

2020 National Income Tax Workbook **Chapter 9: Individual Issues – PART 1**

Issue 2: Casualty Losses Pg. 302

$\operatorname{Pg}\,302$ **Casualty Defined** FEDERALLY DECLARED SUDDEN, UNEXPECTED, CAUSES DAMAGE OR UNEXPECTED, DESTRUCTION OF DISASTER – WEATHER UNUSUAL, SWIFT UNINTENDED, PROPERTY - NOT DESTRUCTION OR ECONOMIC UNUSUAL EVENT CAUSED BY PETS, WILLFUL ACTS OR WILLFUL NEGLIGENCE

Personal Property

pg 302 - 303

• I.R.C. § 165(c)(3) – losses allowable if casualty

- 2018 thru 2025 = Federally Declared Disaster Areas only
- Calculating a loss = smaller of
 - Property's adjusted tax basis
 - Decreased in FMV
 - Reduce gross loss by insurance proceeds
 - Proceeds > deductible loss = NO LOSS
 - Reportable Gain?

Loss Deduction Limits

- \$100 for each separate casualty
- 10% of taxpayer's AGI (after \$ 100 reduction) = SUM of all personal casualty losses
- Practitioner Note: Disaster Relief Act of 2019
 - Continued until 1/19/20 & declared before 2.19.20
 - \$500 for each separate casualty & NO 10% AGI limitation even if don't itemize
 - Occurred in 2018 AND before Dec 21, 2019

Losses Offset Gains



Examples

Example 9.5 Personal Casualty Loss \$ 10,000 personal casualty loss
\$ 85,000 AGI
NO deductible loss (no federal disaster)
Example 9.6 Personal Casualty Loss Offset
\$ 16,000 personal casualty gain
\$ 10,000 personal casualty loss
\$ 85,000 AGI

✓\$ 6,100 casualty gain (\$ 16,000 – (10,000 – 100))

Example 9.7 Federally Declared Disaster Loss pg 303

- \checkmark Same facts as 9.6 except
- $\checkmark\$$ 20,000 personal casualty loss
- ✓ Federally declared disaster
- √\$ 6,100 loss offsets \$ 6,100 gain
- ✓\$ 5,300 deductible loss [(\$ 20,000 100) \$ 6,100 gain - \$ 8,500 AGI limit]

Costs Not Included in Loss

pg 303 -304

- Cleaning after casualty
- Repairing or replacing damaged/destroyed property
- Temporary housing
- Rental car
- Incidental expenses
- Decreased FMV = substantiation

PRACTITIONER NOTE

Protective Measures

The taxpayer cannot include in a casualty loss deduction the cost of proactive measures taken to protect personal property from a potential casualty loss. Such measures include boarding up windows in anticipation of a hurricane and sandbagging an area in anticipation of a flood. The taxpayer can deduct the cost to protect business property as a business expense.

Proof of Loss

- Type of casualty and when it occurred
- And direct result of the casualty
- That taxpayer owed the property (or, if the taxpayer leased the property, that the taxpayer was contractually liable to the owner for the damage)
- Whether there is a reasonable expectation of recover from a claim for reimbursement



Calculating a Gain pg 304

- Involuntary conversion rules
 - Reinvest in similar or related use property
 - Replacement period
 - 2 years after year of gain
 - $\cdot\,4$ years after year of loss
- Treas. Reg. § 1.1033(a)-2(b) nonrecognition of gain is mandatory if property is involuntarily or compulsorily converted

Example 9.8

pg 304 - 305

FIGURE 9.2 Statement re Deferral of Casualty Gain

destroyed garage Deferral of Casualty Gain under LR.C. § 1033

• Basis \$ 15,000

• 2020 Hurricane

- Insurance proceeds\$ 35,000
- Rebuild costs \$ 45,000
- Deferred Gain = \$ 20,000 (35,000 -15,000)

On February 8, 2020, Jenna Silverstein realized a casualty gain from the collapse of a garage caused by a hurricane. The taxpayer postpones this casualty gain and has purchased replacement property that is similar or related in use.

Insurance proceeds received	\$35,000
Adjusted tax basis	(15,000)
Gain realized	\$20,000
Gain deferred	(20,000)
Gain recognized	\$ 0
Cost of replacement property (garage)	\$45,000
Gain deferred	(20,000)
Basis of replacement property	\$25,000

Reporting Individual Losses & Gains pg 305

- Form 4684, Section A
- I.R.C. § 165 = ordinary
- Form 1040, Schedule A if loss
- Form 1040, Schedule D if gain

Example 9.9 Casualty Loss pg 305

- 2020 Tornado
- Federally declared disaster area
- Personal residence and personal property destroyed
- Coin collection
- Gain from insurance proceeds

Item	Date Acquired	Adjusted Basis	FMV Before	FMV After	Difference In FMV	Insurance Payment	Gain or (Loss)
House, land, and trees	2/01/2007	\$287,000	\$523,000	\$235,000	\$288,000	\$257,000	\$ (30,000)
Household items	Various	86,878	65,000	0	65,000	50,000	(15,000) ²
Coin collection	Various	3,546	6,000	0	6,000	6,000	2,4543
Anne's car	7/19/2018	14,000	13,000	0	13,000	0	(13,000)4

FIGURE 9.3 Tornado Damaged Personal Property

² \$50,000 insurance proceeds – \$65,000 decrease in FMV (\$65,000 decrease in FMV is less than the \$86,878 adjusted basis)

³ \$6,000 insurance proceeds – \$3,546 adjusted basis (\$3,546 adjusted basis is less than the \$6,000 decrease in FMV)

* \$0 insurance proceeds - \$13,000 decrease in FMV (\$13,000 decrease in FMV is less than the \$14,000 adjusted basis)

FIGURE 9.4 Form 4684, Casualties and Thefts, Section A, Personal Use Property

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Pg 307

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see Instructions.

your tax return

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Call, No. 1 (1997G)

Film 4684 (mm)

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Topics on pg 308

- Multiple Casualties during the year
- Mixed-Use Property
- Timing & Deductibility of Losses
- Reimbursement < expected = Loss
- Reimbursement > expected = Additional Income

Polling Question 1

When multiple casualties occur within the same year the \$100 floor limitation _____.

- a. Is deducted from only one of the events.
- b.Isn't deducted for personal losses.
- c. Is deducted from each of the events.

Temporary Living Expenses pg 308

- >I.R.C. § 123 insurance reimbursement excluded from income
- Costs = actual temporary living expenses household's normal expenses
- Expenses = rent, meals, utilities, transportation, laundry, misc
- >Excess payments = taxable income

Pg 308

Example 9.10 Reimbursed Temp. Living Exp

Facts same as 9.9

Insurance proceeds for Temp Living = \$ 15,900

Normal living costs = \$10,000

Actual Temp Living costs = \$14,500

Exclude \$ 4,500 (14,500 - 10,000)

Taxable Income = \$ 11,400 (15,900 – 4,500)



Deduction of Loss

pg 309







Form 4684, Section B Investment – Form 1040, Schedule A Business Property – form 4797

PRACTITIONER NOTE Passive Activity Loss Limits

Treas. Reg. § 1.469-2(d)(2)(xi) excepts casualty losses from the passive activity loss deduction limits.

PRACTITIONER NOTE

Casualty Gain

Prior use of the section 179 expense election and accelerated depreciation frequently results in a casualty gain. However, the taxpayer may be able to defer that gain if he or she purchases replacement property. The deferral of gain is discussed later in this section. Example 9.11 Trade or Business Prop. Loss

pg 309

>2015 Purchased Business Building = \$ 245,000
>Adj. Basis = \$ 225,000
>2020 tornado destroyed building
>Insurance proceeds = \$ 155,000
>Loss = \$ 57,377 (212,377 - 155,000)
>Form 4684, Schedule B

FIGURE 9.5 Form 4684, Casualties and Thefts

Section B, Business and Income-Producing Property

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Fuie 4684 (2010)

Example 9.12 Rental Property Loss pg 311

- Rental Home purchased \$ 185,000
- Adj. Basis \$ 121,379
- FMV \$ 245,000
- 2020 Wildfire, no insurance
- Estimated Restoration cost \$ 75,350
- Loss Deduction \$ 75,350 (lower of Adj. Basis or restoration cost)
- Adjust Basis by Loss Deduction

Example 9.13

Income-Producing Property Loss pg 311

Gem investor
Lockbox in basement for his Gems
Basis \$ 7,855
Uninsured
2020 basement flooded and Gems lost
Loss Deduction \$ 7,855
Form 1040, Schedule A

FIGURE 9.6 Dori Frank's Schedule A (Form 1040), Itemized Deductions

Casualty and Theft Losses		Casualty and theft lossies) from a federalty declared disaster (other than net qualified disaster losses). Attach Form 4684 and enter the amount from line 18 of that form. See instructions		2.50
Other	tő	Other-from list in instructions. List type and amount >		
Itemized		FORM 4644, INCOME PRODUCING PROPERTY 7,855		
Deductions			15	7,85

Pgs 311 - 312

OBSERVATION

Income-Producing Property Losses

Losses on income producing property are miscellaneous itemized deductions that are not subject to the 2%-of-AGI reduction. Income producing property for this purpose is property held for investment. Because the IRS considers rental real estate to be business property for a casualty loss deduction, taxpayers can deduct a rental property loss even if they did not itemize deductions.

Deferral of Gain

pg 312



Reimbursement = similar property



Basis in new property = Adj. of replaced property



Realizes & Reports Gain = money or unlike property received



Deferred Gain = similar property



Postponed Gain – only if cost of replacement = reimbursement amount



Excess Reimbursement = included income Replacement Period

- 2 years after close of 1st tax year of realized gain
- 4 years following loss of main home in Federally Declared Disaster Area
- Extension of replacement period apply to IRS
 - Limited to not more than 1 year
 - Construction of replacement period IRS may grant extension

Replacement Property pg 312

- Specified use, purpose & similar
- Cannot be gifted or inherited
- \cdot Can use borrowed funds
- Federally declared disaster area

- Purchased Truck \$ 46,500
- Business Use
- Elected § 179
- Adj. Basis = \$ 0
- 2020 Mudslide
- Federally declared disaster area
- Insurance Proceeds \$ 32,000
- Gain = \$ 32,000 (Insurance Proceeds – Adj. Basis)
- Ordinary Gain § 1245 Recapture
- Form 4797, Part III

Example 9.14 Basis of Replacement Property pg 313

FIGURE 9.7 Samantha Saunders's Form 4797, Part III

Par	Gain From Disposition of Property Und (see instructions)	ler Se	ctions 1245, 125	50, 1252, 1254	, and 1255		
19	(a) Description of section 1245, 1250, 1252, 1254, or 1251	5 prope	пу:		(b) Dute acquires, day, 1		(c) Date noid (mo., nity, yr.)
. A	2019 FORD F350		2/01/201		2/10/2020		
8				_			
C						_	
D							
-	These columns relate to the properties on lines 1M through 180		Property A	Property B	Property	c	Property D
20	Gross sales price (Note: See trie 1 before completing.)	20	32,000				
21	Cost or other basis plus expense of sale	21	46,500			_	
22	Depreciation (or depletion) allowed or allowable.	22	46,500				
23	Adjusted basis. Subtract line 22 from line 21.	23	0				
	and the second	24					
24	Total gain. Subtract line 23 from line 20	-24	32,600				
215	If section 1245 property:	254	22.200			- 1	
	Depreciation allowed or allowable from line 22	25b	46,500				
		200	32,000				
	If section 1250 property: If straight live depreciation was used, anter -0 on live 25g, except for a corporation subject to section 291.	1222					
	Additional depreciation after 1975. See instructions	200					
	Applicable percentage multiplied by the smaller of line 24 or line 26a. See instructions.	200					
c	Subtract line 28a from line 24. If residential rental property or line 24 isn't more than line 26a, skip lines 26d and 26e	280					
et	Additional depreciation after 1969 and before 1976.	26d					
-	Enter the smaller of line 26c or 20d	260					
1	Section 291 amount (corporations only)	201					
9	Add lines 26b, 26e, and 26f	20g			-	_	
	If section 1252 property: Skip this section if you cidn't dispose of farmland or if this form is being completed for a partnership. Son, water, and land clearing expenses	278					
	Line 27a multiplied by applicable percentage. See instructions	270					
	Enter the smaller of line 24 or 27b	27c				_	
20	If section 1254 property:					-	
	Intangible drilling and development costs, expenditume for development of mines and other natural deposits, mining exploration costs, and depletion. See instructions	280					
ь	Enter the emailer of line 24 or 26a.	290			-		
1.175.75	If section 1255 property:	1 4000					
	Applicable percentage of payments excluded from income under section 125. See instructions	290					
. 8	Enter the smaller of line 24 or 28a. See instructions	290		1		-	
	mary of Part III Gains. Complete property colum	nns A t	through D through	h line 29b befor	e going to lin	e 30.	
90	Total gains for all properties. Add property columns A thro				A . A . A .	00	32,00
31	Add property columns A through D, lines 25b, 26g, 27c, 2	8b, and	29b. Enter here and	on the 13	S. S. Sala	31	32,00
92	Subtract line 31 from line 30. Enter the portion from casu	with a start	mail on Eners Abird	line 23. Enter the	material frances		

- Same facts as 9.14
- Replaces truck by 2020
 - Any tangible business property
 - Postponed gain
- Adj. Basis of replacement property = purchase price insurance proceeds
 - New truck \$ 48,000
 - Adj. Basis = \$ 16,000 (\$ 48,000 32,000)
- If NOT Federally declared disaster area – replacement property = similar property

Example 9.15 pg 315

Loss of Inventory pg 315

Reporting Method 1:

- Record loss as increased COGS
- Gross Income = insurance proceeds, sales, reimbursements
- Cannot claim Casualty Loss

Reporting Method 2:

- Deduct loss separately
- Form 4684
- Removes from COGS
- Form 4684 = Reimbursements received
Example 9.16 pg 315

- Business in Federally declared disaster area
- Kitchen cabinets = \$ 38,000
- Storm damage = \$ 6,500
- Labor & Material cost = 6,500
- Sold cabinets for \$ 18,000
- Net loss = 26,500 (18,000 38,000 6,500)
- Report on Form 1040, Schedule C
 COGS = \$44,500 (\$38,000 + 6,500)
 - Income = \$ 18,000
- OR Report on Form 4684, Section B
 - Nothing on Schedule C
- Practitioner Note: Timing Differences

Issue 3: Disaster Relief

Pg. 316

Pg 316

- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) – administers relief
- 2020 Nationwide Emergency -- § 501(b)
 Due to COVID-19

Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief & Emergency Assistance Act (Act 42 U.S.C. Chapter 68)

Casualty Loss NOT in Book

- Michigan federally declared disaster in 2020
- Flooding & Severe Storms

EM-3525-MI Midland & Gladwin

DR-4547 Midland, Gladwin, Arenac, Iosco, Saginaw

Michigan Disasters 2020

- <u>Michigan SEVERE STORMS AND FLOODING (DR-4547-MI)</u>
- Incident Period: May 16, 2020 May 22, 2020 Major Disaster Declaration declared on July 9, 2020
- Michigan SEVERE STORMS AND FLOODING (EM-3525-MI)
- Incident Period: May 16, 2020 and continuing Emergency Declaration declared on May 21, 2020
- Michigan COVID-19 PANDEMIC (DR-4494-MI)
- Incident Period: January 20, 2020 and continuing
- Major Disaster Declaration declared on March 27, 2020
- Michigan COVID-19 (EM-3455-MI)
- Incident Period: January 20, 2020 and continuing
- Emergency Declaration declared on March 13, 2020

Polling Question 1

A Federally Declared Disaster Area may be due to:

- a.Tornado
- b.Flood
- c. Economic d.All of the above



Practitioner Note – Relief Programs

Small Business Administration Programs

Paycheck Protection (PPP) Chap. 16

Economic Disaster Relief Loans (EIDL)

EIDL Advance

- Under Disaster Relief Act NO COD on forgiveness
 - Reimbursement for the loss
 - Reduces casualty loss deduction

Federal Loan Canceled pg 316

- Not included in income
- Eligible expense
 - Reasonable and necessary personal, family, living, or funeral expenses incurred as a result of the qualified disaster
 - Reasonable and necessary expenses for repair or rehabilitation of a personal residence (rented or owned) to the extent the need for repair or rehabilitation is attributable to the qualified disaster
 - Reasonable and necessary expenses for repair or replacement of the contents of a personal residence to the extent the need for repair or replacement is attributable to the qualified disaster
- Payments to promote the general welfare by federal, state or local governments

• Practitioner Note: COVID-19 Employer Relief

Qualified Disaster Relief Payments

Pg 317

Pg 317

Qualified Disaster Mitigation Payments

Excludable from income AND no basis adjustment

Does not apply to amounts from sale or disposition

- 2020 FEMA Grant to elevate the house
- Form 1099 received "other income"
- Excludable income
- No basis Adj. of the home

Example 9.17 Flood Hazard Mitigation Practitioner Note —

Grants to Business pg 317

• NOT excludable

- I.R.C. § 139 applies only to individuals
 - -- not for general welfare
- •I.R.C. § 1033 elect to defer gain realized

Principal Residence in a Disaster Area – Gain Recognition pg 318

No recognized gain – unscheduled personal property

Single item of property, similar or related in use

Replacement period 4 years after end of year gain realized

- Principal residence
- 2020 flood federally declared disaster
- Insurance proceeds = \$ 200,000
- Unscheduled personal property proceeds = \$ 25,000
- Scheduled personal property proceeds
 = \$ 5,000 Jewelry & \$ 10,000 stamp collection
- No gain on unscheduled personal property
- Postponed gain \$ 215,000

Example 9.18 Insurance Gain in Disaster Area

pg 318

Polling Question 2

п

The replacement period for a taxpayers main home destroyed in a federally declared disaster area is:

a. 2 years
b. 3 years
c. 4 years
d. There is no replacement period on a main home

- 1 year for most affected by federally declared disaster area
- Abatement of interest & penalties
- If qualify write reason in margin of tax return, ex. "Texas Tornadoes"
- Affected Taxpayers:
 - Main home in covered disaster area
 - Business entity or sole proprietorship principal place of business in covered disaster area
 - Relief worker assisting victims in covered disaster area
 - Individual, business entity or sole proprietorship whose records were in covered disaster area
 - Estate or trust whose records were in covered disaster area
 - Spouse on a joint return with a taxpayer who is eligible for postponements
 - Any other person who the IRS determines to be affected

Postponed Tax Deadlines pg 318

COVID-19 Postponements pg 319

- July 15^{th}
- Rev. Proc. 2018-58, 2018-50
- I.R.B. 990
- Notice 2020-23



Pg 319

PRACTITIONER NOTE State Income Tax

This relief applies only to certain federal tax filing and payment deadlines. State filing and payment deadlines vary and are not always the same as the federal filing and payment deadline. Thus, the tax practitioner should check with his or her state tax agencies for information about deadlines.

CROSS-REFERENCE

Employment Taxes

See the "New Legislation: Part 2" chapter in this book for discussion of relief that allows employers to delay the deposit of certain employment taxes.

Timing of Loss Deduction pg 319 YEAR OF LOSS PRECEDING YEAR ELECT PRIOR YEAR - 6 MONTH AFTER DUE DATE

Issue 1: Health Care Deduction

Medical & Dental Expense pg 294

- Itemized deduction subject to 7.5% of AGI
 - + January 01, 2019 thru
 - -December 31, 2020
- Health Savings Account (HSA) Contributions
- Flexible Spending Arrangements (FSA) Contributions
- Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA)

$\operatorname{Pg}294$

Example 9.1 Calculating the Deduction

- Henry & Wanda are married with one dependent child
- AGI = \$ 300.000
- Medical Expenses of \$ 30,000
- \$ 5,000 Insurance Reimbursement

How much is their eligible medical expenses if they itemize?

• \$ 25,000

How much is their allowable medical deduction if they itemize?

• $2,500 (25,000 - 300,000 \times 7.5\%)$



Pg 294

Definition of Medical Care

- for the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment, or prevention of disease, or for the purpose of affecting any structure or function of the body;
- 2. for transportation primarily for and essential to medical care described in (1):



Pg 294

Definition of Medical Care

- For qualified long-term care services [as defined in I.R.C. § 7702B(c) and discussed later]: OR
- 4. For insurance (including amounts paid as Medicare Part B premiums) covering medical care described in (1) or (2), or for any qualified longterm care insurance contract [as defined in I.R.C. § 7702B(b) and discussed later].



Other eligible medical expenses pg 295

- Lodging
 - Away from home for essential medical care
 - Medical care provided by physician in licensed hospital (or equivalent)
 - No significant element of personal pleasure
 - \$ 50 per night per person maximum

Prescribed Drugs

- Prescribed by physician
- Drug or biological used by an individual
- I.R.C. § 216(b)
- Not Controlled substances like Marijuana

NOT IN THE CHAPTER

Practitioner Pointer

Medical Marijuana

- >Rev. Rul. 97-9. 1997-1CB77 controlled substances are ineligible prescription drug
- ≻Treas. Reg § 1.213-1(e)(2) prescription must be legally procured

>Pub 502 – illegal/controlled substances are ineligible

>INFO 2010-0080 Chief Counsel Letter to Senator Schumer
>Naturopathic care, including herbs, can qualify as medical care
>Dickie v. Commissioner, T.C. Memo. 1999-138
>Crain v Commissioner, T.C. Memo. 1986-138
>Tso v Commissioner, T.C. Memo 1980-399

Capital Expenditures

pg 295

- Eye glasses
- Seeing eye dog
- Artificial teeth & limbs
- Durable medical equipment wheelchair, crutches, inclinator or air conditioner detachable from property
- Permanent improvement or betterment of property
 > increased value of the related property

$Example \ 9.2-Improvement \ to \ Property$

- Cindy has heart disease
- Physician advises her to install an elevator
- Cost of elevator = 20,000
- Increased value of residence = \$ 10,000
- Eligible medical expense = \$ 10,000 (\$ 20,000 10,000)
- Cost of installation separate from cost of elevator = 100% medical expense because it does not increase the value of the residence



Chronically Ill Individual

pg 295

- Is unable to perform (without substantial assistance from another individual) at least 2 ADL's (eating, bathing, or dressing) for a period of at least 90 days due to a loss of functional capacity;
- Has a level of disability similar to the level of disability described in (1); OR
- Requires substantial supervision to protect such individual from threats to health and safety due to severe cognitive impairment

Institution Expenses pg 295-296 Treas. Reg. § 1.213-1(e)(1)(v)

Inpatient hospital care

Non-hospital Care – Facts & Circumstances

Example 9.3 Meals & Lodging pg 296

Patricia, 80 years old

Moved to nursing home

Medication management only

Meals & lodging are NOT medical care

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Baker v. Commissioner, 122 T.C. 143

- Independent living facility
- Percentage method to total monthly service fees
 - Allocable to medical care

Education Expenses

pg 296

- Special school for special needs individual
- Cost include:
 - Meals & lodging
 - Ordinary education
 - Medical care cost of care and supervision, or of treatment & training, of a mentally or physically handicapped person at a school etc.

At-Home Care Expenses

• I.R.C. § 262 – disallows a deduction for personal living & family expenses that are not medical

- Estate of Marantz v. Commissioner, 39 T.C.M. 515 (1979)
 - 40% Medical expense for caregivers

pg 296-297

PRACTITIONER NOTE

Employment Taxes

In Rev. Rul. 57-489, 1957-2 C.B. 207, the IRS ruled that the FICA tax paid on an expenditure that qualifies as a medical expense is also a deductible medical expense under section 213.
Pg 297

Rev. Rul. 76-106, 1976-1 C.B. 71

- At-home Caregiver
- Pd wages, meals & lodging
- Apportion time between nursing-type services and other
- Portion of wages not attributed to Medical are NOT deductible
- •Example 9.4

Qualified Long-Term Care Insurance Contract I.R.C. § 7702B

- 1. The only insurance protection provided under the contract is coverage of qualified long-term care services
- 2. The contract does not pay or reimburse expenses incurred for services or items to the extent that such expenses are reimbursable under title XVIII of Social Security Act or would be so reimbursable but for the application of a deductible or coinsurance amount
- 3. The contract is guaranteed renewable
- 4. The contract does not provide for a cash surrender value or other money that can be paid, assigned, or pledged as collateral for a loan, or borrowed, other than certain allowed refunds
- 5. All refunds of premiums (other than refunds due to death of the insured or a complete surrender or cancellation of the policy), and all policy holder dividends or similar amounts, under the contract are to be applied as a reduction in further premiums or to increase future benefits
- 6. The contract provides certain consumer protection provisions specified in §7702B(g)

	2018	2019	2020
40 or less	\$420	\$420	\$430
More than 40, less than 51	780	790	810
More than 50, less than 61	1,560	1,580	1,630
More than 60, less than 71	4,160	4,220	\$4,350
More than 70	5,200	5,270	\$5,430
Maximum excludable long-term care per diem	360	370	380

FIGURE 9.1 Maximum Deductible Long-Term Care Premiums

Limitations on Deductible Permiums

Pg 298

Medical & Dental Expenses of Dependent



p. 298

PLANNING POINTER Medical Expense Election

Generally, unpaid medical expenses are not allowed as a deduction on the decedent's individual income tax return but are allowed as a deduction on the estate tax return. With the increased estate tax exemption amount (\$11,580,000 in 2020), most taxpayers no longer have an estate tax liability. In these cases, the executor of the estate can elect to treat any medical expenses paid from the estate within 1 year of the date of death as an itemized deduction [I.R.C. § 213(c)].



Substantiation of Deductions



Health Savings Account (HSA) pg 299

- Pretax contribution
- Rolls over to next year
- High-deductible Health Plan (HDHP)
- NO Medicare
- Not a Dependent

PLANNING POINTER

Medicare Recipient

Taxpayers enrolled in Medicare cannot contribute to an HSA, but they can use HSA contributions made prior to age 65 to pay the premiums for Medicare Part B, Part D, and Medicare Advantage plans.

HSA Contributions pg 299 Non-taxable fringe benefit if Employer contributes • Or Above-the-line deduction \$ 3,550 self-only coverage \$ 7,100 family coverage Over age 55 = \$ 1,000 additional

Distributions from HSA

pg 299

Used exclusively for qualified medical

Ų

Non-medical expense = 20% added tax

Exceptions may apply

High-deductible Health Plan

Annual Deductibles

- >\$ 1,400 Self-only
- >\$ 2,800 Family

 Notice 2019-45, 2019-32 I.R.B. 593 – expands list of preventative care
 Specified Medical Care Services – treated as preventative care for chronic condition

Flexible Spending Arrangements

Pg 300



Pg 300

CROSS-REFERENCE Health Reimbursement Arrangements

I.R.C. § 105 allows for the reimbursement of medical expenses under an employer-sponsored health plan. Under an HRA, the employer contributes to the plan. The contributions are excluded from the employee's income. There is no limit on the employer's contribution. Distributions must be paid to reimburse the employee for qualified medical expenses of the employee and his or her spouse and dependents. Unused amounts can be carried over to the next year. See the "Business Tax Issues" chapter in this book for a discussion of HRAs.

PRACTITIONER NOTE Self-Employed Persons

Self-employed persons are not eligible for an FSA or HRA. For fringe benefit purposes, an S corporation is treated as a partnership, and a 2% shareholder is treated as a partner of the partnership. A 2% shareholder is one that directly or constructively owns more than 2% of the corporation's outstanding stock on any day during the S corporation's tax year. Therefore, greaterthan-2% shareholders of S corporations receiving W-2 wages are ineligible to participate in an FSA or HRA. COVID-19 Plan Relief pg 300

- Telehealth: Notice 2020-29 & 2020-22, I.R.B.
 864-- service retroactive to January 01, 2020
- HSA can pay for Over-the-Counter Medication: The CARES Act § 3702
- COVID-19 Testing & Treatment
 - Covered under plan
 - Meets HDHP minimum deductible
 - Notice 2020-15 retroactive January 1, 2020

Funds from an HSA can be used to pay for over-thecounter medications.

(True)or False

Cafeteria Plan Midyear Elections pg 301

Make	Make a new election on a prospective basis, if the employee initially declined to elect employer-sponsored health coverage;
Revoke	Revoke an existing election and make a new election to enroll in different health coverage sponsored by the same employer on a prospective basis; AND
Revoke	Revoke an existing election on a prospective basis, provided that the employee attests in writing that the employee is enrolled, or immediately will enroll in other health coverage not sponsored by the employer.
Make	Make new election, decrease or increase an existing election applicable to a health FSA on a prospective basis; OR
Revoke	Revoke an election, make a new election, decrease or increase an existing election applicable to dependent care assistance on prospective basis.

Grace Period for Unused Amounts

p. 301

Thru December 31, 2020

- FSA
- Dependent Care
- Carryover \$ 550
- *New Law Carryover until 2022

2020 NATIONAL INCOME TAX WORKBOOK

CHAPTER 5: IRS ISSUES PAGES 149-192 Land Grant University Tax Education Foundation

IRS ISSUES

P. 149

- Issue 1: Income Tax Withholding
- Issue 2: The Gig Economy
- Issue 3: Virtual Currency
- Issue 4: Cybersecurity
- Issue 5: Tax Transcripts
- Issue 6: IRS Information Sources

NEW TAXPAYER RELIEF INITIATIVES

Issued November 2, 2020

- Short-Term IA extended from 120 days to 180 days to full pay
- >IRS will incorporate some new liabilities into existing IA
- Individuals can now acquire an IA without providing financial statements as long as they owe less than \$250K and the balance will be paid within CSED
- IRS will allow individuals an IA without filling a tax lien if the balance is only for 2019 and balance is under \$250K
- >Taxpayers can alter their DDIA on-line if they owe less than \$50K and want too adjust payment amounts or dates

*These only apply to cases that are not assigned to a Revenue Officer (RO)

CHAPTER 5 – POLLING QUESTION 4

Individual taxpayers that owe less than \$250K, for 2019 only, can obtain an IA without the IRS filing a Federal Tax Lien.

- A. True
- B. False

CHAPTER 5 – POLLING QUESTION 4

Individual taxpayers that owe less than \$250K, for 2019 only, can obtain an IA without the IRS filing a Federal Tax Lien.

A. True

B. False

IRS will allow individuals an IA without filling a tax lien if the balance is only for 2019 and balance is under \$250K

PP. 150 -151

- New hires and rehires after 2019
- May ask for new W-4 but must say it's not required
- No W-4: Single, no adjustments

Form W-4: Figure 5.1, Page 151

- 1. Personal information + filing status
- 2. Multiple jobs or spouse works: 3 options
- 3. Claim dependents (+ other credits)
- 4. Other adjustments income, deductions, extra withholding
- 5. Signature

WITHHOLDING AND ESTIMATED TAXES P. 480

Anticipated Filing Status: REG-132741-17, I.R.C. §§ 3401, 3402

- Proposed regulations provide guidance for employers on the amount of federal income tax to withhold from an employee's wages. The proposed regulations reflect that the TCJA replaced withholding exemptions with withholding allowances.
- The proposed regulations clarify that employers using the percentage method of withholding must compute the tax withholding amount based on the entry for the employee's anticipated filing status or marital status.
- To select the MFJ status on Form W-4, the employee must meet four requirements; see list
- The proposed regulations define a withholding allowance but otherwise intend to use forms, instructions, and publications to provide computational details. There are seven factors that determine the withholding allowance; see list.

P. 152

STEP 2: Option (a) – Most accurate, greater privacy

Use TWE to calculate additional w/h'g needed if

- Expect to work only part of the year,
- Large balance due/refund in prior year and is into the current year,
- Subject to additional taxes (e.g. additional Medicare tax)
- \circ Has SE income, or
- Prefers the most accurate withholding

P. 152

STEP 2: Option (b)

Use Multiple Jobs Worksheet in Form W-4 instructions

- Table Withholding at intersection of column and row of wage \$
- \circ If 3 jobs \rightarrow table used twice
- \circ > 3 jobs or one with wages of > \$120,000 \rightarrow Pub 505 tables

STEP 2: Option (c)

- Total of two jobs
- Standard deduction and tax brackets cut in half for each
- More withholding than needed if pay not similar

P. 153

STEP 3: Claim Dependents

- Child tax credit and credit for dependents
- Include other credits in line 3 total
- Complete on only one W-4

STEP 4: Other Adjustments – entered on only one W-4

4(a) Additional taxable income (not SE or other wages)

4(b) Deductions: Figure 5.2 worksheet (Item. > standard, Sch. 1 deds.)

4(c) Extra withholding: From Step 2(a) or (b), or other additional amount

P. 154

NOTE: Form W-4V for voluntary withholding

- May include income in 4(a) of W-4 or
- May include additional \$ in 4(c) of W-4 to cover

Exemption from withholding

- May claim exempt from withholding if:
 - No tax liability in prior year (tax = 0 or tax < certain credits) and
 - $\,\circ\,$ No tax liability expected in current year
- "Exempt" in space below step 4(c) + 1(a), 1(b), 5
- Must submit yearly

NONRESIDENT ALIENS – NOTICE 1392

P. 154

Step 1: Requires SSN, check single or MFS

Step 2: Only if individual has > 1 job

 \circ Option (a) – N/A

• Option (b) - Multiple jobs worksheet for only 1 W-4

Option (c) - Check the box on both W-4s

"NRA" below step 4(c)

Step 3: Limited application – Pub 519 (only on 1 W-4)

Step 4: Optional (only on 1 W-4)

Exemption under tax treaty claimed on Form 8233

P. 155

- W-4/W-4P entries, paycheck checkup
- No sensitive info used, no info saved
- LTCG, AMT, qualified dividends \rightarrow Use worksheets in Pub 505

Input steps (see tips):

- 1. Filing status, # dependents, # jobs, other income ?
- 2. Enter wages, other income, withholding
- 3. Adjustments to income
- 4. Deductions
- 5. Tax credits

PP. 155-156

- Determines EITC
- Capital gains o.k. but reduced rates not applied
- Soc sec & unemployment income if to withhold from wages
- Includes additional Medicare tax

Results:

- Estimate of tax owed/overpaid
- Downloadable Form W-4 with Step 3 and 4 entries
 - Need more w/h'g? Step 3 may show reduced credit \$
 - Need less w/h'g? Step 3 will show created credit \$

PP. 156-157

Example 5.1 Family of 4, 2 < 17 years old \$10,000/month, \$710 w/h'g \$900 interest income Running TWE in late March

Figure 5.3 – Results

Figure 5.4 – Refund option



P. 158

Figure 5.5 – TWE recommendation

- Child tax credit 3(c): \$3,727 (\$273 annual reduction) (\$208 short/9 remaining pay periods = \$23/pay)
- Downloadable pre-filled Form W-4

INCOME TAX WITHHOLDING ASSISTANT P. 158

For employers calculating withholding using Pub 15-T Figure 5.7 - Downloadable Excel Spreadsheet – file for each EE

Using	2020	W-4	
-------	------	-----	--

調	IRS income tax within	For Employers	(For use with both 2020 and earlier Forms W-4)
Pay trac	areacy:	[Monthiy	RESULT
Employ	re's taxable wage or salary amount this paycheck:	[100.01]	Amount of Pederal income tax to withhold 8723
Which v	ersion of Form W-4 did the employee use?	[2020 or later	from this paycheck: <u>Withford no federal months</u> if on the Form W-4 the employee stammed to be exempt from withfording.
	Please enter the W-4 information in the field	ds below.	
	information from the employee's most recen if used 2020 or later version	Ferm W-4	
Step 1.	e. Filing status	[Garled Joint	
Step 2.	Did the employee check the box in $\langle z T$	[No]	
Step 3.	Total amount on line 3	\$3,727	
titep 4.	Other adjustments a. Other income amount:		
	b Deductions amount:		This Assistant implements the 2020 IRS Fradmasker 15 T. Freitrad Asserts Tax With the angle Alexhods Crater the Taxes down inspected on the upper left service. See 1 at the one-and attenuation from the employees Form W-4. The amount of Federal
	c. Extra withtolding amount		excerne has to without how this paycheck is provided in the same right come. Yes may have a separate copy of this calculator for each employee its avoid having re-ember the W. 4 othernalise each pay period.

INCOME TAX WITHHOLDING ASSISTANT P. 160

Figure 5.8 – Using 2019 W-4

Income Tax Withh	olding Assistant For Employers	(For use with both 2020 and earlier F	forms W-4)
Pay frequency: Employee's taxable wage or salary amount this paycheck: Which version of Form W-4 did the employee use?	(Monthly \$10,000 Before 2020	RESULT Amount of Federal income tax to withhold from this paycheck: Withfold no federal income tax if on the Form W-4 the employee claimed to be exempt from withholding. Please enter the W-4 information in the data fields below.	
		Information from the employee's r if used a 2019 or earlie 3 Filing status: 5 Number of withholding allowances: 6 Additional amount to withhold:	
		This Assistant implements the 2020 IRS Publicatio Withholding Methods. Enter the three items reque in the relevant information from the employee's Fo income tax to withhold from this paycheck is provid may save a separate copy of this calculator for re-enter the W-4 information each pay period).	ested in the upper left corner, then fi rm W-4. The amount of Federal ded in the upper right corner. You

THE GIG ECONOMY

PP. 161-162

Gig Service Provider

- Pros: More flexibility/control when, where, for whom, career path
- Cons: Taxes, recordkeeping, lack of benefits, less job security

Gig Service Recipient

- Pros: No benefit costs, no training cost, more flexibility
- Cons: Worker reclassification, lack of reliable/qualified workers

Gig Service Coordinator (Online Platform)

- Fee for bringing worker and consumer together
- Potential of EE treatment of service provider

THE GIG ECONOMY – TAX ISSUESPP. 162-163

Survey of gig workers by Nat'l. Assoc. of Self-Employed found:

- 34% had no knowledge of quarterly estimated tax rules
- 36% had no idea of records needed for tax purposes
- 43% had no \$ set aside for taxes & did not know how much owed
- •69% received no tax info from platform they used

IRS Gig Economy Tax Center

- Guidance for both provider and coordinator
- Emphasis that all income taxable
- Link to IRS webinar "Understanding the Gig Economy"
THE GIG ECONOMY – TAX ISSUES WORKER CLASSIFICATION

PP. 163-164

Common-Law Rules

- Behavioral
- Financial
- Type of Relationship

Form SS-8 Determination of Work Status

- Determination applies only to worker(s) requesting it
- Not an examination cannot compel business to change treatment

THE GIG ECONOMY – TAX ISSUES WORKER CLASSIFICATION

P. 164

Liability if misclassified

- 100% of taxes not withheld or
- Reduced rates under §3509

FAQs on misclassification in Pub. 4341

Section 530 Relief – business will not owe employment taxes if:

- Timely filed all tax documents consistent with IC treatment
- Business/predecessor treated workers and any similar workers as IC
- Had reasonable basis for treatment must be able to document

Worker may file SS-8 for determination even if ER has section 530 relief

THE GIG ECONOMY – TAX ISSUES WORKER CLASSIFICATION

P. 165

Voluntary Classification Settlement Program

- Announcement 2012-45
- Treat as EE for future periods, limited tax for past
- Must not be currently under exam
- Application: Form 8952

Misclassified Worker files Form 8919 if:

- Performed services for a firm
- Believed not an IC
- Firm did not withhold soc. sec. or Medicare
- SS-8 letter or in process, other IRS stmt., W-2 & 1099 from firm

THE GIG ECONOMY – TAX ISSUES ESTIMATED TAX PAYMENTS

PP. 165-166

- 1. Expects to owe at least additional \$1,000 and
- 2. Withholding and refundable credits to be < smaller of:
 - 90% of tax to be shown on return, or
 - 100% of tax shown on prior year return (if 12-month return) (110% if AGI > \$150,000, \$75,000 for MFS)

Determine payment needed by:

- Worksheets in Form 1040-ES
- If an EE, include in TWE calculation & adjust withholding

Direct pay (online, phone, IRS2Go), EFTPS, check or money order, cash

THE GIG ECONOMY – TAX ISSUES RECORDKEEPING

P. 166

- Any system o.k if clearly shows business income and expenses
- Pub 583, Starting a Business and Keeping Records
- Retain records for:
 - At least 3 years from later of filing or due date
 - o If files claim for credit or refund:
 - Later of 2 years from date tax paid or 3 years from filing
 - 7 years if worthless securities or bad debt deduction
 - Forever if fraudulent return filed

THE GIG ECONOMY – TAX ISSUES P. 166 INCOME AND SELF-EMPLOYMENT TAXES

- □All income reportable net of related expenses
- Gig worker may qualify for QBI deduction
- Self-employment tax (see IRS Self-Employed Individuals Tax Center)
 □If net income from SE ≥ \$400
- □Rates applied on 92.35% of net SE income
 - □12.4% soc. sec. on up to max earnings of \$137,700 (2020)
 - □2.9% Medicare on all earnings
 - □+ .9% Medicare if wages + SE > \$250K (MFJ), \$125K (MFS), \$200K (others)
- **2020: Defer 50% of SE Tax: Pay ½ by 12/31/21, other ½ by 12/31/22

THE GIG ECONOMY – TAX ISSUES INFORMATION REPORTING

P. 168

- □ Form 1099-NEC : New Form to report Nonemployee Compensation
- Ceased using in 1982
- PATH Act of 2015 reintroduced need for the 1099-NEC
- □Form1099-MISC, Box 7 no longer used

YER'S name, street address, city or town, state or province, country, ZIP oreign postal code, and telephone no.		OMB No. 1545-0116	Nonemployee Compensation
		Form 1099-NEC	
	1 Nonemployee compen \$	sation	Сору В
ER'S TIN RECIPIENT'S TIN	2		– For Recipient
CIPIENT'S name	3 4 Federal income tax withheld \$		This is important tax information and is being furnished to the IRS. If you are required to file a return, a negligence penalty or other
eet address (including apt. no.)			
or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code			sanction may be imposed on you if this income is taxable and the IRS determines that it has
FATCA filing requirement			not been reported.
count number (see instructions)	5 State tax withheld \$ \$	6 State/Payer's state no.	7 State income \$ \$

THE GIG ECONOMY – TAX ISSUES INFORMATION REPORTING

P. 168

Form 1099-NEC, Nonemployee Compensation beginning 2020 ∘ Payments of ≥ \$600

Form 1099-K, Payment Card and Third Party Network Transactions

- Issued by payment settlement entities if:
 - Gross reportable payments > \$20,000 AND
 - > 200 total transactions

FAQs about Form 1099-K on IRS website

THE GIG ECONOMY – TAX ISSUES INFORMATION REPORTING

P. 168

Should be issued when:

- Payment of \$600 or more for services in course of trade or business to someone other than an employee
- Payment to individual, partnership, estate and some corporations

Due out by 1/31 to IRS and Recipient

CHAPTER 5 – POLLING QUESTION 5

A business that has paid Non-Employee Compensation of \$650 can choose to report it on a 1099-MISC or a 1099-NEC this year.

- A. True
- B. False

CHAPTER 5 – POLLING QUESTION 5

A business that has paid Non-Employee Compensation of \$650 can choose to report it on a 1099-MISC or a 1099-NEC this year.

A. True

B. False

False. Beginning in 2020 Non-Employee Compensation paid of \$600 or more, in the course of a business, must be reported on a Form 1099-NEC.

THE GIG ECONOMY – TAX ISSUESP. 169

Other IRS Resources

Small Business Taxes: The Virtual Workshop (IRS video portal)

• IRS Publication 5369, Gig economy and your taxes; things to know

• Webinar: "Understanding the Gig Economy" (IRS video portal)

VIRTUAL CURRENCY

P. 169

IRS Virtual Currency Campaign

- Educational letters to taxpayers began in 2019
- 45 FAQs on IRS website

Virtual Currency

- "Digital representation of value that functions as a medium of exchange, a unit of account and/or a store of value"
- Equivalent value in legal tender of any country's currency
- Used for goods or services or held for investment
- No intrinsic value or physical form not backed by a central bank

VIRTUAL CURRENCY

PP. 169-170

Benefits

- Transfers can be immediate
- Fees may be less than credit card fees
- $^{\circ}$ No payment info to merchant \rightarrow less chance of identity theft
- No exchange rates (facilitates worldwide transactions)

Obtaining virtual currency

- Purchase and sell through centralized exchanges
- Purchase in a peer-to-peer exchange
- Transfers through digital wallet
- Keys (passwords) may be stored online or offline

VIRTUAL CURRENCY TERMS

P. 170

Cryptocurrency

- Uses cryptography to secure transaction recorded digitally
- Blockchain example of network storing encrypted data

Coins and tokens

- Digital money created thru encryption techniques
- Token = subset of virtual currency = representation of value
- \circ Security token \rightarrow generally a share in a virtual currency company
- \circ Utility token \rightarrow grants owner access to product or service

VIRTUAL CURRENCY TERMS

P. 170

Miners

- Use of high-powered computers to solve complex equations
- Solving & validating a transaction yields digital token of the mined currency

Bitcoin ATM

Kiosk allowing purchase of Bitcoin

Initial Coin Offering

- Offer of coin/token for fiat currency/other virtual currency
- Generally through a crowd-funding process

VIRTUAL CURRENCY TERMS

P. 170

Airdrop

- Virtual currency distribution procedure
- Tokens/coins distributed free to promote
- Reward customers of exchange/trading platforms
- Distributed on pro-rata basis to customers

Giveaway

Fixed virtual currency amount given for account creation

PP. 170-171

Virtual currency = property (rules for receipt/payment by property apply)

Currency as payment for goods or services, property – Seller

- Income = FMV of virtual currency @ time of receipt (time recorded)
 - Exchange rate used if determined by market supply and demand
 - $^{\circ}$ No exchange rate \rightarrow FMV of property or services exchanged
- Basis in currency received = FMV of currency used
- Gain/loss = FMV of currency less basis in property exchanged
- For services → subject to SE tax
- If investment property \rightarrow ST or LT capital gain/loss
- If not investment property → ordinary income/loss

P. 171

Currency as payment for goods or services – Buyer

- Gain/loss = Value received less basis in currency
 - Currency basis = FMV on date received if from a property exchange
 - Currency basis = \$ paid + acquisition costs if purchased
 - Holding period for currency used begins day after received
- Capital gain/loss (LT or ST) if currency held for investment
- Ordinary gain/loss if currency held as inventory

P. 172

Identifying Units for Basis Purposes

- Can choose if can specifically identify units used in exchange
 - Unique digital identifier such as private key, public key, address
 - Records showing transaction info for all units in account, wallet, address
- If cannot identify, FIFO applies
- Must be able to show:
 - Date and time each unit acquired
 - TP's basis and FMV of each unit at time acquired
 - Date and time each unit sold, exchanged or otherwise disposed of
 - FMV of each unit when sold, exchanged, or disposed of and amount of \$ or property received for each unit

P. 172

Virtual currency paid by ER as wages

Subject to Federal and state withholding, FICA, FUTA

Gifts

- No recipient income until disposed of
- Gain: Basis = donor's basis + gift tax paid
- Loss: Basis = lesser of donor's basis or FMV @ date of gift
- $^{\circ}$ No documentation of donor basis \rightarrow basis = \$0
- Carryover holding period
 - \circ No proof of donor acquisition date \rightarrow period begins date after gift

PP. 172-174

Third-Party Reporting

- Virtual currency and cash payments aggregated for reporting
 - 1099-NEC if ≥ \$600
 - $_{\circ}$ 1099-K if > \$20,000 and > 200 transactions

Tax Return Reporting

- Transactions reported same as if a cash transaction
- Sched 1 Virtual currency question to be answered by all

Virtual currency payments subject to backup withholding

Same recordkeeping/penalty rules as other transactions

VIRTUAL CURRENCY PP. 174-175 TAX RULES – REVENUE RULING 2019-24

Hard Fork

- Currency permanently diverted from legacy/existing distributed ledger
- May result in creation of a new cryptocurrency
- Legacy currency on legacy ledger, new currency on new ledger
- Income only if TP receives units of new currency (Ex. 5.5)

Airdrop

- Distribution of currency to distributed ledger addresses
- Generally received on date recorded on the distributed ledger
- TP has receipt when able to transfer, sell, exchange
- Income to TP if units of new currency received

VIRTUAL CURRENCY TAX RULES

P. 175

Donations of Virtual Currency

- Rules for donation of noncash property apply
- No gain or loss to TP
- Deduction
 - Held > 1 year = FMV date of donation
 - Held \leq 1 year = lesser of adjusted basis or FMV
- Form 8283 filed with return
- Form 8282 filed if charity disposes of currency

CYBERSECURITY TYPES OF CYBERATTACKS

P. 176

Types of Cyberattacks

- Unauthorized Access
- Phishing
 - Common Phishing Techniques
 - Two-Stage Phishing
- Denial of Service Attacks
- Malicious Code

CYBERSECURITY TYPES OF CYBERATTACKS

P. 177

Phishing (report to phishing@irs.gov)

- Attempt to obtain confidential information
- Appear to be from trusted source (spear phishing)
- Pose as software or data storage provider, IRS, prospective client
- Link to fake site that looks familiar to obtain username & password
- Attachment contain malware (affects computer and network system)
- Practitioner resources (list p. 177)

Two-stage Phishing

- First: solicitation email
- Second: embedded web address or PDF attachment

CYBERSECURITY TYPES OF CYBERATTACKS

P. 178

Denial of Service Attacks (DoS)

- \circ Prevents access of computer system, devices
- \circ Flood of simultaneous requests to view a web page \rightarrow server crashes

Malicious Code (Malware)

- Destructive instructions to computer
- Damage, disrupt, steal, keystroke logger
- Connecting to infected external device, emails, compromised websites
- Viruses, worms, trojan horses, ransomware, spyware, adware

CYBERSECURITY PRACTITIONER DUTIES

PP. 178-179

Safeguards Rule (FTC)

- Applies to accountants, enrolled agents, other tax return preparers
- Requirements:
 - Designate employee(s) to coordinate information security program
 - Identify internal and external risks and assess current safeguards
 - Design & implement information safeguards and monitor effectiveness
 - Use service providers that can maintain safeguards contracting for the maintenance of such safeguards
 - Evaluate and adjust security program based on circumstances
- Per violation: Fine, prison time, license revocation

CYBERSECURITY PRACTITIONER DUTIES

P. 179

Revenue Procedure 2007-40

- IRS e-file provider must have security system in place
- Mandates compliance with all IRS publications and notices re: e-file
- Diligent in recognizing, preventing, and reporting fraud and abuse
- Cooperate with IRS investigations

Information Security Plan (requirements listed p. 179)

- Employee management and training
- Information systems
- Detecting and managing systems failures

CYBERSECURITY PRACTITIONER DUTIES

PP. 179-181

IRS checklist for protecting information

- 1. Antivirus Software Scan computer & attached devices for malware
- 2. Firewalls Protects against outside attacker, malicious traffic
- 3. Two-Factor Authentication Beyond initial username & password
- 4. Backup Software/Services Encrypted with strong passwords
- 5. Drive Encryption Strong passwords
- 6. Virtual Private Networks (VPN) Connections over the internet

CYBERSECURITY STRONG PASSWORDS

P. 181

- Minimum of 8 characters
- Combo of letters, numbers, symbols
- Avoid personal information
- Change default/temporary passwords
- Do not reuse or update passwords
- Do not use email addresses as usernames
- Secure physical password list / password manager program
- Do not disclose passwords to anyone

CYBERSECURITY SIGNS OF DATA THEFT

PP. 181-182

- More returns filed with EFIN or PTIN than submitted
- Receive transcripts never requested
- Properly filed returns rejected because SSN already on filed return
- Authentication letters received by clients who have not filed
- Refunds received when no return filed
- Notice of online account access or account disabled
- Notice of online account when client did not create one
- Response to emails that practitioner never sent
- Office network computers running slower than normal
- Office network computers locking out tax practitioners

CYBERSECURITY

P. 182

Monitor PTIN Accounts

- Find number of returns filed (if > 50)
- Through PTIN account
 - "Additional Activities"
 - "View My Summary of Returns Filed"

Monitor EFIN Accounts

- Find number of returns filed
- Through E-Services account
 - Name "Application" "e-File Application"
 - Name "EFIN Status"

CYBERSECURITY

P. 182

Data Recovery Plan

- Inventory hardware, software applications, data
- Backup routinely backup critical data, periodically validate
- Reinstall maintain copies of program software
- Security Expert consult as needed on breaches
- Testing test plan periodically
- Reporting report any data breach

CYBERSECURITY DATA BREACH REPORTING

PP. 182-183

- Local IRS stakeholder liaison
- Local FBI office (if directed by IRS)
- Local Secret Service office (if directed by IRS)
- Local police
- · State agency where returns filed
- State attorney general
- Insurance company
- FTC at identitytheft.gov
- Three major credit bureaus

CYBERSECURITY TAXPAYER IDENTITY THEFT

PP. 183-185

- Respond immediately to any IRS notice
- Complete IRS Form 14039 (see page 184)
- Continue to file and pay taxes
- If not getting resolution: contact IRS (800) 908-4490
- Obtain the 6-digit identify protection pin (IP PIN)
 - >Used for filing paper or electronic return
 - ➢If lost/not received: "Get an IP PIN" too
 - Can opt-in and request in IP PIN (nationwide by Jan 2021) (requires account on IRS.gov)

IRS Identify Theft Central at www.irs.gov/identity-theft-central

TAX TRANSCRIPTS

PP. 186-188

Masked Transcripts (Figure 5.12, p. 187)

- Personally identifiable information partially masked
- Financial data fully visible
- Currently individuals will be business transcripts by 12/13/2020
- Can be requested through Transcript Delivery System

Figure 5.13 (p. 188) – Getting transcripts

Unmasked Transcripts

- Wage and income transcripts only
- Mailed to TPs address if requested by TP or 3rd parties
- Tax Pros thru PPS line or Secure Object Repository mailbox (SOR)

TAX TRANSCRIPTS

P. 189

Customer File Number

- Replaces use of full SSN on 4506 series forms to enable match to a TP
- Designed for use by 3rd parties but TP & tax professional may also use
- If SSN used in number, transcript will reflect 9999999999

Transcript Delivery

- FAX to TPs, 3rd parties, Tax Pros ended 6/28/2019
- Mailing to 3rd parties ended 7/1/2019
- Mailings continue to TP's address of record
- TP: Get Transcript Online
- Tax Pros: Mail to TP, TDS for masked transcript, call IRS for SOR
- Lenders/3rd parties: Income Verification Express Service (IVES)

IRS INFORMATION SOURCES P. 190-193

Social Media

- YouTube
- Twitter
- Facebook
- Linkedin
- Instagram

IRS2Go – check refunds, make payment, tax help, links to social media

Podcasts (iTunes or IRS Multimedia Center)

e-News Subscriptions – 21 free registration-based (p. 192-193)

QUESTIONS???

