

WEBSITE: www.fielderco.com

December 2017

Regarding: 2017 Tax Letter and Year-End Planning Suggestions

Dear Clients and Friends,

Due to recent passage of significant tax reform, our annual tax letter was not included with your organizer or holiday greeting this year. It will be posted for your access soon on www.fielderco.com. Our 2016 letter with 2017 tax information remains on our website and will be included when the 2017 letter is posted, also.

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act is the largest package of tax reforms since 1986 tax rule changes. This reform bill is intended to create tax savings for the great majority of individual and business taxpayers while stimulating long-term economic growth, wealth formation, confidence and jobs beyond the levels already experienced since our last year-end notice posted December 2016, which began by advising awareness of the impact of planned Republican Administration tax reform on informed tax planning for 2017.

Savings in 2018 will be realized mostly by rate reductions achieved by raising thresholds at each tax rate, reducing/consolidating tax rates and increasing standard deductions for most taxpayers even though exemptions are eliminated. Changes are so numerous that the stated goal of true simplicity has not yet been realized for most taxpayers except for those joining the large number not required to file.

Year-end planning includes the obvious recommendation of income deferral and deduction acceleration for 2017, dependent upon taxpayer circumstances (such as consideration of the impact upon available tax credits, loss carryover deductions, health insurance and possible medicare premium costs, capital gains rates, passive income tax considerations, taxation of social security benefit consideration, possible retirement contribution limits, and other factors). If in doubt, consult us for informed guidance. Being aware of your tax and financial planning circumstances allows us to benefit you further by projecting your 2018 savings resulting from this latest significant tax law reform as we prepare your 2017 personal and business returns.

Hurricane Irma's impact on Florida taxpayers this year as well as other storms affecting clients elsewhere, has provided deadline extensions for 2016 returns and 2017 payment due dates to January 31, 2018, and employee wage credits at 40% available for wages paid up to \$6,000 per employee during business closures due to storm damages such as power loss. Eligible casualty losses may be taken on 2016 or 2017 returns, if elected. With the unprecedented volume of rule changes for next year and last minute decisions on provisions scheduled to expire for 2017, the importance and value of tax planning and knowledgeable and timely preparation assistance has increased this year.

We will post significant details regarding recent tax reform for 2018 on this website at www.fielderco.com before mid-January. All of us wish you Happy Holidays and a great 2018!

Sincerely,

Fielder & Company, LLC