

**Statement of Paul Cherecwich, Jr.**  
**IRS Oversight Board Nominee**  
**November 14, 2006**

Mr. Chairman, Senator Baucus and Members of the Committee, I am honored to appear before this Committee today as you consider my nomination to be a member of the IRS Oversight Board. It is an honor to have been nominated by President Bush to serve on this important Board.

I am presently retired, having had a successful career as a tax attorney employed both in the business world and practitioner world. Employed by three Fortune 500 corporations, I retired in 2000 from Cordant Technologies, Inc. as Vice President of Tax and Tax Counsel, whereupon I joined the law firm Miller & Chevalier Chartered as Of Counsel. I retired from that firm at the end of 2004. During my career, I participated in several professional groups. As a result of my contributions, I was asked to serve leadership roles on several trade association tax committees. I also was selected by my peers to be the 1997-1998 International President of The Tax Executives Institute (TEI), the preeminent association of corporate tax executives in North America.

Being a firm believer that we should all give something back to the society and country which nurtures us, I served on the Boards of several charitable organizations. I also served on several government advisory groups, including the Massachusetts Governors Management Task Force, the Industry Advisory Committee on Customs, USTR, and the IRS Advisory Counsel, where I was selected by its members to be the 2002 Chair.

I am quite familiar with the requirement that the IRS Oversight Board oversee the IRS in its administration, management, conduct, direction and supervision of the execution and application of internal revenue laws. In my capacity as TEI President, I met with the National Commission on Restructuring the IRS, and testified before both the House Ways and Means Committee and this Committee in connection with pending legislation that was eventually enacted as the IRS Restructuring and Reform Act of 1998. Thus I can say I was present at the birth of the IRS Oversight Board and hopefully my views at that time were of use to those crafting the legislation that created it.

Private life members of the Board are required to have professional experience and expertise in one or more of several critical skills areas. Having worked in large business organizations as a tax professional, having served on the boards of several charitable organizations that deliver services to large numbers of clients, and having served on government advisory boards, I believe I am qualified to serve on the IRS Oversight Board. Ruth, my wife of forty-two years, asked me why I would want to serve on the Board. I told her that I did not want to pass up the opportunity to try to assist our government and its employees to be the best that they can be. She asked me if I could make a difference. I told her that I wouldn't know until I tried. I assure you, that if confirmed, I will do my best to help the IRS Oversight Board fulfill the mission that Congress has established for it.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would be pleased to answer any questions you or other members of the Committee may have.