The federal government collects around $100 billion each year in excise taxes affecting virtually all taxpayers, directly or indirectly, regardless of industry segment. The Excise Tax practice, led by former Internal Revenue Service (IRS) attorneys in KPMG LLP’s (KPMG) Washington National Tax, helps you navigate the labyrinth of specialized rules, manage risks, and take advantage of planning opportunities and available tax refunds and credits.

Our specialized industry knowledge

The Excise Tax practice assists clients with a wide range of federal excise tax matters. Our specialized knowledge includes federal excise taxes relating to motor and aviation fuels, alternative fuels, air transportation services, heavy trucks and trailers, crude oil and imported petroleum products, coal, tires, certain sporting goods, ozone-depleting chemicals, hazardous chemicals and substances, wagering, vaccines, designated drugs, and premiums paid to foreign insurers. Additionally, we assist clients with respect to income and excise tax credits and refunds for biodiesel, alternative fuels, clean transportation fuel, and sustainable aviation fuel. We also assist clients with federal excise taxes administered by the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau relating to alcohol, tobacco, firearms, and ammunition products.

The Excise Tax practice cross-teams with professionals throughout the Tax, Audit, and Advisory divisions of KPMG to address federal excise tax issues across all industry sectors and to provide thorough client services.
Our services

- Assisting clients with evaluating their excise tax positions; focusing on reduction of future liabilities; managing risks, refund, and credit opportunities; and streamlining administrative processes
- Providing advice and assistance with excise tax planning, including preparing and reviewing requests for letter rulings and prefiling agreements from the IRS
- Assisting client compliance with excise tax laws, regulations, and other administrative guidance, including advice and assistance with excise tax return filings and claims filings
- Representing clients in complex IRS examinations or at the IRS appeals level, including anticipating, managing, and responding to excise tax issues raised by the IRS and assistance with drafting requests for technical advice
- Providing advice and assistance with penalty standards and pursuing opportunities for relief, including penalties for late filing of excise tax returns, late payment of excise taxes, and late or missing excise tax deposits
- Monitoring emerging legislative, regulatory, and judicial developments and analyzing the potential excise tax consequences

As former IRS Office of Chief Counsel excise tax attorneys, Washington National Tax professionals were involved in drafting IRS guidance as well as implementing and enforcing excise tax legislation.

Washington National Tax is the technical core of the KPMG Tax practice in the United States.

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Some or all of the services described herein may not be permissible for KPMG audit clients and their affiliates or related entities.

The information contained herein is of a general nature and based on authorities that are subject to change. Applicability of the information to specific situations should be determined through consultation with your tax adviser.

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