



JOE M. TUCKER

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT, P.C.

Dear Clients and Friends,

As we look to 2017 we wanted to make you aware of a few things that will help to make this a smooth and successful tax season. We are excited to start our 41st year serving you and look forward to what the New Year will bring!

Form 1099

We have been warned for the past several years that the IRS will be cracking down on Form 1099 information returns. This year they have increased the penalty for incorrectly filing one of these returns and increased the due dates on getting them to the individuals to whom they are due. We are always happy to answer any questions you have regarding sending 1099s.

In general, for those whom we serve, this rule applies: **If you made a payment as a small business, a farm, or a sole proprietor to an independent contractor in the amount of \$600 or more you must supply them with a 1099.**

The IRS has provided the following information regarding 1099 Penalties:

“If you fail to file a correct information return by the due date and you cannot show reasonable cause, you may be subject to a penalty. The penalty applies if you fail to file timely, you fail to include all information required to be shown on a return, or you include incorrect information on a return. The penalty also applies if you file on paper when you were required to file electronically, you report an incorrect TIN or fail to report a TIN, or you fail to file paper forms that are machine readable. The amount of the penalty is based on when you file the correct information return. The penalty is as follows. \$50 per information return if you correctly file within 30 days (by March 30 if the due date is February 28); maximum penalty \$532,000 per year (\$186,000 for small businesses). \$100 per information return if you correctly file more than 30 days after the due date but by August 1; maximum penalty \$1,596,500 per year (\$532,000 for small businesses). \$260 per information return if you file after August 1 or you do not file required information returns; maximum penalty \$3,193,000 per year (\$1,064,000 for small businesses). If you do not file corrections and you do not meet any of the exceptions, the penalty is \$260 per information return”

As always, we are happy to take care of this for you but need you to provide the amounts, names, addresses, and social security numbers if you have not already done so. Thank you for your prompt response! In the past some of you have emailed the information needed to us; you may do that again by emailing your information to **1099@joemtuckercpa.com**.

Alabama Driver’s License Number

From now on Alabama state returns will require the use of your driver’s license number with issue and expiration dates. If you do not have a driver’s license you will need to obtain a state issued identification card. If you do not have a valid driver’s license or state issued identification we will have to paper file your state return. Please check to be sure your license has not expired.

Technology

Since we began using desktop computers for accounting in 1977, our firm has maintained the highest levels of technology to better serve our clients. Technology moves fast in the 21st century and each year we are adding services and enhancements for the benefit of our clients. We understand that these enhancements sometimes take a few years to catch on, but we wanted to take the opportunity to introduce you to some of the services available through Joe M. Tucker CPA, P.C. in 2017:

Client Portals

- The Client Portal will allow you to view and retrieve your Tax Returns through a secure space via our website. Your portal will be completely confidential and unique to you as a client. This will allow you to receive a digital copy of your tax return or any other information that we can provide for you. In order for us to set up your unique portal please provide us with your email address. If we already have an email address on file you will receive an email prompting you to register your portal.

FileDrop

- File drop is a feature through our website that allows you to simply and securely send us any size documents. This service can be accessed through the “FileDrop” button on the front page of our Website (www.joemtucker CPA.com). We encourage you to use this feature when sending something in a secure digital format. After clicking on the link, fill out the form, choose a recipient, and drag or browse for the file you want to send us and click the upload button.

Web Employer/Employee Self Service

- This service allows businesses or their employees to input payroll information, hours, change deductions, and other useful features using a secure portal. It also allows us to send employee paystubs and W2s to each employee in their own secure portal.

RightSignature

- RightSignature is a service that allows us to receive your signature via email. Many of you are already familiar with this service, as we have been using it over the past few years. Your signature may be typed, signed with your computer mouse, or your finger on touch devices.

Make a Payment online

- Have you ever wanted to pay your bill with us online or use a credit or debit card? Now you can. There is now a “Make A Payment” button at the header of our homepage. Feel free to use this service in the convenience of your home or office to pay invoices, or we can do it for you when you stop by. While we are happy to provide this new service to you we will assess a 5% convenience fee for all of these transactions.

Scheduling Tax Preparation or Drop offs

Please remember to call the office early in the season to make your appointment for income tax preparation or any other business services. Any of our staff will be happy to assist you with making an appointment or answer any tax questions you may have. Also please let us know if you would like a tax organizer to assist in gathering your 2016 income tax information. It can easily be sent via US Mail or Email. In an effort to continue providing personal and efficient tax appointments, please make note of two important updates:

1 – Tax appointments for this year will **only** be held through Friday April 7. If your schedule will not allow for you to meet prior to this time we are happy to file an extension for you and schedule a more in-depth appointment after April 15th.

2 – Just like last year Mark Tucker is available for client tax appointments. We have found that our efficiency has gone up dramatically with the addition of Mark taking on individual appointments, handling drop off information and assisting with complicated returns. This has allowed Joe to be more heavily involved in the review process which insures return preparation accuracy.

Thank you for being our client and allowing us to assist with your tax and financial needs; if we have had any success it is because of the loyalty and confidence you have shown us over the years. We are most grateful for the opportunity to serve you the past 40 years and look forward with excitement to many more to come.

Best Regards!

Joe M Tucker CPA, P.C.

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