

Marino and Associates, Inc.

January 2017

Dear Preferred Client:

New for 2016 tax year:

- Health insurance is required and you should have received form 1095 (or SSA-1099). Bring this form to your tax appointment.
- If your drivers' license is new or renewed, bring your drivers' license or state ID to your tax appointment.
- If you are claiming a dependent on your tax return, IRS wants you to show us documentation to that fact. So bring with you to your tax appointment, some documents showing your name, the dependent's name, your address and the 2016 date. This could be a doctor bill, school record, etc.
- If you have college tuition paid, bring your paper copy of form 1098-T issued to you from your college or university. In addition, if the form 1098-T does not show the payments received for qualified tuition and related expenses (in Box 1), then we need your documentation of tuition paid, like canceled checks, receipts or account statement.
- The Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes Act of 2015 (PATH Act) adds more requirements for paid tax preparers. Form 8867 is now required for all tax returns with the Additional Child Tax Credit and the American Opportunity Credit. In the past, it was only for Earned Income Tax Credits. Yes, there is an additional tax preparation fee for this form.
- IRS and Oregon Department of Revenue warn that there could be a delay in receiving some refunds this year as they try to weed out the fraudulent tax returns.
- For preparing a partnership tax return (form 1065), the new due date is March 15.

With the rising home prices, some of our clients are thinking about selling their homes. Since this can be a taxable event, you should talk to us, first.

I have enclosed a copy of my "2016 Tax Organizer and Deduction Finder". I hope you find this a valuable tool. Please bring this completed organizer and the enclosed "Engagement Letter", signed by you and your spouse (if applicable) to your appointment. If you would like a more detailed and customized organizer, just let me know.

When completing the "2016 Tax Organizer and Deduction Finder", read the whole line. Some lines have more than one item. If anything in the statement pertains to you, check the box. If you are not sure, put a "?" in the box and your tax preparer will better explain it to you.

Please follow these steps in this order:

- Complete the Tax Organizer and Engagement letter.
- Gather all your 2016 documents and information.
- When you have all your documents and information, call for an appointment. If you are missing one or two documents that you know come in late, like K-1's or stockbroker statements, you can still schedule an early appointment. We will add the missing documents when you drop them off at our office.

Avoid our new "Tax Preparer Stress Fee" added to you invoice by having your tax return completed 30 days before the due date.

If you want to avoid the rush in April, we can file for an extension for you. As long as you do not owe any taxes or make an estimated tax payment with the extension, an extension gives you until October 16, 2017 to file your individual tax return. Actually, if you have a refund due, you have three years, until April 15, 2020 to claim it. There are generally no penalties for filing late when you are due a refund.

For our clients who cannot manage my stairs, you can call our office for help in avoiding our stairs.

Parking near our office is tight. There are two parking spaces in front of our office door. They are for 30 minutes only, but we will pay the parking ticket on our first 25 clients who get a parking ticket during their tax appointment.

Again this year, we are helping the Society of St. Vincent de Paul with their food collection. You can earn a discount on your 2016 tax preparation fee – one can of food equals \$1 discount on your tax preparation fee, up to \$15, maximum. (Only good for our returning clients when we prepared their 2015 tax return, last year). We collected 348 can goods last year.

Your tax return documents contain your personal and confidential information. Secure it in a safe place so if you need it again, you know where it is. Additional copies of your tax return are only available at our office. There is a fee of \$25 per year.

Beware of scammers and swindlers. Do not respond to any telephone calls, emails or letters that you suspect may not be legitimate from the IRS or other taxing authority. Call our office, first.

Please feel free to call me at 503-239-4716, with any questions or concerns. We look forward to seeing you, again, soon.

Sincerely,

Dale Marino EA LTC

*Income Tax Preparation Services
fast and painless*

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