click here for more information.</p> 	<p>Lunch & Learn Series July 12-August 9, 2023 Click here for more information.</p> 
<p style="text-align: center;">2023 Prism Awards</p> <p>Has your team improved business practices and overall processes over the last year or two? Show them the recognition they deserve by nominating them for a 2023 Prism Award. The annual Prism Awards are presented each year to innovative payroll departments that exhibit best practices. A Shared Services Prism is awarded for excellence in demonstrating leadership.</p> 	



IRS News Essentials

The IRS warns employers – Do not fall for Employee Retention Credit Scams

Beware of ads that promise you big money with the employee retention credit. It's a real credit, but scammers may tell you that you may qualify when you don't. Don't fall for it. Get the facts at <https://www.irs.gov/erc>.



IRS, Security Summit partners warn taxpayers of new scam; unusual delivery service mailing tries to trick people into sending photos, bank account information. WASHINGTON — The Internal Revenue Service warned taxpayers today to be on the lookout for a new scam mailing that tries to mislead people into believing they are owed a refund.

The new scheme involves a mailing coming in a cardboard envelope from a delivery service. The enclosed letter includes the IRS masthead and wording that the notice is “in relation to your unclaimed refund.” Like many scams, the letter includes contact information and a phone number that do not belong to the IRS. But it also seeks a variety of sensitive personal information from taxpayers – including detailed pictures of driver’s licenses – that can be used to by identity thieves to try obtaining a tax refund and other sensitive financial information.

“This is just the latest in the long string of attempts by identity thieves posing as the IRS in hopes of tricking people into providing valuable personal information to steal identities and money, including tax refunds,” said IRS Commissioner Danny Werfel. “These scams can come in through email, text or even in special mailings. People should be careful to watch out for red flags that clearly mark these as IRS scams.”

The Security Summit – a coalition between the IRS, state tax administrators and the nation’s tax industry – continue to warn people to protect their personal information to protect against tax-

related identity theft as well as scams like this. In this new scam, there are many warning signs that can be seen in many similar schemes via email or by text. An unusual feature of this scam is that it tries tricking people to email or phone very detailed personal information in hopes of stealing valuable information. The letter tells the recipients they need to provide “Filing Information” for their refund. This includes some awkwardly worded requests like this: “A Clear Photo of Your Driver’s License That Clearly Displays All Four (4) Corners, Taken in a Place with Good Lighting.”

The letter proceeds for more sensitive information including cellphone number, bank routing information, Social Security number and bank account type, followed by a poorly worded warning: “(You’ll Need to Get This to Get Your Refunds After Filing. These Must Be Given to a Filing Agent Who Will Help You Submit Your Unclaimed Property Claim. Once You Send All The Information Please Try to Be Checking Your Email for Response From The Agents Thanks”

This letter contains a variety of warning signs, including odd punctuation and a mixture of fonts as well as inaccuracies. For example, the letter says the deadline for filing tax refunds is Oct. 17; the deadline for people on extension for their 2022 tax returns is actually Oct. 16, and those owed refunds from last year have time beyond that. And the IRS handles tax refunds, not “unclaimed property.”

Important reminders about scams

The IRS and Security Summit partners regularly warn people about common scams, including the annual IRS Dirty Dozen list.

Taxpayers and tax professionals should be alert to fake communications posing as legitimate organizations in the tax and financial community, including the IRS and states. These messages can arrive in the form of an unsolicited text or email to lure unsuspecting victims to provide valuable personal and financial information that can lead to identity theft, including phishing and smishing.

The IRS never initiates contact with taxpayers by email, text or social media regarding a bill or tax refund.

As a reminder: Never click on any unsolicited communication claiming to be the IRS as it may surreptitiously load malware. It may also be a way for malicious hackers to load ransomware that keeps the legitimate user from accessing their system and files.

Individuals should never respond to tax-related phishing or smishing or click on the URL link. Instead, the scams should be reported by sending the email or a copy of the text/SMS as an attachment to phishing@irs.gov. The report should include the caller ID (email or phone number), date, time and time zone, and the number that received the message.

Taxpayers can also report scams to the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration or the Internet Crime Complaint Center. The Report Phishing and Online Scams page at IRS.gov provides complete details. The Federal Communications Commission's Smartphone Security Checker is a useful tool against mobile security threats.

The IRS also warns taxpayers to be wary of messages that appear to be from friends or family but that are possibly stolen or compromised email or text accounts from someone they know. This remains a popular way to target individuals and tax preparers for a variety of scams. Individuals should verify the identity of the sender by using another communication method; for instance, calling a number they independently know to be accurate, not the number provided in the email or text.

Accessible tax info and forms available with the IRS Alternative Media Center. The IRS strives to serve all taxpayers by providing tax information in a variety of formats and languages. As part of that goal, the IRS [Alternative Media Center](#) offers accessible products to help people who use assistive technology such as screen reading software, refreshable Braille displays, screen magnifying software and voice recognition software.

- People can view and download hundreds of tax forms and publications in alternative formats, many of which are available in Spanish, including: Text-only
- Braille ready files
- Browser-friendly HTML
- Accessible PDF
- Large print PDF

Where to get accessible tax products

People can download accessible tax forms, instructions and publications from the [Accessible Forms and Publications](#) page of IRS.gov. They can also request paper copies by calling 800-TAX-FORM or [800-829-3676](#).

How to request tax notices in accessible formats: To get IRS tax notices in Braille, large print, audio and electronic formats – including notices about additional taxes or penalties owed – taxpayers can complete [Form 9000, Alternative Media Preference](#). To submit the form, taxpayers can:

- Include the completed form with their tax return
- Mail it as a standalone form to the IRS at the address on the form
- Call 800-829-1040

Once the IRS processes the taxpayer's Form 9000, future notices will arrive in the taxpayer's preferred format.

To request notices in their preferred language, taxpayers can complete Form 1040 Schedule LEP. The AMC provides all alternative media formats in Spanish and all available languages in large print. And the AMC is working to introduce more IRS resources in accessible formats.

The accessibility helpline can answer questions. The IRS Accessibility Helpline can answer questions related to accessibility services and alternative media formats available to taxpayers with disabilities. For accessibility assistance, taxpayers can call 833-690-0598.

PayTalk Podcast

PayTalk is a monthly podcast created with the goal of sharing earned knowledge from high-level payroll professionals to the greater industry at large. Join us each month as we take a look at the leaders behind the payroll processes. Whether you're just starting out in payroll or are a seasoned professional, PayTalk will help uncover the insights needed to unlock the next stage of your career.



EPISODE 39: More Interviews With Global Payroll Leaders Shaping the Landscape of Tomorrow

In this special guest podcast:

- Challenges, opportunities with global payroll
- Technology's impact on the industry
- Payroll's Future



EPISODE 38: Interviews With Global Payroll Leaders Shaping the Landscape of Tomorrow

In this special guest podcast:

- Technology's impact on the industry
- The challenges and opportunities that come with global payroll
- Payroll's Future

In this edition of [Compliance TV](#), In this edition: Employers Must Check Documents; Form I-9 Flexibility Ends July 31; OCSE Changes Name to Office of Child Support Services; WHD Publishes Opinion Letter Covering FMLA Leave During Holidays; Special Report: Panel Answers Questions at Payroll Congress – Part 1



Chapter Member Spotlight – Amber Wilson, CPP

By: Michele Denise

When Amber Wilson was growing up, she couldn't imagine that her career would lead her to becoming a Payroll Professional. She dreamt of becoming a jewelry designer, alongside her family that had an estate jewelry business. She received a business degree from USC and after having her son, she sought out non-traditional roles and while interviewing for an administrative position, her now manager offered her the Payroll Administration position.

She had no payroll experience, but seven years later working for C.A. Murren, Atlanta Chapter, and the online resources from PAYO, she obtained her CPP last year. Amber says, the best part of her role as Payroll Administrator, she loves the cyclical nature of payroll. It allows her to constantly strive for a better way, planning and connecting with people in a way that really fuels their lives.

What brought her to joining the Atlanta Chapter, Amber says, "originally for a resource in her payroll journey, then joined the summer study group, and has relished what the chapter has poured into her. She also contributes that having CPP has allowed her to confidently bring a seat to the table and her input, which has always been valued, the CPP designation, helps her bring solutions and not just ideas.

When asked what recommendations she would have for those thinking about joining our chapter, she simply says; "Just say yes!". She was hesitant so many times to get involved, but with CJ. Ansleigh, Levi and others encouraging her, she finally said yes.

Amber was also the recipient of the scholarship to Congress this year. Here is how she felt and top three takeaways from Congress 2023:



Member Spotlight (continued)



Disbelief was my first emotion. Congress has always been a pie in the sky concept to me as it was just not within my budget. Getting to go just months after getting my CPP was literally the cherry on top of my payroll dream!

1. **Connect!** At times the payroll world seems very lonely, but there are so many payroll pro's looking to connect. These connections can bring innovative ideas and even opportunities into your career. We can all learn from each other. Join a committee (or two!)
2. **Subscribe!** Use the tools provided by PAYO to stay current – get free RCH's- and even vent or celebrate daily successes. This is the easiest way to stay current on new policy & market trends.
3. **Embrace Change!** Because it's always been done that way is a death sentence. Innovations are everywhere and offer us solutions to so many daily concerns. Be open to better ways, don't be afraid to step outside of your comfort zone to embrace a change that can elevate your payroll life.

Amber has been a member of the Atlanta Chapter since March 2021, and in her spare time, she loves to thrift, spending a day digging through what others view as junk.

The Millennial Corner

By: Candace White, FPC

One thing I've come to learn as an adult is that high school lacked some in areas when it came to adulthood preparedness. Where I have benefited from being able to touch-type and greet someone formally in the French language, I have always thought there were more real-life lessons we could have been taught. As I've gotten deeper into my career as a payroll professional, I have noticed one deficit that plagues young adults throughout the U.S. And that's paycheck literacy.

Now, I still have a soft spot for my 10th grade math teacher, Ms. Mater, and how she was the only one to help me grasp the concept of the Pythagorean Theorem. But...it has not been a tool I've needed to use once I tossed my cap at my high school graduation ceremony. If I was able to take a class back then on what to expect on my first paycheck, I think I would have greatly benefited from that course. I would have been prepared to correctly complete my Form W4, understand what all of those FICA tax thingy's were, and be able to comprehend the difference between my gross and net pay.

As a Millennial in the current workforce, it is strangely apparent that we missed out on some valuable financial life skills. I am very fortunate to be a part of the payroll community that allows me to reach back out to students that were just like me growing up and pass on the knowledge of financial literacy.

The PAYO's MMNED course gives payroll volunteers the opportunity to teach young adults entering the workforce a glance at what to expect when they begin working. Knowing that we are slowly bridging that gap with the younger generation when it comes to paying employees essentially makes our everyday jobs easier and worthwhile. I always look forward to National Payroll Week because of the emphasis on the Money Matters National Education Day sessions!

"We had the opportunity to meet with the students over the course of several classes during the day. It was very easy to meet the kids where they were because they came prepared. Many of them were already employed someplace so they came with a lot of questions. It made me very happy to fully explain to them what Money Matters was and how knowing this information would help them to better understand tax deductions and their paycheck." – **Jerome Jones**

"I loved how the kids were engaged and were like sponges to learn about their paycheck and what to expect when they get their checks. I felt like I was having a conversation on what their future would be like, and it also gave them an insight that having a skill is important." – **Denise Mitchell**

Breaking News...

NATIONAL PAYROLL WEEK 2023

National Payroll Week will be September 4-8, 2023! Many activities in the works for our chapter. Make sure to be on the lookout for more information to follow.

- July 15 – 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Chapter Picnic and Membership Drive
- Take the NPW [Survey!](#)
- School Supply Collections
- Money Matters Education
- Proclamation Ceremonies
- Order [NPW Merchandise](#) through our chapter!



Atlanta Chapter of Payroll Org

About Our Organization

Meetings held the second
Thursday of the month

Alternating Breakfast and
Dinner Meetings

We're on the Web!

See us at:

<https://apaatlantachapter.com/index.php>

Please visit the [Atlanta Chapter of the APA's Facebook Page](#) often to keep yourself up-to-date with the latest payroll information and information related to our chapter.



We are a nonprofit organization centered on providing continuing education to payroll, accounting and human resource professionals. Along with education, we offer community service opportunities for all members. We are an autonomous and independent Chapter of PayrollOrg.

Follow Us:



Thank you to our Atlanta Chapter Partners!

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