TAX COUNSELING & PREPARATION 1300 N SEMORAN BLVD, SUITE 100 ORLANDO, FL 32807

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Tax Checklist 2013

Dear Client:

Listed below is a helpful checklist to help you organize your tax documents this year, along with some frequently overlooked tax deductions that might help reduce your tax bill. If you have any questions about these or any other tax-related matters, please let us know during the interview conference or when mailing in your information. We look forward to seeing you soon!

<u>Charitable contributions</u>: In addition to the usual cash donations that you have made throughout the year, you may be able to deduct the cost of using your vehicle if you volunteer your time or provide a service to a qualified charitable, educational or nonprofit organization.

There are two options available for claiming vehicle expenses and, naturally, the IRS requires you to have "reliable written records" for either method:

To use the standard charitable mileage rate of 14¢ per mile, your records must show the name of the organization, the dates you drove your car for your charitable work and the number of miles driven.

To use the actual vehicle expenses, your records must show the costs of operating your vehicle that directly relate to your volunteer work.

You can also deduct parking fees and tolls regardless of which method is used.

So, if you are a scout leader, a Red Cross volunteer, spend a few hours helping out at the local Food Bank or are actively involved with your religious organization, your vehicle expenses may increase your charitable contribution deduction.

In addition to volunteer miles driven, you may have spent money out of your own pocket within the scope of your volunteer work. These expenses might include office supplies, uniforms, and even travel expenses if you were away from home while performing your charitable service. These documentation requirements for out-of-pocket expenses apply:

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You must have "adequate records" to prove the amount of the expenses.

You must obtain an acknowledgement from the organization before you file your tax return that contains a description of the services you provide, a statement that says you were not reimbursed for the expenses, and that you receive no tangible (other than religious) benefit from the organization.

The final point under the category of charitable contributions, is simply a reminder regarding noncash contributions: In recent years the IRS has stiffened the required documentation for donations of clothing and other household items to nonprofit organizations like the Salvation Army or the Goodwill Industries. "Three bags of clothing" or "two boxes of books" is not an adequate description of the donated items to claim the deduction. You must have a list of the donated items along with the fair market value you have placed on those items, and some form of receipt or acknowledgement from the organization.

Medical Expenses: In addition to the usual deductions for out-of-pocket medical expenses like prescriptions, copays, dental work and glasses, you may also be able to deduct the amount that you pay for medical insurance premiums. The deduction is not just limited to medical, hospitalization and prescription plans, it can also include dental, optical (including contact lens replacement coverage), and certain qualified long-term care plans. Also, the amounts you pay for Medicare Part B and D, and in some cases, Part A, are also deductible insurance premiums. As with the deduction for charitable miles, there is also a deduction for medical miles and the same two choices apply: the standard medical mileage rate or actual expenses. You can also deduct parking fees and tolls regardless of which method is used for car expenses.

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Helpful Tax Checklist

This form can be used to assist you in gathering your income tax information. Use it as a guide for information you need to provide. Any questions, please call or e-mail us.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

•	payers and all dependents, especially new
□ Address, (city, state, zip), telephone n	umber, and e-mail address.
□ Marital Status: Single Married	_ Head of Household Separated
□ Number of Dependents: Did any o	dependents have any income? Yes No
□ Do all dependents live with you?	Yes No
TYPES OF INCOME:	
□ Wages - All W-2's	□ Income from Rentals - All 1099-MISC
□ Pensions/Retirements - 1099-R	□ Business Income - All 1099-MISC
□ Social Security - SSA-1099	□ Farm Income
□ Bank Interest - 1099-INT	□ Alimony Received - Total amount
□ Dividends - 1099-DIV	□ Unemployment - 1099-G
□ Commissions - 1099-MISC	□ State Tax Refund - 1099-G
□ Tips and Gratuities Other	□ Miscellaneous - Jury Duty, Gambling,
□ Sales of Stock, Mutual Funds - 1099-B	

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BUSINESS INCOME & EXPENSE ITEMS: This list is not all encompassing. If you don't see an expense listed below, ask.

Total (Gross) Income Advertising Auto: Parking &Tolls

Business Phone Expense Cell Phone Expense Subcontractors

Commissions Paid Insurance Interest Paid

General Office Expense Rent/Lease Fees Paid Legal or Professional Fees

Repairs Cleaning/Maintenance Dues & Publications

Equipment/Supplies Tools License Fees/Taxes

Paid

Utilities Education Expense Association Dues

Bank/Credit Card Fees Postage Meals/Entertainment

Business Miles & Total Miles Asset Purchases Hotel/Travel Expense

ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR RENTAL PROPERTIES:

Keys Condo/PUD Fees Management Fees

Mortgage Statements Yard Work Termite Treatment Expense

Utilities Mileage/Travel Other

DEDUCTIONS/CREDITS TO INCOME:

Self-employed Health Insurance IRAs / Keogh/SEPs Student Loan Interest

Medical Savings Account Teacher Expense Child Tax Credit

Penalty on Early Withdrawal of Savings Foreign Tax Paid

American Opportunity/HOPE/Lifetime Learning Expenses Adoption Expenses

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- * Total Alimony Paid: Must have name and Social Security number of recipient, and amount paid.
- * Child Care/Day Care Credit: Must have name, address, Social Security number or EIN of provider, and amount paid.

ESTIMATED TAXES PAID:

Date payment was made, and the amount paid for each Federal and State quarterly tax estimate.

ITEMIZED DEDUCTIONS:

MEDICAL

Medical & Dental bills Prescriptions Glasses/Contact

Lenses

Out-of-pocket expenses Medical miles Lab fees

Hearing Aids Medical/dental/long term care insurance

TAXES

Prior year state tax paid City/local tax Sales tax

Real estate tax Personal property tax Other

CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS

Church Boy/Girl Scouts United Way/CFC

March of Dimes American Heart Easter Seals

Red Cross MDA/MS YWCA/YMCA

Salvation Army FoodBank Payroll deductions

Out-of-pocket Volunteer Expenses Charitable miles Other

List and Fair Market Value of household goods and clothing items given to Charitable Organizations.

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