

Federation of Tax Administrators

444 North Capitol Street, N.W., #348
Washington, D.C. 20001
Ph. (202) 624-8443 / Fax (202) 624-7888

News Release

for immediate release

MINNESOTA WINS HONORABLE MENTION FOR COMPLIANCE PROGRAM

(Washington, D. C., April 12, 2013) The Federation of Tax Administrators announced today that judges have named the Minnesota Department of Revenue as an Honorable Mention winner in the 2013 FTA Awards for Outstanding Compliance Program.

The Washington State Department of Revenue won first place for its voluntary compliance app technology.

Judges do not ordinarily honor a program outside of the winning submission, but they made an exception in this case because they wanted to draw attention to Minnesota's entry, saying other state tax agencies could learn from the Minnesota approach.

Minnesota's entry was for its multi-agency and multi-state effort to minimize tax avoidance through the use of out-of-state LLCs when purchasing high-price vehicles. Judges noted that the program is "a neat effort, and getting other agencies to cooperate is such a hard thing to do." They noted that this area of compliance is most effective when the effort is shared with other states. They said that Minnesota's low-tech initiative dealt with a "highly irritating problem and helped all states."

Presentation of the awards will take place during the FTA Annual Meeting, June 9-11 in Albuquerque, N.M. The winners have also been invited to make a presentation on the program during the annual meeting.

The entries were judged by an independent panel consisting of Linda Tanton, retired deputy comptroller in Maryland; Harley Duncan, Managing Director for Washington National Tax, KPMG; and Bill Remington, Associate Director in the Office of Technical Assistance for the U.S. Treasury Department.

The Federation of Tax Administrators is a nonprofit organization composed of taxation and revenue departments of the fifty states, District of Columbia and New York City. Its mission is to improve the standards and methods of tax administration.