

Lt. Col. Charles J. Taylor L'96

Staff Counsel

California State Controller's Office

Los Angeles, CA



For the majority of his legal career, Charles Taylor has been in public service as an attorney for the State of California and as a Judge Advocate in the United States Army Reserves. During his service as a Judge Advocate, Taylor has deployed twice. Most recently, Taylor deployed to Afghanistan for three months in 2020. Some time ago, Taylor deployed to Kuwait for ten months from 2007 to 2008. During both deployments, Taylor' assignments were varied, and included work as an Article 32 Hearing Officer, writing reports, reviewing investigations for legal sufficiency, and helping Soldiers and Commanders in response to issues concerning ethics, administrative, fiscal, and contract law, military justice, and other general legal matters. Taylor is currently a Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves.

In his civilian capacity, Taylor is a Staff Counsel for California State Controller Betty Yee. As a Staff Counsel, Taylor specializes in California Unclaimed Property law as well as State and Local Tax matters. As California's Chief Fiscal Officer, State Controller Yee chairs the Franchise Tax Board, and serves as a member of the California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS) and the California State Teachers' Retirement System (CalSTRS) Boards. In addition, the State Controller serves on dozens of boards and commissions with authority ranging from land management to affordable housing to economic development and more.

Prior to the State Controller's Office, Taylor was a Tax Counsel for the California State Board of Equalization. At the time, the State Board of Equalization administered various tax and fee programs for the state of California that were concentrated in four general areas, tax appeals, sales and use taxes, property taxes, and special taxes and fees. During this time, Taylor specialized in property tax matters involving change in ownership, assessment and exemption issues.

From December 2002 through December 2006, Taylor served as Tax Counsel to then State Board of Equalization Chair John Chiang. In this capacity, Taylor provided legal counsel to Mr. Chiang, handled and responded to constituent inquiries, and assisted with Mr. Chiang's constituent outreach programs. At the time, Mr. Chiang represented approximately 8.5 million constituents in Los Angeles County as one of five elected members of the State Board of Equalization.

In addition to his professional and community responsibilities, Taylor authors a blog. Taylor' blog follows trends in social impact investing, based on ideas founded on fundamental principles of social justice and social responsibility, as well as other environmental, social, and

governance (ESG) considerations. The goal of the blog is to promote a class of sustainable investing that seeks to achieve positive investment returns, long-term benefits for the global economy, and enhance overall business performance, profitability, and sustainability.

Taylor is a member of the State Bars of California, New York, and New Jersey, and holds the following degrees: an AA degree from Antelope Valley College, a degree in Business Administration from the University of Southern California, a law degree from Syracuse University College of Law and an LL.M. in Taxation from the University of San Diego School of Law. In addition, Taylor holds a Graduate Certificate in Business Law from the University of Southern California Gould School of Law.