



JOE M. TUCKER

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT, P.C.

Dear Joe M. Tucker CPA Family,

As we enter another New Year we wanted to share a few things that are on our minds as we look to tax season 2018. Since 1976 Joe M Tucker CPA, P.C. has offered its client's proficient, personal and professional accounting services. The reason that we are still here after 40 years is because of your loyalty and confidence in our professional services to you, and we are so grateful for you and wish you a happy and prosperous 2018!

Growth is a Good Thing!

One of the experiences that we are always humbled and appreciative of is business growth, and not just our growth...yours! To see our clients prosper is one of our greatest joys. It is a theme that is consistent when our staff gathers to pray for you, because we desire to see our family of clients and businesses grow financially. Revenue growth brings blessings to business owners, employees and the community. We are thankful to have watched your growth and also received this blessing ourselves through the years. As you well know, with growth there are often new challenges and opportunities. As we have grown, especially for the past few years, we have had to make changes in the way that we structure our workload inside the office during tax season. One of the main ways that we have had to adapt through the years is to go from a "one man show" to a team approach in satisfying our client's needs. 2018 will be no different. We have come to see that dependence on only one person to get all the work done in a timely manner is a burden that is unfair and unsustainable. As much as we may desire for it to be untrue, unfortunately there is only one Joe Tucker and he can't possibly handle every situation all the time by himself. Nevertheless, one of Joe's strengths has been to have a vision for hiring only college degreed professionals and consistently train them to his approach to professional accounting. Fortunately for you, our team is ready now more than ever to assist in the efforts to serve our community with proficient, personal and professional accounting services alongside Joe.

What does this mean for you?

Joe Tucker is NOT retiring. This letter is not intended to prepare you for Joe's exit from the accounting profession. It is an effort to inform you of our plan to restructure the way office work gets done.

You can still meet face to face with Joe by appointment. All of our staff, including Joe, have specific hours dedicated to appointments and drop off work. This means we are more available for you. If Joe's appointment calendar is full, please consider meeting with one of our other team members to help you or if a face to face meeting is not necessary we encourage you to drop off your work. We will always inform you if there are informational items missing in order for us to process your return.

All work is always reviewed before it goes out the door. Being careful with your tax work has been one of Joe's consistent traits since he began. We have always done this, and will continue to do this. Sometimes having two or three pairs of eyes on your work takes time, but we always want to make sure it's done right!

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Our Team commitment to you

As we look to the 2018 tax season we want to remind you of a few of the team commitments at Joe M. Tucker CPA, P.C.:

- We are committed to be **Proficient**
 - Doing all our work in a knowledgeable, experienced, and skilled fashion.
- We are committed to be **Personal**
 - Being available, kind, and ready to offer the very best customer service to each person we encounter.
- We are committed to be **Professional**
 - Always act ethically, confidentially and responsibly.

Tax Cuts and Job's Act

Though extremely new (the IRS just released preliminary notices on tax tables for 2018 on January 12) there are significant changes coming for 2018 returns. Below we have listed a few tax planning thoughts regarding TCJA changes for individuals.

Changes to Income Tax Brackets: This could mean more take home pay on your paycheck this year once your employer implements new tax tables.

Changes to Personal Exemptions and Standard Deductions: On next year's tax return (2018) there will be significant changes to Schedule A deductions. The new law will eliminate deductions for personal exemptions, but increase the standard deduction to \$12,000 for single filers and \$24,000 for married, joint filers. Also the following itemized deductions are being modified or eliminated:

- The deduction for state and local income, sales and property taxes is capped at \$10,000.
- The deduction for mortgage interest is reduced, and only allowable on up to \$750,000 of acquisition indebtedness (note that mortgages incurred on or before Dec. 15, 2017, are grandfathered in and thus still allowed \$1 million of acquisition indebtedness).
- The home equity loan interest deduction is repealed.
- Taxpayers will be allowed to deduct medical expenses if they exceed 7.5% of adjusted gross income (instead of 10%) for tax years 2017 and 2018.

Child Tax Credit increase: The Child Tax credit has increased to \$2,000. In addition the phase out limits have increased to \$400,000 Married filing jointly (\$200,000 all other taxpayers). This is good news since it can help counter negative effect due to the elimination of the personal deduction.

Miscellaneous Itemized Deductions Suspended: These are the deductions that only give benefit when they are larger than 2% of your adjusted gross income. Some of these suspended deductions are union dues, hobby expenses, safe deposit box rental, and investment expenses. Included in this category are unreimbursed business expenses. Those of you who counted on extra deductions for out of pocket expenses that your employer would not reimburse may want to talk with them about other arrangements.

These are just a few of the changes coming to your 2018 returns that will be filed in April 2019. When we file your returns this year we should be able to look ahead together to prepare for what 2019 will look like via tax projections.

Again, thank you for trusting us with your tax and accounting needs. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Joe M. Tucker CPA, P.C.

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