



### Sponsor Spotlight – Siegel Jennings Co., LPA

2020 has been a year like no other. No doubt, you have felt the economic and personal impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The attorneys and real estate analysts at Siegel Jennings are especially focused this year on making sure commercial real estate owners pay a fair property tax bill. Our office is working with state legislators to develop a fair solution to the problems facing owners hardest hit by stay-at-home orders and disrupted market activity. While no property type has been spared; hotels, motels, restaurants, and retail properties have been most disrupted by the pandemic. As business travel and leisure activity came to a standstill, the market for these properties has been upended.

Since April, Siegel Jennings has been working with Ohio lawmakers to provide relief for property owners. The proposed legislation would allow property owners to present, and requires tribunals to consider, evidence as to how COVID-19 has impacted property values. Normally, anything that happened at a property after the January 1st valuation date would not be considered.

As we head into 2021, property owners will receive real estate tax bills on their Ohio properties. There is a short window to challenge an unfair assessment. All complaints to challenge the 2020 values must be filed by March 31, 2021. The county's valuation should roughly reflect what you could sell your property for in January 2020.

Siegel Jennings also has offices in Columbus, Chicago, and Pittsburgh and with the assistance of our American Property Tax Counsel (APTC) partners, we can help property owners in every major North American market. APTC members are recognized property tax attorneys knowledgeable about their markets and the issues that matter in their jurisdictions. Our National Portfolio Manager, Cheryl Kostura, recently joined CREW Cleveland as a member. Cheryl can be reached at (216) 763-1004 or [ckostura@siegeltax.com](mailto:ckostura@siegeltax.com).

Congratulations to CREW Cleveland members and leadership for continuing to foster business connections, education, and support in an unusual and challenging year. Best wishes for a healthy, happy New Year!

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