American Institute of CPAs (AICPA) president and CEO, Barry Melancon, CPA, CGMA, released a statement following reports of the Internal Revenue Services (IRS') plans to reassign staff to address the current backlog:

"The actions taken by the IRS a few days ago to suspend one notice and the press reports that they are considering additional steps – including shifting personnel to service centers – are positive steps in the right direction. We are glad that the IRS seems to be listening and responding to the collective frustrations of all taxpayers. However, we must urge the Service to move as quickly as possible to offer reasonable measures of relief as we are already in the beginnings of tax busy season. All of the recommendations put forth by the AICPA and the Tax Professionals United for Taxpayer Relief Coalition are actions that we believe the IRS can legally take right now to provide immediate relief to taxpayers. Time is of the essence."

About the American Institute of CPAs

The American Institute of CPAs® (AICPA®) is the world’s largest member association representing the CPA profession, with more than 428,000 members in the United States and worldwide, and a history of serving the public interest since 1887. AICPA members represent many areas of practice, including business and industry, public practice, government, education and consulting. The AICPA sets ethical standards for its members and U.S. auditing standards for private companies, not-for-profit organizations, and federal, state and local governments. It develops and grades the Uniform CPA Examination, offers specialized credentials, builds the pipeline of future talent and drives continuing education to advance the vitality, relevance and quality of the profession.