

Tax Research

Service Learning Project

This service learning project was a great opportunity to use the knowledge and skills I have acquired throughout the semester. This project had many different areas of tax to research and report on. Using my research skills I was able to answer some of the questions that I may have not been able to answer otherwise. For example before researching for the project I had no idea the amount of things a performing artist was allowed to deduct specifically based on their profession. In this project, as in class, we were given a set of facts and asked to research it. Without the practice and assignment throughout the class I feel I would not have been able to accurately provide information to the performing artists.

After completing this project I feel my role in the business community has changed. As a student you never really get the chance to get a particular question from the client and research and present your findings. This project was kind of like what I will be doing as a tax professional. The fine arts students were the client and our group presented the information necessary for them to reduce taxes. This project has given me the chance to be ahead in the business community. It has allowed us as a class to have the chance to help a group of people.

Participating in this project has taught me you have to know your audience. I noticed some of the questions the people asked during the presentation were questions that were easy to me. This is where it is important to realize they do not have the tax knowledge that I do. It is necessary to make the information presented more general and have basic numerical examples. If it were a case where it was a presentation in the tax research class, the information could be more specific and a little more complicated. Numerical examples for the fine arts students that were very long and complicated would not have done them any good. It would have probably made them bored and ready to move on with their lives. It is very important to make the presentation with information that will be easy to understand and help the audience.