



AFSA - IRS

NEWSLETTER



*A Publication of the Association of Former
Special Agents of the IRS*

Vol. XXXVI No. 2

Summer, 2025

2025 AFSA-IRS Convention

San Antonio, TX

October 12 – 15, 2025





Executive Director's Corner – Spring 2025

Greetings and salutations from Helotes, Texas!!!

I am enjoying our beautiful weather, and hope you are also ;-)

I am especially looking forward to seeing you at:

2025 AFSA Convention San Antonio, TX

San Antonio is a major city in south-central Texas with a rich colonial heritage. The Alamo, an 18th-century Spanish mission preserved as a museum, marks an infamous 1836 battle for Texan independence from Mexico. Following the San Antonio River, the miles-long River Walk is a landmark pedestrian promenade lined with cafes and shops. HemisFair Park's 750-ft. Tower of the Americas overlooks the city.

- San Antonio Weather Forecast Report

- The average temperature in San Antonio, Texas during October is typically warm, with highs in the low 80s Fahrenheit (around 28°C) and lows in the mid 50s to low 60s Fahrenheit (around 15°C). Specifically, the average daily high temperature is around 82°F (28°C), and the average daily low is around 59°F (15°C).

Dan Pieschel, and the Convention Planning team have been working diligently. This year's convention will be outstanding. They are finalizing the details and putting together an amazing package of activates and tours. I have my hotel reservations booked. I am looking forward to the camaraderie, with old friends and meeting new friends.

Have a marvelous day!

Adieu,

~ Mary ~

A MESSAGE FROM CHIEF GUY FICCO



June 2025

Hello IRS-CI family. As summer unfolds, I can't speak highly enough about our workforce. Our team continues to produce incredible results – launching new partnerships, enhancing efficiencies and continuing to investigate some of the most egregious tax and financial crimes.

This May, we received guilty pleas in several high profile cases. Credit Suisse pleaded guilty and was sentenced for conspiring to hide more than \$4 billion from the IRS across at least 475 offshore accounts. The company also entered into a non-prosecution

agreement related to its conduct in Singapore and agreed to pay \$510 million. This guilty plea is the result of a years-long investigation to uncover financial fraud and abuse.

Our work with the Joint Chiefs of Global Tax Enforcement (J5) resulted in the guilty plea and conviction of a defense contractor and a crypto CEO. Douglas Edelman, co-founder of Mina Corp. and Red Star Enterprises, pleaded guilty to tax evasion and conspiracy. He concealed more than \$7 billion in U.S. defense contracts, hiding income in foreign accounts and submitting false documentation. He faces up to five years per count, plus restitution and penalties. Braden John Karony, CEO of SafeMoon LLC, was found guilty of securities fraud, wire fraud, and money laundering. He and his co-conspirators misled investors and diverted millions for personal gain. He now faces up to 45 years in prison.

Earlier this spring, we released metrics tied to Bank Secrecy Act filings and COVID-related fraud investigations. The BSA continues to be an integral tool we use to investigate financial crimes. In the last three years, BSA data has helped IRS-CI identify more than \$21 billion in fraud, seize \$8 billion in assets tied to criminal activity, and more than \$1 billion in restitution for crime victims. Since Congress enacted the CARES Act five years ago, our team has launched more than 2,000 tax and money laundering cases with attempted fraud in these cases totaling \$10 billion.

We continue to forge ahead with a new public-private partnership involving financial institutions called CI-FIRST (Feedback in Response to Strategic Threats). Through CI-FIRST, we plan to streamline and standardize the subpoena/legal order process and enhance the quality of BSA filings, so they prove even more helpful in our investigations. We also have about 250 special agents working with the Department of Homeland Security on immigration activities. This collaboration allows both agencies to leverage their respective strengths, such as IRS-CI's specialized expertise in financial investigations, and reinforces our shared commitment to upholding federal law and safeguarding national security.

Educating others about the work we do, continues to be a priority for IRS-CI. I am engaged in talks with Treasury leadership and the White House about our mission and the return on investment our investigations produce for the American public. As retired special agents, please continue to be ambassadors for IRS-CI in your communities. Ongoing outreach about our mission is essential to our continued success.



2025 AFSA Convention

The Historic Menger Hotel

**San Antonio, Texas
October 12-15, 2025**



LINK FOR REGISTRATION:

<https://near.tl/sm/vDEte5c8D>

Greetings to Everyone!!! Plans are now finalized for our 2025 Annual Business Meeting and Convention which will be held from October 12-15, 2025, in San Antonio, Texas. If you haven't yet made your reservations for the hotel, it is now time to do that, plus complete your convention registration form and submit it to Gerard Dupczak. As explained in the Email that went out to all members last month, arrangements were made with the Historic Menger Hotel to host our annual convention. We were able to

negotiate a block reservation for our members at the fantastic rate of \$139.00 per night plus tax, for a total of approximately \$164.32 per night. Instructions and contact information for the hotel are listed at the top of the official AFSA registration form that is also included in this newsletter. You can also make a reservation by clicking on the following link:

<https://res.windsurfercrs.com/ibe/details.aspx?propertyid=16589&nights=6&checkin=10/10/2025&group=101225AFSAOFT&lang=en-us>

And remember...our contract also allows our members to use the block rate for up to three days before and three days after our official convention dates of October 12-15, 2025. If you need an ADA Accessible Room, or you are unable to make your reservation with the above link, then simply call the Menger Reservation line at 800-345-9285 and give the reservationist the Group Code "AFSA" to identify yourself as being with the AFSA Convention.

The Menger is the oldest continuously operating hotel west of the Mississippi River, and it is located in the heart of downtown San Antonio, next to the iconic Alamo. It is only a one block walk to the famous San Antonio Riverwalk, and it is near many other sights like the Majestic Theatre, The Tower of Americas, and the San Antonio Museum of Art.

Finally, please complete your registration form and send your payment to Treasurer Gerard Dupczak no later than Friday, September 12, 2025. Doing so, allows us to fulfil commitments that were made to the hotel, and to the various vendors with whom we are making arrangements for our visits. As noted in the descriptions below, there is limited seating on the chartered boat and the buses. Reservations will be processed on a first-come-first served basis. All requests processed after our limit has been reached will be placed on a waiting list in the order that they were received. All advance funds that were paid for activities that cannot be fulfilled due to space not being available, will be refunded to the member. Make your reservations either with the AFSA online link, or by printing, completing, and mailing (email or regular) the attached registration form to Gerard Dupczak. If you have any issues or questions about the hotel or the convention, feel free to contact Dan Pieschel at dpieschel@gmail.com.

The following is a tentative day-by-day timetable for what we have planned for this year's convention. Note that this timetable, like the rest of life as we know it today, is also subject to some changes and modifications.

Saturday, October 11, 2025

Pre-Convention Activities: With the flexibility of being able to check-in at the Menger, up to three days prior to the opening day, we believe that many of you will choose to travel at the end of the prior week, or on the weekend itself, when it might be more convenient for your schedule. If arriving by Saturday, you will be able to register early in our hospitality room and then select from the many options that will be listed in your handout of On-Your-Own-Activities. We have also arranged to take a narrated dinner cruise on The San Antonio River. Boarding will begin at about 6:00 PM and the cruise will run until about 8:00PM. The boat will cruise slowly around the San Antonio River, passing many of the sights and restaurants along the riverwalk. The dinner served will be a beef and chicken fajita dinner, and including two refreshments, all for the cost of \$60 per person. Upon disembarking, everyone will have the choice of enjoying the riverwalk or strolling casually back to the Menger.

Sunday, October 12, 2025

Registration: Sunday will be the official start of the convention and will be the day of arrival for most. You will have the option of driving, or flying into the San Antonio International Airport, which is just under a 10-mile drive to the hotel. If you will be parking a car at the hotel, we have also negotiated a special \$20 valet parking rate per night at the hotel. There are two events scheduled for Sunday.

In the Afternoon - The first event will be an afternoon private trolley tour of the city at a cost of just \$35 per person. The tour will take you downtown and to other points of interest and areas surrounding the city. Boarding will begin at 3:15pm and the trolley will return by 5:00pm. What a wonderful way to see and learn all about the city.

In the Evening - The second event will be our annual President's Meet and Greet from 6:00pm to 8:00pm where everyone will be able to gather and see some old friends and meet some new ones. This year's Meet and Greet will be sure to offer a variety of items, so be sure to come hungry! We might even have a special Texas treat for everyone. To top the night off, we will, of course, have our hospitality room open where conversations and nightcaps will be plentiful (as they will be every night).

Monday, October 13, 2025

Historic Mission and Market Tour – This ½ day bus trip will be both an interesting and educational trip for those who sign up for it. Our air-conditioned busses will visit three of the five Spanish missions that were established along the San Antonio River by Catholic priests in the 18th century. We will make a stop at Mission Concepcion, the oldest unrestored stone church in the United States. From there, we proceed to Mission San Jose, the largest mission in San Antonio, where everyone will go on a guided tour. It was refurbished in 2011. Next, we will travel to the Historic Market Square. It is known for being the largest Mexican market in the United States with its 32 specialty shops and over 80 stalls, vendors, and working artists. We will have enough time for you to enjoy lunch on your own at either the La Margarita Mexican Restaurant and Oyster Bar, or the Mi Tierra Café y Panaderia, a very famous and historic restaurant. After lunch, we return to downtown San Antonio and visit the Mission San Antonio de Valero, more commonly known as The Alamo. Founded in 1718, it was the first mission in San Antonio and it is a “Must See” for anyone visiting San Antonio. Due to the close proximity of the Alamo to the Menger Hotel, there will be no issue with the officers and members of the Board of Directors being able to attend the mandatory board meeting at the Menger at 3:30pm.

On-Your-Own Activities – If you choose not to take the above tour, you will find that there are many, many sights to see on your own. A multi-page handout will be provided upon your arrival. There is no shortage of shops, attractions, and other nearby sights that will be included in your handout.

Board of Directors Meeting – Officers and Board Members...As noted above, don't forget to mark your calendars for the annual afternoon Board Meeting that must be attended by all Officers and Board Members. This year's meeting is scheduled to be held from 3:30pm to 5:30pm.

Dinner on Your Own – This is a good evening to have dinner on your own. According to hotel information, there are many, many great restaurants within a six to eight block radius. More specific information will be provided in your handout.

Tuesday, October 14, 2025

Trip to Gruene, Texas – This full day bus trip will start at 8:45am and it will take you to the very interesting town of Gruene (pronounced Green), Texas, a district within the city limits of New Braunfels, Texas. It sits along the Guadalupe River and has many sights to see, including Gruene Hall, opened in 1878, which is the oldest continually operating dance hall in Texas. It is internationally recognized as a destination tourist attraction and major music venue for up-and-coming, as well as established, artists. It has hosted such acts as Garth Brooks, Willie Nelson, Merle Haggard, George Strait, Arlo Guthrie, Emmylou Harris, Kris Kristofferson, Loretta Lynn, and many, many more. The Gruene General Store is another well known and visited sight and worth the trip when in town. The Gruene Family Home, a Victorian-style edifice built in 1872 and listed on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places, now operates as the Gruene Mansion Inn and Bed and Breakfast. While in town, you will be able to visit over 30 sights and businesses. We will also eat lunch as a group at the Gristmill River Restaurant and Bar. Your lunch will be “on your own” as everyone will order off of the Gristmill menu. By mid-afternoon, we will board our bus and return to the Menger Hotel by 4:00pm. That will get everyone back to the hotel in plenty of time to enjoy the Manager’s Evening Reception.

Wednesday, October 15, 2025

Morning Activities - As in past years, our annual meeting will be held this year on Wednesday and will begin with an opening ceremony, an invocation, and a presentation by the Color Guard at about 9:00am. Arrangements will still need to be made for our speakers, but we will, of course, invite the Chief of CI, to attend and have him provide his annual update on what’s happening within the organization. That will be followed by our annual business meeting and election of officers. Lunch will be on your own.

Afternoon Activity – At this point, the afternoon will be free time and good for any on-your-own activities that you still wish to do.

The Annual Banquet Dinner – Our annual dinner will be a buffet dinner, promised to be among the best we’ve ever had, and it will be held in one of the ballrooms at the hotel.

Thursday, October 16, 2025

As noted in the opening paragraph, we have the ability to come in three days early and stay for up to three days after the convention ends. So, there’s no need to rush away on Thursday morning. If you have the time and want to see some more of the city on your own, we will have plenty of suggestions for you. Otherwise, this is your check-out day. Safe travels and see you next year.

Mary Ruiz and Dan Pieschel, Event Co-Chairpersons

Here are the photos from the LEOSA qualifications in So Cal Saturday, June 7, 2025
We were hosted by Firearms Training Associates in Corona, CA.
About 33 retirees turned out for the shoot. Everybody qualified!!

Rich Malone, Director
AFSA-IRS
Region 9





Scott Douglas Goodlin	Pittsburg	PS
Michele M. McCormick	Tinton Falls	NJ
Garrison Ure	Woodbridge	VA
Kristie LeBeau Gregoire	New Orleans	LA
Tina Kim	Elliocott City	MD
T. Patrick Smith	Annadale	VA
Matthew Line	Charlotte	NC



**There are special people in our lives who never leave us,
even after they are gone.**

In Memoriam

Paul E. Malm	Wilmette, IL
Herbert A. Linder	Dallas, TX
Lewis S. Badura	Orange City, FL
Robert H. McCorry	Wayne, NJ
William V Parrish	Dallas, TX
Hollis Bliss	LaGrange, GA

AFSA-IRS OFFICERS AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Officers

Iris Bohannon (AR) President
 Beth Putman (MD) V/P President Elect
 Ismael Nevarez (AZ) 2nd Vice President
 Jacque Riordon (CO) Secretary
 Gerard Dupczak (IN) Treasurer
 Gerard Dupczak (IN) Past President

Appointed

Mary Seguin Ruiz	Executive Director
Bob Armentrout	Parliamentarian
A. Jack Fishman	Attorney
Vacant	Newsletter Editor
Katy Jeffers & Shawn Kaderaek	Tech Advisor
Dennis Czurylo	Historian
Mark Kroczyński	Scholarship Chair

AFSA-IRS REGIONAL DIRECTORS AND REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

REGION	Regional Director	Regional Representatives
1	Phil Hall (MA)	Matthew Cola, Babylon, NY Robert Galbraith, E. Amherst, NY Charles Franssen, Huntington, NY
2	Robert Schmus (NJ)	Alan Fogel, Manalapan, NJ John Gagliardo, Lincoln Park, NJ Robert McDugall, Blue Bell, PA
3	Mary Fran Martin (MD)	Kathy Montemora, MD
4	Elizabeth Fleaher (OH)	Tedd Boomershine, Kettering, OH
5	Cynthia Fish (NC)	David W. Jansen, Tulsa, OK
6	Michael Stephens (FL)	Angelo Troncoso, Clearwater, FL Dave Beitzel, Naples, FL Orlan Smith, Orlando, FL Robert McLaughlin, Ponce Inlet, FL Jeff Karsh, Plantation, FL Larry Sands, Keystone Heights, FL
7	Robert Kuschel (IL)	Inar "Smitty" Morics, Des Moines, IA Ronald Cipolla, Eagan, MN Tom O'Halloran, St. Louis, MO
8	Calvin Puryear (TX)	Ed Martin, Austin, TX Robert Schweitzer, Sun City West, AZ Dennis Carey, Glenwood Springs, CO Mike Mayott, Billings, MT
9	Rich Malone (CA)	Alex Seddio, San Francisco, CA Reginald Norberg, Seattle, WA



Help the AFSA-IRS to Grow! Recruit a New Member!

Membership is open to all retired, former and current IRS special agents with at least five years IRS Special Agent service. Current Special Agents are admitted as non-voting associate members. First-year membership is complimentary.

Mail application to: AFSA-IRS, P.O. Box 1187, Helotes, TX 78023



First Name		Last Name			Spouse's Name	
Date of Birth		Place of Birth			E-Mail	
Home Address		City	ST	ZIP Code	Cell Phone	
IRS-CI S/A Start Date	IRS-CI S/A End Date	Retirement Date	Current Special Agent? <input type="checkbox"/>		Join the AFSA-IRS!	
Are you interested in being an AFSA Representative? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		Are you interested in serving AFSA-IRS in other positions? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		Are you willing to work on AFSA-IRS committees? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Current/Last Post of Duty		Current/Last Supervisor			Supervisor Phone No.	

Currently Employed? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Current Employment (Type of Work)				
Employer/Business Name		Address	City	ST	ZIP Code
Telephone		Business E-Mail			

AFSA-IRS receives requests from various sources for members who may be considering performing different types of work. If you desire to have your information available for the AFSA-IRS to assist in matching your skills, expertise and abilities to a particular request, please complete the next part of the membership form.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Attorney	<input type="checkbox"/>	Certified Public Accountant
<input type="checkbox"/>	Enrolled Agent	<input type="checkbox"/>	Certified Fraud Examiner
<input type="checkbox"/>	Digital Forensics	<input type="checkbox"/>	Licensed or Certified Private Investigator
<input type="checkbox"/>	Investigative Equipment Training Experience	<input type="checkbox"/>	Management Training Experience
<input type="checkbox"/>	Language(s)-Specify:		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Instructor Training Experience-Specify:		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Foreign Service:	<input type="checkbox"/> Training Experience	<input type="checkbox"/> Consulting Assignments
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other Skills or Investigative Interest-Specify:		

I am applying for membership in the Association of Former Special Agents of the Internal Revenue Service. I am either a retired special agent, a former special agent, or a current special agent. I have neither been convicted of a felony nor left the IRS under any adverse circumstances.

Signature	Date
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**ASSOCIATION OF FORMER SPECIAL AGENTS
OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE (AFSA)
P.O. Box 1187
Helotes, TX 78023**

918 AFSA members as of June, 2025. Help recruit new members for AFSA