



SMALL BUSINESS ISSUES

ISSUE 1: FORMS W-2

The accurate preparation of Forms W-2 is important since workers' social security earnings information **and** information for filing individual income tax returns is contained on the forms.

Important points to remember:

1. Employers that are required to file 250 or more Forms W-2 must file them on magnetic media or electronically.
2. When printing Forms W-2, use only black ink and at least 10-point font.
3. Do **not** use dollar signs or commas for dollar entries.
4. **Do** use decimal points and the cents portion of the money amounts.
5. If a box does not apply, leave it blank.
6. Send the whole Copy A page of Form W-2 with Form W-3 to the SSA even if one of the Forms W-2 is blank or void.
7. Do not show titles or academic degrees at the beginning or end of the employee's name.
8. If an employee loses a Form W-2, write "REISSUED STATEMENT" on a new copy and provide it to the employee. Do not send copy A of the reissued Form W-2 to the SSA.
9. Employers must furnish Copies B, C, and 2 of Form W-2 to employees by January 31 of the following year. The "furnish by" requirement is met if the form is properly addressed and mailed on or before the due date.
10. Employers are required to keep for four years any employee copies of Forms W-2 for which delivery was attempted but was unsuccessful.

Example 1: Allocated Tips

Practitioner Note. A common error in preparing returns is overlooking allocated tips shown in box 8 of Form W-2.

Facts. Roberto, who is single, is a waiter for the Fine Eats Café. His employer is subject to the large food or beverage establishment rules and is required to **allocate** tips up to 8% of daily gross receipts from the café. Roberto reported tips to his employer of \$15,280 for the year 2000. The amount of reported tips should be included in box 1 of his W-2 and also in box 7. Total reported tips are less than

2000 Workbook

8%, and Fine Eats Café allocates \$1,244 of tips to Roberto and reports the amount in box 8 of his W-2. The amounts in box 13A of \$169.87 and box 13B of \$39.72 are **uncollected** social security and Medicare taxes the employer was unable to withhold on Roberto's tip income. See Roberto's W-2 in Figure 1.

Figure 1

a Control number		OMB No. 1545-0008				
b Employer identification number		1 Wages, tips, other compensation 19280.00	2 Federal income tax withheld 1962.00			
c Employer's name, address, and ZIP code Roberto Waiter Rt. 1 - Box 54 Gooden, OK. 74000		3 Social security wages 4000.00	4 Social security tax withheld 1025.50			
		5 Medicare wages and tips 19280.00	6 Medicare tax withheld 239.83			
		7 Social security tips 15280.00	8 Allocated tips 1244.00			
d Employee's social security number 111 11 1111		9 Advance EIC payment		10 Dependent care benefits		
e Employer's name, address, and ZIP code Fine Eats Cafe 1342 S. Way Gooden, OK. 7400		11 Nonqualified plans		12 Benefits included in box 1		
		13 See instrs. for box 13 A 169.87 B 39.72		14 Other		
		15 Statutory employee <input type="checkbox"/>		Deceased <input type="checkbox"/>	Pension plan <input type="checkbox"/>	Legal rep. <input type="checkbox"/>
16 State	Employer's state I.D. no.	17 State wages, tips, etc. 19280.00	18 State income tax 772.67	19 Locality name	20 Local wages, tips, etc.	21 Local income tax

Form **W-2 Wage and Tax Statement 2000**
Copy B To Be Filed With Employee's FEDERAL Tax Return

Department of the Treasury—Internal Revenue Service

This information is being furnished to the Internal Revenue Service.

Question 1. How should Roberto's information be reported on his 2000 tax return if he has incomplete records of his tip income?

Answer 1. Both the amounts in box 1, \$19,280, and box 8, \$1,244, should be reported on line 7 (Wages) of his 2000 Form 1040 as taxable income. The total of these two amounts is \$20,524. The amount of reported tips in box 7, \$15,280, is included in the box 1 amount of \$19,280. Roberto's \$95.16 share of social security and Medicare tax on the allocated tips of \$1,244 is computed on Form 4137 (Figure 2) and reported on line 53 of Form 1040. The amounts reported in box 13A and B are entered on line 57 of Form 1040 (Figure 3).

2000 Workbook

Figure 2

Form **4137**
 Department of the Treasury
 Internal Revenue Service

Social Security and Medicare Tax on Unreported Tip Income

▶ See instructions on back.
 ▶ Attach to Form 1040.

OMB No. 1545-0059
2000
 Attachment
 Sequence No. **24**

Name of person who received tips (as shown on Form 1040). If married, complete a separate Form 4137 for each spouse with unreported tips. Social security number
Roberto Waiter **111 111 111**

Name(s) of employer(s) to whom you were required to, but did not, report your tips:
Fine Eats Cafe

1 Total cash and charge tips you received in 2000. See instructions	1	16,524	
2 Total cash and charge tips you reported to your employer in 2000	2	15,280	
3 Subtract line 2 from line 1. This amount is income you must include in the total on Form 1040, line 7	3	1,244	
4 Cash and charge tips you received but did not report to your employer because the total was less than \$20 in a calendar month. See instructions	4		
5 Unreported tips subject to Medicare tax. Subtract line 4 from line 3. Enter here and on line 2 of Schedule U below	5	1,244	
6 Maximum amount of wages (including tips) subject to social security tax	6	76,200	00
7 Total social security wages and social security tips (total of boxes 3 and 7 on Form(s) W-2) or railroad retirement (tier 1) compensation	7	19,280	
8 Subtract line 7 from line 6. If line 7 is more than line 6, enter -0- here and on line 9 and go to line 11	8	56,920	
9 Unreported tips subject to social security tax. Compare the amounts on lines 5 and 8 above. Enter the smaller of the two amounts here and on line 1 of Schedule U below. If you received tips as a Federal, state, or local government employee, see instructions	9	1,244	
10 Multiply line 9 by .062	10	77	13
11 Multiply line 5 by .0145.	11	18	03
12 Add lines 10 and 11. Enter the result here and on Form 1040, line 53 ▶	12	95	16

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see instructions on back. Form **4137** (2000)

Do Not Detach

SCHEDULE U
(Form 1040)
 Department of the Treasury
 Internal Revenue Service

U.S. Schedule of Unreported Tip Income

For crediting to your social security record

2000

Note: *The amounts you report below are for your social security record. This record is used to figure any benefits, based on your earnings, payable to you and your dependents or your survivors. Fill in each item accurately and completely.*

Print or type name of person who received tip income (as shown on Form 1040) Social security number
Roberto Waiter **111 111 111**

Address (number, street, and apt. no., or P.O. box if mail is not delivered to your home) Occupation
Rt. 1 - Box 54 **waiter**

City, town or post office, state, and ZIP code
Gooden, OK. 74000

1 Unreported tips subject to social security tax. Enter the amount from line 9 (Form 4137) above . ▶	1	1,244	
2 Unreported tips subject to Medicare tax. Enter the amount from line 5 (Form 4137) above . . ▶	2	1,244	

Please do not write in this space

DLN—

2000 Workbook

Figure 3

Form 1040 (2000)

Page 2

Tax and Credits		34	20,524	
Standard Deduction for Most People Single: \$4,400 Head of household: \$6,450 Married filing jointly or Qualifying widow(er): \$7,350 Married filing separately: \$3,675	34	Amount from line 33 (adjusted gross income)		
	35a	Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> You were 65 or older, <input type="checkbox"/> Blind; <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse was 65 or older, <input type="checkbox"/> Blind. Add the number of boxes checked above and enter the total here ▶ 35a		
	b	If you are married filing separately and your spouse itemizes deductions, or you were a dual-status alien, see page 31 and check here ▶ 35b <input type="checkbox"/>		
	36	Enter your itemized deductions from Schedule A, line 28, or standard deduction shown on the left. But see page 31 to find your standard deduction if you checked any box on line 35a or 35b or if someone can claim you as a dependent	36	4,400
	37	Subtract line 36 from line 34	37	16,124
	38	If line 34 is \$96,700 or less, multiply \$2,800 by the total number of exemptions claimed on line 6d. If line 34 is over \$96,700, see the worksheet on page 32 for the amount to enter	38	2,800
	39	Taxable income. Subtract line 38 from line 37. If line 38 is more than line 37, enter -0-	39	13,324
	40	Tax (see page 32). Check if any tax is from a <input type="checkbox"/> Form(s) 8814 b <input type="checkbox"/> Form 4972	40	
	41	Alternative minimum tax. Attach Form 6251	41	1,999
	42	Add lines 40 and 41 ▶	42	1,999
43	Foreign tax credit. Attach Form 1116 if required	43		
44	Credit for child and dependent care expenses. Attach Form 2441	44		
45	Credit for the elderly or the disabled. Attach Schedule R	45		
46	Education credits. Attach Form 8863	46		
47	Child tax credit (see page 36)	47		
48	Adoption credit. Attach Form 8839	48		
49	Other. Check if from a <input type="checkbox"/> Form 3800 b <input type="checkbox"/> Form 8396 c <input type="checkbox"/> Form 8801 d <input type="checkbox"/> Form (specify)	49		
50	Add lines 43 through 49. These are your total credits	50		
51	Subtract line 50 from line 42. If line 50 is more than line 42, enter -0- ▶	51	1,999	
Other Taxes				
52	Self-employment tax. Attach Schedule SE	52		
53	Social security and Medicare tax on tip income not reported to employer. Attach Form 4137	53	95 16	
54	Tax on IRAs, other retirement plans, and MSAs. Attach Form 5329 if required	54		
55	Advance earned income credit payments from Form(s) W-2	55		
56	Household employment taxes. Attach Schedule H	56		
57	Add lines 51 through 56. This is your total tax UT. 169.87 + 39.72 = 209.59 ▶	57	2,303 75	

Question 2 Facts. Roberto provides to his tax preparer **accurate** records that prove the actual amount of tips received was \$15,280.

Question 2. Does this change the amount of income he will report?

Answer 2. Yes. If Roberto can prove he reported all of his tips to his employer, **he should not include** the \$1,244 amount in box 8 on line 7 of his Form 1040. He should attach a statement explaining the facts. Not reporting the \$1,244 on line 7 will probably generate a CP 2000 notice. Roberto should retain his tip records to respond to a CP 2000 notice if necessary.

Practitioner Note. IRS Form 4070A (Employee’s Daily Record of Tips) in Publication 1244 may be used by employees to keep accurate tip records.

ISSUE 2: INSTALLMENT SALES

Form 6252, Installment Sale Income, is used to reflect income from casual sales of real and personal property (other than inventory) if the taxpayer will receive any payment in a tax year **after** the year of sale. A taxpayer can “elect out” of an installment sale by reporting the full amount of gain on Form 4797 or Schedule D, whichever applies.

2000 Workbook

Practitioner Caution. Planning is key for taxpayers choosing not to use installment sale reporting. For example, a taxpayer may want to recognize a full gain on an installment sale if the taxpayer has a large capital loss carryforward or anticipates greater income in future years.

The two examples that follow illustrate the proper reporting of installment sales.

Example 2

Facts. Barney Rucker owned 200 shares, or 20%, of Almost Straight Paving Co., a closely held corporation. His cost basis for this stock was \$60,000. Almost Straight Paving Co. is buying back his stock for \$300,000; \$100,000 of the purchase price was paid on September 1, 1999, and the balance of \$200,000 will be paid over five years at \$40,000 annually plus 9% interest on the unpaid balance.

Barney will use the installment method to report his gain. Form 6252 (Figure 4) illustrates the first year's reporting of installment income, and Schedule D (Figure 5) shows the current-year capital gain. In future years, Barney will report his interest income on Schedule B of Form 1040.

Practitioner Note. The sale of stock traded on an established securities exchange **cannot** be reported as an installment sale.

Figure 4

Form 6252		Installment Sale Income		OMB No. 1545-0228	
Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service		▶ See separate instructions. ▶ Attach to your tax return. ▶ Use a separate form for each sale or other disposition of property on the installment method.		1999 Attachment Sequence No. 79	
Name(s) shown on return Barney Rucker				Identifying number 123-45-6789	
1 Description of property ▶		200 shares - closely held stock			
2a Date acquired (month, day, year) ▶		9 / 01 / 70		b Date sold (month, day, year) ▶ 9 / 01 / 99	
3 Was the property sold to a related party after May 14, 1980? See instructions. If "No," skip line 4				□ Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
4 Was the property you sold to a related party a marketable security? If "Yes," complete Part III. If "No," complete Part III for the year of sale and the 2 years after the year of sale				□ Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Part I Gross Profit and Contract Price. Complete this part for the year of sale only.					
5 Selling price including mortgages and other debts. Do not include interest whether stated or unstated				5 300,000	
6 Mortgages and other debts the buyer assumed or took the property subject to, but not new mortgages the buyer got from a bank or other source		6			
7 Subtract line 6 from line 5		7		300,000	
8 Cost or other basis of property sold		8		60,000	
9 Depreciation allowed or allowable		9			
10 Adjusted basis. Subtract line 9 from line 8		10		60,000	
11 Commissions and other expenses of sale.		11			
12 Income recapture from Form 4797, Part III. See instructions		12			
13 Add lines 10, 11, and 12				13 60,000	
14 Subtract line 13 from line 5. If zero or less, stop here. Do not complete the rest of this form				14 240,000	
15 If the property described on line 1 above was your main home, enter the amount of your excluded gain. Otherwise, enter -0-. See instructions				15	
16 Gross profit. Subtract line 15 from line 14				16 240,000	
17 Subtract line 13 from line 6. If zero or less, enter -0-				17	
18 Contract price. Add line 7 and line 17				18 300,000	
Part II Installment Sale Income. Complete this part for the year of sale and any year you receive a payment or have certain debts you must treat as a payment on installment obligations.					
19 Gross profit percentage. Divide line 16 by line 18. For years after the year of sale, see instructions				19 80%	
20 For year of sale only: Enter amount from line 17 above; otherwise, enter -0-				20 0	
21 Payments received during year. See instructions. Do not include interest whether stated or unstated				21 100,000	
22 Add lines 20 and 21				22 100,000	
23 Payments received in prior years. See instructions. Do not include interest whether stated or unstated		23			
24 Installment sale income. Multiply line 22 by line 19				24 80,000	
25 Part of line 24 that is ordinary income under recapture rules. See instructions				25	
26 Subtract line 25 from line 24. Enter here and on Schedule D or Form 4797. See instructions				26 80,000	

2000 Workbook

Figure 5
SCHEDULE D
(Form 1040)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service (99)

Name(s) shown on Form 1040

Capital Gains and Losses

▶ Attach to Form 1040. ▶ See Instructions for Schedule D (Form 1040).
▶ Use Schedule D-1 for more space to list transactions for lines 1 and 8.

OMB No. 1545-0074

2000

Attachment
Sequence No. **12**

Barney Rucker

Your social security number
123-45-6789

Part II Long-Term Capital Gains and Losses—Assets Held More Than One Year

(a) Description of property (Example: 100 sh. XYZ Co.)	(b) Date acquired (Mo., day, yr.)	(c) Date sold (Mo., day, yr.)	(d) Sales price (see page D-5)	(e) Cost or other basis (see page D-5)	(f) GAIN or (LOSS) Subtract (e) from (d)	(g) 28% RATE GAIN * or (LOSS) (see instr. below)
8						
9 Enter your long-term totals, if any, from Schedule D-1, line 9		9				
10 Total long-term sales price amounts. Add column (d) of lines 8 and 9		10				
11 Gain from Form 4797, Part I; long-term gain from Forms 2439 and 6252; and long-term gain or (loss) from Forms 4684, 6781, and 8824					11 80,000	
12 Net long-term gain or (loss) from partnerships, S corporations, estates, and trusts from Schedule(s) K-1.					12	
13 Capital gain distributions. See page D-1					13	
14 Long-term capital loss carryover. Enter in both columns (f) and (g) the amount, if any, from line 13 of your 1998 Capital Loss Carryover Worksheet					14 () ()	
15 Combine lines 8 through 14 in column (g).					15	
16 Net long-term capital gain or (loss). Combine lines 8 through 14 in column (f) ▶ Next: Go to Part III on the back.					16 80,000	

Example 3

Facts. Arthur Velmer sold his welding business on December 1, 1999, to an unrelated buyer for \$120,000. Mr. Velmer had rented his machine shop building for a number of years and personally owned all equipment. Mr. Velmer and the buyer of his business agreed on the following sales price allocations for the assets sold:

	Sales Price	Cost	Prior Depreciation
Goodwill	\$ 20,000	\$ —	\$ —
Inventory	32,000	32,000	—
Equipment	68,000	160,000	160,000
Totals	\$120,000	\$192,000	\$160,000

The buyer gave Mr. Velmer a \$35,000 down payment at the December 1, 1999 closing, with the balance of \$85,000 payable monthly with 10% interest on unpaid balances beginning January 1, 2000.

The practitioner must report this transaction as **three separate sales** (Rev. Rul. 55-79). The **first** is the sale of inventory; this is reported as ordinary income on Mr. Velmer's final (1999) Schedule C. The **second** is the equipment sale of \$68,000.

2000 Workbook

Practitioner Notes

1. The sale of inventory items **cannot** be reported using the installment method. All gain or loss on the sale of inventory must be reported in the year of sale, even if no principal payments are received.
2. The sale of the fully depreciated equipment does not qualify for installment reporting since all of the gain is subject to \$1245 recapture and must be reported in the year of sale. The sale is reported in Part III of Form 4797. The \$1245 recapture amount of \$68,000 is carried over to Part II of Form 4797, Ordinary Gains and Losses.

The **third** sale is the \$20,000 sale of goodwill. Of the total sales price of \$120,000, only \$20,000 constitutes the **contract price** for an installment sale. The **gross profit percentage** (line 19, Form 6252–Figure 7) for the installment sale of goodwill is 100%.

Since Mr. Velmer's sale includes assets sold via the installment method (goodwill) and assets that do not qualify for installment reporting, the principal payments he receives must be allocated as follows (Rev. Ruls. 68-13 and 76-110):

Sales price for good will (line 5, Form 6252–Figure 7)	\$ 20,000
Sales price of inventory and equipment	100,000
Total sales price of all assets sold	\$120,000

Percentage of total sales price allocated to installment sale of goodwill:

$$\$20,000/\$120,000 = 16.67\%$$

Percentage of total sales price allocated to inventory and equipment:

$$\$100,000/\$120,000 = 83.33\%$$

Allocation of the 1999 down payment of \$35,000 received by Mr. Velmer to his installment sale of goodwill:

$$\$35,000 \times 16.67\% = \$5,835 \text{ (line 21, Form 6252–Figure 7)}$$

Practitioner Note. In years after 1999, Mr. Velmer will apply the same 16.67% to principal payments he receives to determine the installment sale payments for goodwill. That figure will be entered on line 21, Form 6252 (Payments received during year).

See the completed Forms 4797 (Figure 6) and 6252 (Figure 7) for Arthur Velmer. His 1999 Schedule C, which will include the \$32,000 sale of inventory, is not shown. Nor is his 1999 Schedule D, which will include the \$5,835 long-term capital gain on the sale of goodwill from line 26 of Form 6252.

Observation. Mr. Velmer must include \$105,835 in gross income (\$32,000 + \$68,000 + \$5,835) even though he received only a \$35,000 principal payment in 1999.

2000 Workbook

Figure 6

Form **4797**
 Department of the Treasury
 Internal Revenue Service (99)
 Name(s) shown on return

Sales of Business Property

(Also Involuntary Conversions and Recapture Amounts Under Sections 179 and 280F(b)(2))

▶ Attach to your tax return. ▶ See separate instructions.

OMB No. 1545-0184
1999
 Attachment Sequence No. 27

Authur Velmer

Identifying number
978 - 99 - 0111

Part II Ordinary Gains and Losses

10 Ordinary gains and losses not included on lines 11 through 17 (include property held 1 year or less):		
11 Loss, if any, from line 7		11 ()
12 Gain, if any, from line 7 or amount from line 8, if applicable		12
13 Gain, if any, from line 31		13 68,000
14 Net gain or (loss) from Form 4684, lines 31 and 38a		14
15 Ordinary gain from installment sales from Form 6252, line 25 or 36		15
16 Ordinary gain or (loss) from like-kind exchanges from Form 8824		16
17 Recapture of section 179 expense deduction for partners and S corporation shareholders from property dispositions by partnerships and S corporations (see instructions)		17
18 Combine lines 10 through 17. Enter the gain or (loss) here, and on the appropriate line as follows:		18 68,000
a For all except individual returns: Enter the gain or (loss) from line 18 on the return being filed. b For individual returns: (1) If the loss on line 11 includes a loss from Form 4684, line 35, column (b)(ii), enter that part of the loss here. Enter the part of the loss from income-producing property on Schedule A (Form 1040), line 27, and the part of the loss from property used as an employee on Schedule A (Form 1040), line 22. Identify as from "Form 4797, line 18b(1)." See instructions (2) Redetermine the gain or (loss) on line 18, excluding the loss, if any, on line 18b(1). Enter here and on Form 1040, line 14		
		18b(1)
		18b(2) 68,000

Part III Gain From Disposition of Property Under Sections 1245, 1250, 1252, 1254, and 1255

19 (a) Description of section 1245, 1250, 1252, 1254, or 1255 property:		(b) Date acquired (mo., day, yr.)	(c) Date sold (mo., day, yr.)
A	Equipment	Various	12 - 1 - 99
B			
C			
D			
These columns relate to the properties on lines 19A through 19D. ▶		Property A	Property B
20 Gross sales price (Note: See line 1 before completing.)	20	68,000	
21 Cost or other basis plus expense of sale	21	160,000	
22 Depreciation (or depletion) allowed or allowable	22	160,000	
23 Adjusted basis. Subtract line 22 from line 21	23	0	
24 Total gain. Subtract line 23 from line 20	24	68,000	
25 If section 1245 property:			
a Depreciation allowed or allowable from line 22	25a	68,000	
b Enter the smaller of line 24 or 25a	25b	68,000	

Summary of Part III Gains. Complete property columns A through D through line 29b before going to line 30.

30 Total gains for all properties. Add property columns A through D, line 24	30	68,000
31 Add property columns A through D, lines 25b, 26g, 27c, 28b, and 29b. Enter here and on line 13	31	68,000
32 Subtract line 31 from line 30. Enter the portion from casualty or theft on Form 4684, line 33. Enter the portion from other than casualty or theft on Form 4797, line 6	32	0

2000 Workbook

Figure 7

Form 6252 Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service	<h2 style="margin: 0;">Installment Sale Income</h2> <p style="margin: 0;">▶ See separate instructions. ▶ Attach to your tax return. ▶ Use a separate form for each sale or other disposition of property on the installment method.</p>	OMB No. 1545-0228 <h1 style="margin: 0;">1999</h1> Attachment Sequence No. 79
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Name(s) shown on return **Arthur Velmer** Identifying number **978-99-0111**

1 Description of property ▶ **Goodwill from welding business**

2a Date acquired (month, day, year) ▶ **7 / 01 / 80** b Date sold (month, day, year) ▶ **12 / 1 / 99**

3 Was the property sold to a related party after May 14, 1980? See instructions. If "No," skip line 4 . . . Yes No

4 Was the property you sold to a related party a marketable security? If "Yes," complete Part III. If "No," complete Part III for the year of sale and the 2 years after the year of sale . . . Yes No

Part I Gross Profit and Contract Price. Complete this part for the year of sale only.

5 Selling price including mortgages and other debts. Do not include interest whether stated or unstated	5	20,000
6 Mortgages and other debts the buyer assumed or took the property subject to, but not new mortgages the buyer got from a bank or other source	6	
7 Subtract line 6 from line 5	7	20,000
8 Cost or other basis of property sold	8	0
9 Depreciation allowed or allowable	9	0
10 Adjusted basis. Subtract line 9 from line 8	10	0
11 Commissions and other expenses of sale.	11	0
12 Income recapture from Form 4797, Part III. See instructions	12	0
13 Add lines 10, 11, and 12	13	0
14 Subtract line 13 from line 5. If zero or less, stop here. Do not complete the rest of this form	14	20,000
15 If the property described on line 1 above was your main home, enter the amount of your excluded gain. Otherwise, enter -0-. See instructions	15	0
16 Gross profit. Subtract line 15 from line 14	16	20,000
17 Subtract line 13 from line 6. If zero or less, enter -0-	17	0
18 Contract price. Add line 7 and line 17	18	20,000

Part II Installment Sale Income. Complete this part for the year of sale **and** any year you receive a payment or have certain debts you must treat as a payment on installment obligations.

19 Gross profit percentage. Divide line 16 by line 18. For years after the year of sale, see instructions	19	100%
20 For year of sale only: Enter amount from line 17 above; otherwise, enter -0-	20	0
21 Payments received during year. See instructions. Do not include interest whether stated or unstated	21	5,835
22 Add lines 20 and 21	22	5,835
23 Payments received in prior years. See instructions. Do not include interest whether stated or unstated	23	
24 Installment sale income. Multiply line 22 by line 19	24	5,835
25 Part of line 24 that is ordinary income under recapture rules. See instructions	25	0
26 Subtract line 25 from line 24. Enter here and on Schedule D or Form 4797. See instructions	26	5,835

Practitioner Notes regarding the provision in the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Act of 1999 pertaining to the limitation on the use of the installment method for accrual basis taxpayers.

1. See page 14 in the *What's New Supplement* dated December 18, 2000, received by enrollees of the 1999 Farm Income Tax Schools. This limitation applies to installment sales made **on or after December 17, 1999.**
2. At the time of printing (early October 2000), the fate of this controversial limitation was unknown. Congress may repeal the limitation.
3. The limitation does not affect Example 3 as Arthur Velmer sold his welding business on December 1, 1999, **before** the limitation applied.
4. See pages 123–27 for a thorough discussion of Rev. Proc. 2000-22, which was the IRS response to mitigate the limitation.

2000 Workbook

ISSUE 3: LIKE KIND EXCHANGES

I.R.C. §1031 tax-deferred exchanges are widely used in the commercial and investment real estate markets. A qualified exchange is an excellent tool to defer recognized gain and the resulting tax into the replacement property. However, keep in mind that I.R.C. §1031 encompasses “tax-deferred” exchanges, not “tax-free” exchanges.

Some of the more commonly misunderstood points in the §1031 language are

- A. The 45-day rule
- B. The 180-day rule
- C. The definition of “like kind”

In this problem, these points will be thoroughly explained.

A. THE 45-DAY RULE

I.R.C. §1031(a)(3) reads

(3) Requirement that property be identified and that exchange be completed not more than 180 days after transfer of exchanged property.

For purposes of this subsection any property received by the taxpayer shall be treated as property which is not like-kind property if—

- (A) such property is not identified as property to be received in the exchange on or before the day which is 45 days after the date on which the taxpayer transfers the property relinquished in the exchange.

Example. Assume a closing date of **March 1, 2000**, for the sale of a qualified property. I.R.C. §1031(a)(3)(A) specifically states that the replacement property must be **identified** on or before the day that is 45 days after the date of closing. The day **after closing** is March 2, leaving 30 days in March and 15 days in April. April 15, 2000, is the day (by code definition) on which the replacement property must be identified.

The purpose of the 45-day rule is to allow the exchanger sufficient time in which to locate and identify qualified replacement property. The identification of the replacement property must be made in a **signed, written document** that is **delivered to the other party involved in the exchange**. This identification must clearly describe the replacement property.

Example. “I (the exchanger) have identified the replacement property to be received in the deferred exchange under I.R.C. §1031. It is a mini-storage warehouse building located at 304 Oak Street, Provo, Utah. The legal description provided by the county recorder of deeds is _____.”

Identifying Alternative and Multiple Properties. More than one replacement property can be identified. Regardless of the number of properties the exchanger gives up, the **maximum** number of replacement properties that can be identified is the **larger** of

- Three (3)
- Any number of properties whose total fair market value (FMV) at the end of the 45-day identification period is **not more than double** the total FMV, on the date of transfer, of all properties given up.
- Any number of replacement properties received by the taxpayer before the end of the 45-day identification period.
- Any number of replacement properties identified before the end of the 45-day identification period, if the taxpayer receives 95% of the identified property before the end of the 180-day exchange period.

2000 Workbook

B. THE 180-DAY RULE

The identified replacement property must be **received** by the **earlier** of two dates:

- The 180th day after the date on which the exchanger **transfers** the property given up in the exchange
- The due date, including extensions, for the exchanger's tax return for the tax year in which the transfer of the property given up occurs

Example 4

Facts. Cindy wanted to make a like-kind deferred exchange of her inherited farmland for an apartment building. She transferred her farmland to a title company on December 11, 1999. The 180-day period begins on December 11, 1999, and ends on June 7, 2000. Cindy did not file her 1999 return by April 17, the due date. Nor did she request an automatic extension to file on Form 4868.

Question. By what date must Cindy receive the apartment building in order to meet the 180-day rule?

Answer. April 17, 2000, which is **earlier** than the end of the 180-day period on June 7, 2000.

Practitioner Planning Suggestions

1. Try to convince clients to transfer the property given up **before October 15** in order to take advantage of the full 180-day rule for taking title to the replacement property
2. If that is not possible, request an automatic extension on Form 4868 to preserve the 180-day period.

Caution. The I.R.C. §1031 requirements are very strict, including the 180-day rule. See page 487 of the 1998 *Farm Income Tax Book* for the harsh decisions reached by both the Tax Court and the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in the *Christensen* case.

C. THE "LIKE KIND" REQUIREMENT

Treasury Regulation §1.1031(a)-1(b) states

Definition of "like kind." As used in §1031(a), the words "like kind" have reference to the **nature or character** of the property and not to its grade or quality. One kind or class of property may not, under that section, be exchanged for property of a different kind or class. The fact that any real estate involved is improved or unimproved is not material, for that fact relates only to the grade or quality of the property and not to its kind or class. Unproductive real estate held by one other than a dealer for future use or future realization of the increment in value is held for investment and not primarily for sale.

The following exchanges have been considered exchanges of like-kind property.

1. Bare land for timberland
2. Improved land for unimproved land
3. Real estate in a city for a farm or ranch
4. Undeveloped ranch land for a commercial building
5. A commercial building for commercial condo offices
6. An apartment building for vacant land plus golf course improvements
7. Rental property for farm property
8. An improved lot and house that is not the taxpayer's principal residence

2000 Workbook

Additional rules apply for exchanges of **personal property**. Treasury Regulation §1.1031(a)-1(b) provides that the nonrecognition rules of I.R.C. §1031 **do not apply** to an exchange of one kind or class of property for property of a different kind or class. **Personal properties of a like class are considered to be of a “like kind” for purposes of §1031.** Depreciable tangible personal properties are of a like class if they are either within the same General Asset Class (ADR tables) and the General Asset Class is one of the 13 listed in the regulations or within the same Product Class [Standard Industrial Classifications Manual (1987)]. Finally, an exchange of properties of a like kind may qualify under I.R.C. §1031 regardless of whether the properties are of a like class.

The General Asset Classes include the following (partial list):

Asset Class	Items
00.11	Office furniture, fixtures, and equipment
00.12	Information systems (computers and peripherals)
00.13	Data handling equipment, except computers
00.22	Automobiles, taxis
00.23	Buses
00.241	Light general-purpose trucks
00.26	Tractor units for use over the road

In many §1031 exchanges, the sale of specific items of personal property (e.g., automobiles, class 00.22) followed by the timely purchase of other items of personal property (e.g., light trucks, class 00.241) do not qualify as “like kind” due to the fact that the two items are not within the same asset class.

Practitioner Note. See Chapter 14, “Like-Kind Exchanges,” in the 1997 *Farm Income Tax Book* for a comprehensive discussion of this complex issue.

ISSUE 4: SALE OF PERSONAL RESIDENCE

Example 5

Facts. John Daly, who is single and self-employed, bought his personal residence in 1994. He has claimed a deduction for business use of the residence for his job duties as an outside salesman since he bought it. John sold the residence on October 10, 2000, for \$140,000. The business use percentage that John reported on Form 8829 in prior tax years was 14%. Following are the pertinent facts concerning John’s office-in-home deductions and the home sale in 2000.

Purchase price of residence in 1994	\$92,000
Less: Lot value	(12,000)
Cost of home excluding the lot	\$80,000
Business use percentage reported on Form 8829 in prior years	14%
Depreciation allowed on office portion prior to 2000	\$1,398
Depreciation claimed on the 2000 Form 8829	185
Total depreciation on office portion prior to sale	\$1,583
Depreciation deducted after May 6, 1997 , through 2000	\$787
Date of home sale	Oct. 10, 2000
Sale price of home	\$140,000
Expenses of sale in 2000	\$10,000

2000 Workbook

Question 1. Can John exclude all of his gain on the sale of his home in 2000?

Answer 1. No. John **meets** the 2-out-of-5-year **ownership test** but **does not meet** the 2-out-of-5-year **use test**. The business use of his home lasted for **more than 3** years during the 5-year period ending on the date of sale. Therefore, the portion of the gain attributable to the office portion cannot be excluded under I.R.C. §121.

Practitioner Note. John has two sales. The first sale for the 86% of the home that meets the ownership and use tests is excludable. The second sale for the 14% of the home used for business is taxable.

Question 2. What is the amount of the taxable gain on the office portion of the home?

Answer 2. The gain must be shown on John's 2000 Form 4797, which is shown in Figure 8. Following is the information for various lines in Part III of Form 4797:

Line 20: Gross sales price (14% × \$140,000)		\$19,600
Line 21: Cost plus expense of sale		
(a) 14% of purchase price in 1994	\$12,880	
(b) 14% of selling expenses in 2000	1,400	14,280
Line 22: Depreciation allowed or allowable		1,583
Line 23: Adjusted basis (line 21 less line 22)		\$12,697
Line 24: Total gain (line 20 less line 23)		6,903
Line 26g: (MACRS used on office portion—zero is entered)		-0-

Figure 8

Form 4797 (1999)

Page **2**

Part III Gain From Disposition of Property Under Sections 1245, 1250, 1252, 1254, and 1255

19 (a) Description of section 1245, 1250, 1252, 1254, or 1255 property:	(b) Date acquired (mo., day, yr.)	(c) Date sold (mo., day, yr.)		
A Home office portion of residence	3 - 12 - 94	10 - 10 - 00		
B				
C				
D				
These columns relate to the properties on lines 19A through 19D. ►	Property A	Property B	Property C	Property D
20 Gross sales price (Note: See line 1 before completing)	20 19,600			
21 Cost or other basis plus expense of sale	21 14,280			
22 Depreciation (or depletion) allowed or allowable	22 1,583			
23 Adjusted basis. Subtract line 22 from line 21	23 12,697			
24 Total gain. Subtract line 23 from line 20	24 6,903			
25 If section 1245 property:				
a Depreciation allowed or allowable from line 22	25a			
b Enter the smaller of line 24 or 25a	25b			
26 If section 1250 property: If straight line depreciation was used, enter -0- on line 26g, except for a corporation subject to section 291.				
a Additional depreciation after 1975 (see instructions)	26a			
b Applicable percentage multiplied by the smaller of line 24 or line 26a (see instructions)	26b			

2000 Workbook

Figure 8 (continued)

c Subtract line 26a from line 24. If residential rental property or line 24 is not more than line 26a, skip lines 26d and 26e	26c			
d Additional depreciation after 1969 and before 1976	26d			
e Enter the smaller of line 26c or 26d	26e			
f Section 291 amount (corporations only)	26f			
g Add lines 26b, 26e, and 26f	26g	0		

Summary of Part III Gains. Complete property columns A through D through line 29b before going to line 30.

30 Total gains for all properties. Add property columns A through D, line 24	30	6,903
31 Add property columns A through D, lines 25b, 26g, 27c, 28b, and 29b. Enter here and on line 13	31	0
32 Subtract line 31 from line 30. Enter the portion from casualty or theft on Form 4684, line 33. Enter the portion from other than casualty or theft on Form 4797, line 6	32	6,903

Part IV Recapture Amounts Under Sections 179 and 280F(b)(2) When Business Use Drops to 50% or Less
(See instructions.)

		(a) Section 179	(b) Section 280F(b)(2)
33 Section 179 expense deduction or depreciation allowable in prior years	33		
34 Recaptured depreciation. See instructions	34		
35 Recapture amount. Subtract line 34 from line 33. See the instructions for where to report	35		

Question 3. If John is in the 28% tax bracket for 2000, will the entire \$6,903 gain shown in Part III of Form 4797 be taxed at the maximum 20% rate?

Answer 3. No. **\$1,583** of the gain attributable to the entire MACRS deduction (line 22 in Figure 8) will be taxed at **25%**. The remainder of the gain, **\$6,116**, will be taxed at the maximum 20% capital gain rate in Part IV of John's 2000 Schedule D (not shown).

Practitioner Note. \$1,583 will be entered on line 25, Part IV on John's 2000 Schedule D as **unrecaptured section 1250 gain**.

Question 4. What could John have done to reduce the recognized gain?

Answer 4. He could have intentionally disqualified his home office from meeting the regular and exclusive use test during 1998 and later years. **Then he would not have been entitled to deduct any home office expenses in 1998, 1999, or 2000 (the year of sale).** Consequently, the 2-out-of-5-year use test for the home office portion of the home would have been met on the date of sale in 2000. John could then exclude all of the gain **except for** the post-May 6, 1997, MACRS deduction of \$266.

Question 5. If John did deduct home office expenses on his 1998 and 1999 Schedule Cs, can he file amended returns for those years to remove the deductions?

Answer 5. Yes, **if he can prove that his home office did not meet the regular and exclusive use test in those two years.** If not, he would not qualify to file the amended returns.

2000 Workbook

Example 6

Facts. Chad and Jane owned a personal residence in Dayton, Ohio, and a vacation home on Hilton Head Island, SC. In June 1997 Chad retired. In July 1997 they sold their personal residence in Dayton for \$295,000. They had bought the home in 1990 for \$125,000.

The house on Hilton Head was used primarily as rental property for the years 1992 through 1996. After 1996 it was used solely as a vacation home. After the sale of their personal residence in Dayton, they moved to Hilton Head and converted the former vacation home to their new primary residence. They moved into the Hilton Head home on July 4, 1997.

They decided that their new residence on Hilton Head was too large, and on September 30, 2000, they sold the house for \$370,000. They had bought it in 1992 for \$220,000. The depreciation allowed for the years 1992 through 1996, when it was rented, was \$28,450. They incurred selling expenses of \$26,675. The computation of their \$151,775 capital gain follows.

Gross sales price on Sept. 30, 2000		\$370,000
Less: Expenses of sale		(26,675)
Net sales proceeds		<u>\$343,325</u>
Less adjusted basis		
Purchase price in 1992	\$220,000	
Less: MACRS deductions (1992–1996)	<u>(28,450)</u>	<u>(191,550)</u>
Gain on sale in 2000		\$151,775

Question. Is any portion of the \$151,775 gain taxable in 2000?

Answer. No part of the sale of the Hilton Head Island home is taxable.

The ownership and the use tests are met. Since the taxpayers used the house as their primary residence for two years or more (or the equivalent stated in months) during the 5-year period ending on the sale date, the use test is met and none of the gain is taxable.

Practitioner Note. The IRS takes the position that the post-May 6, 1997 depreciation rule applies if the taxpayer could have claimed depreciation but didn't. A taxpayer cannot avoid what would otherwise be a taxable gain by choosing not to claim any depreciation otherwise allowable.

Example 7: Sale of Residence with Day Care Center

Facts. Jean Smith, a single person, has operated a day care center in her home for the past 7 years. She uses 1,200 square feet of a 2,400-square-foot residence for the day care center, and the business is open 6 A.M. to 6 P.M., 5 days a week, 52 weeks per year.

Jean paid \$120,000 for the residence 8 years ago and has not made any substantial improvements since the purchase. When calculating depreciation on the business portion of the residence, she estimated the land value as \$20,000, leaving \$100,000 as the basis for depreciation calculations.

The following portions of the 1999 Form 8829 reflect the calculations of the business use percentage and depreciation deductions (Figure 9).

2000 Workbook

Figure 9

Form 8829 Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service (99)	Expenses for Business Use of Your Home ▶ File only with Schedule C (Form 1040). Use a separate Form 8829 for each home you used for business during the year. ▶ See separate instructions.	OMB No. 1545-1266 1999 Attachment Sequence No. 66
Name(s) of proprietor(s) Jean Smith		Your social security number 111 22 3434
Part I Part of Your Home Used for Business		
1 Area used regularly and exclusively for business, regularly for day care, or for storage of inventory or product samples. See instructions	1	1,200
2 Total area of home	2	2,400
3 Divide line 1 by line 2. Enter the result as a percentage	3	50 %
• For day-care facilities not used exclusively for business, also complete lines 4-6. • All others, skip lines 4-6 and enter the amount from line 3 on line 7.		
4 Multiply days used for day care during year by hours used per day	4	3,120 hr.
5 Total hours available for use during the year (365 days × 24 hours). See instructions	5	8,760 hr.
6 Divide line 4 by line 5. Enter the result as a decimal amount	6	.36
7 Business percentage. For day-care facilities not used exclusively for business, multiply line 6 by line 3 (enter the result as a percentage). All others, enter the amount from line 3 ▶	7	18 %
Part III Depreciation of Your Home		
35 Enter the smaller of your home's adjusted basis or its fair market value. See instructions	35	120,000 00
36 Value of land included on line 35	36	20,000 00
37 Basis of building. Subtract line 36 from line 35	37	100,000 00
38 Business basis of building. Multiply line 37 by line 7	38	18,000 00
39 Depreciation percentage. See instructions	39	2.56 %
40 Depreciation allowable. Multiply line 38 by line 39. Enter here and on line 28 above. See instructions	40	461 00

On August 5, 2000, Jean sold the residence. The selling price was \$185,000, and she paid selling expenses of \$13,000. During the 7-year period in which she operated the business, she had claimed a total of \$3,150 in depreciation deductions for the business use of the residence, of which \$1,500 was for the period after May 6, 1997.

Question. What is the tax result of Jean's sale in 2000?

Answer. Jean has made two sales, as shown below.

	Total	82% Personal	18% Business
Selling price	\$185,000	\$151,700	\$33,300
Selling expenses	(13,000)	(10,660)	(2,340)
Net selling price	172,000	141,040	30,960
Less: Adjusted basis			
Original cost	120,000	98,400	21,600
Less depreciation	(3,150)	N/A	(3,150)
	(116,850)	(98,400)	(18,450)
Gain on sale	\$ 55,150	\$ 42,640	\$ 12,510

Since the day care portion of the home did not meet the 2-out-of-5-year **use test**, the \$12,510 gain is taxable. It will be reported in Part III of Jean's 2000 Form 4797. The \$3,150 prior depreciation is unrecovered \$1250 gain. It will be shown on line 25 in Part IV of Jean's 2000 Schedule D.

The \$42,640 gain on the portion of the home used as a residence is excludable under I.R.C. §121.

2000 Workbook

ISSUE 5: CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING METHOD

See the boxed Practitioner Notes on page 544 for the change in accounting method topic of most interest to practitioners in preparing 2000 returns. Rev. Proc. 2000-22 is explained thoroughly on pages 123-27.



RULINGS AND CASES

Accounting	562	<i>Martens v. Commissioner</i>	582
Notice 2000-26	562	<i>Fleischaker v. Commissioner</i>	583
Rev. Proc. 2000-22	563	Business Expenses	585
<i>Osteopathic Medical Oncology and Hematology, P.C. v. Commissioner</i>	564	<i>Pelton & Gunther, Professional Corporation v. Commissioner</i>	585
<i>Von Euw & L.J. Nunes Trucking, Inc. v. Commissioner</i>	566	<i>Steger v. Commissioner</i>	587
<i>RACMP Enterprises, Inc. v. Commissioner</i>	566	<i>Northrop v. Commissioner</i>	587
Rev. Proc. 99-49	568	<i>Muegge v. Commissioner</i>	588
<i>USFreightways Corporation v. Commissioner</i>	569	Capital Gains 589	
Rev. Rul. 2000-7	570	Ltr. Rul. 199945008	589
Activities Not for Profit	571	<i>Olstein v. Commissioner</i>	590
<i>Davis v. Commissioner</i>	571	<i>Hancock v. Commissioner</i>	591
<i>Nissley v. Commissioner</i>	572	Corporations, Partnerships, and LLCs	592
<i>Tobin v. Commissioner</i>	573	<i>Gitlitz v. Commissioner</i>	593
Agriculture	575	<i>Nelson v. Commissioner</i>	593
Notice 2000-45	575	<i>Storch v. United States</i>	594
Ltr. Rul. 199937050	576	<i>Witzel v. Commissioner</i>	594
Prop. Reg. §1.1301-1	577	<i>United States v. Farley</i>	594
Alimony/Property Settlement	577	<i>Pugh v. Commissioner</i>	595
<i>Young v. Commissioner</i>	577	<i>Gaudiano v. Commissioner</i>	595
<i>Read v. Commissioner</i>	578	<i>Sleiman v. Commissioner</i>	596
<i>Leventhal v. Commissioner</i>	579	<i>Van Wyk v. Commissioner</i>	597
<i>Thomas B. Benham v. Commissioner</i>	580	<i>Daniel J. Culnen v. Commissioner</i>	599
Bad Debt Deductions	582	Credits	600
<i>O'Neal's Feeder Supply, Inc. v. United States</i>	582	<i>Johnston v. Hazlett</i>	600
		Ltr. Rul. 200014035	601
		IRS Problem Alerts Report	602

2000 Workbook

Ltr. Rul. 200028035	602	<i>Randolph v. Commissioner</i>	634
CCA 200022051	603	Information Reporting	635
Ltr. Rul. 200028034	604	SCA 199945043	635
Depreciation, Depletion, and Amortization	605	Reg. 105316-98	635
Notice 2000-4	605	Innocent Spouses	637
Rev. Proc. 2000-18	605	Rev. Proc. 2000-15	637
Rev. Proc. 2000-18	606	<i>Corson v. Commissioner</i>	638
<i>Hayden v. Commissioner</i>	607	<i>Milne v. United States</i>	639
FSA 199949031	608	<i>Butler v. Commissioner</i>	640
T.D. 8865	609	Interest and AFRs	642
Notice 2000-50	611	Rev. Rul. 2000-42	642
Environmental Expenditures	611	Rev. Rul. 99-41	643
Ltr. Rul. 199952075	611	Rev. Rul. 99-45	644
Estate and Gift Tax	612	Rev. Rul. 99-48	644
T.D. 8854	612	Rev. Rul. 2000-1	644
<i>Estate of Cavett v. Commissioner</i>	614	Rev. Rul. 2000-9	645
<i>Church v. United States</i>	616	Rev. Rul. 2000-11	645
Ltr. Rul. 199938005	617	Rev. Rul. 2000-19	645
FICA Tax	618	Rev. Rul. 2000-23	646
<i>Quietwater Entertainment, Inc. v. United States</i>	618	Rev. Rul. 2000-32	646
<i>Shotgun Delivery, Inc. v. United States</i>	619	Rev. Rul. 2000-41	647
<i>Escobar de Paz v. Commissioner</i>	620	Rev. Rul. 2000-45	647
Ltr. Rul. 200006005	621	Rev. Rul. 2000-26	648
ISP Paper	621	IRS MSSP Audit Technique Guides	649
FSA 1999400002	623	Itemized Deductions	650
Gains and Losses	624	Ltr. Rul. 200004001	650
Rev. Rul. 99-56	624	Rev. Rul. 2000-24	651
<i>Lund v. United States</i>	625	<i>Herman v. United States</i>	651
<i>Harding v. Commissioner</i>	626	Ltr. Rul. 200030023	652
Gambling	626	Passive Income	653
<i>Thomas v. United States</i>	626	<i>Krukowski v. Commissioner</i>	653
<i>Torpie v. Commissioner</i>	627	<i>Fransen v. United States</i>	654
Ltr. Rul. 199945008	628	Ltr. Rul. 200014010	655
Gross Income	628	<i>Kosonen v. Commissioner</i>	656
<i>Warren v. Commissioner</i>	628	<i>Strange v. Commissioner</i>	656
<i>Coady v. Commissioner</i>	629	Personal Exemptions	657
<i>Kenseth v. Commissioner</i>	630	<i>Miller and Lovejoy v. Commissioner</i>	657
<i>Wollenburg v. Commissioner</i>	631	Ltr. Rul. 200007031	658
<i>Visco v. Commissioner</i>	632	<i>Burns v. McGill</i>	658
<i>Nielsen v. Commissioner</i>	633	<i>Miller v. Commissioner</i>	659
		<i>Mueller v. Commissioner</i>	660

2000 Workbook

<i>Hughes v. Commissioner</i>	661	Ltr. Rul. 199951053.	678
Procedure	662	IR 1999-80	679
IR 2000-23	662	<i>Jones v. Commissioner</i>	680
<i>Parsons v. Commissioner</i>	662	<i>Alpern v. Commissioner</i>	681
T.D. 8893	663	<i>Phillip M. Wenger, CPA v. Commissioner</i> ...	682
Notice 2000-21	663	Ltr. Rul. 200027060	683
IR 1999-105	664	Self-Employment	684
<i>East Wind Industries v. United States</i>	664	<i>Wuebker v. Commissioner</i>	684
<i>Spiroff v. United States</i>	665	<i>Charlton v. Commissioner</i>	685
<i>Mitchell v. Commissioner</i>	666	<i>Ding v. Commissioner</i>	686
Ltr. Rul. 200014001, April 10, 2000	666	<i>Walker v. United States</i>	687
<i>Olpin v. Commissioner</i>	667	<i>Norwood v. Commissioner</i>	688
<i>Smith v. Commissioner</i>	668	<i>Hennen v. Commissioner</i>	688
IR 2000-31	669	<i>McNamara v. Commissioner</i>	689
<i>Williams v. Commissioner</i>	669	Social Security	690
<i>Jones v. United States</i>	670	Travel Expenses	690
<i>Mom's Inc. v. Weber</i>	671	<i>Jorgensen v. Commissioner</i>	690
Reasonable Compensation	672	<i>Robertson v. Commissioner</i>	691
<i>Exacto Spring Corporation v.</i> <i>Commissioner</i>	672	<i>Sutherland Lumber-Southwest, Inc. v.</i> <i>Commissioner</i>	692
<i>Normandie Metal Fabricators, Inc. v.</i> <i>Commissioner</i>	673	T.D. 8864	693
<i>Ashare, P.C. v. Commissioner</i>	673	Rev. Proc. 2000-9	693
Residence	674	Rev. Proc. 99-38	696
Ltr. Rul. 200004022	674	<i>Mitchell v. Commissioner</i>	696
Ltr. Rul. 200018021	675	Ltr. Rul. 200020055	697
Ltr. Rul. 199950030	675	Ltr. Rul. 200030001	697
Announcement 99-116	676	CCA 200026025	698
Retirement Plans	676		
<i>Bunney v. Commissioner</i>	676		
Notice 2000-30	678		

2000 Workbook

CASES

<i>Alpern v. Commissioner</i>	681	<i>Kenseth v. Commissioner</i>	630
<i>Ashare, P.C. v. Commissioner</i>	673	<i>Kosonen v. Commissioner</i>	656
<i>Bunney v. Commissioner</i>	676	<i>Krukowski v. Commissioner</i>	653
<i>Burns v. McGill</i>	658	<i>Leventhal v. Commissioner</i>	579
<i>Butler v. Commissioner</i>	640	<i>Lund v. United States</i>	625
<i>Charlton v. Commissioner</i>	685	<i>Martens v. Commissioner</i>	582
<i>Church v. United States</i>	616	<i>McNamara v. Commissioner</i>	689
<i>Coady v. Commissioner</i>	629	<i>Miller v. Commissioner</i>	659
<i>Corson v. Commissioner</i>	638	<i>Miller and Lovejoy v. Commissioner</i>	657
<i>Daniel J. Culnen v. Commissioner</i>	599	<i>Milne v. United States</i>	639
<i>Davis v. Commissioner</i>	571	<i>Mitchell v. Commissioner</i>	666
<i>Ding v. Commissioner</i>	686	<i>Mitchell v. Commissioner</i>	696
<i>East Wind Industries v. United States</i>	664	<i>Mom's Inc. v. Weber</i>	671
<i>Escobar de Paz v. Commissioner</i>	620	<i>Muegge v. Commissioner</i>	588
<i>Estate of Cavett v. Commissioner</i>	614	<i>Mueller v. Commissioner</i>	660
<i>Exacto Spring Corporation v. Commissioner</i>	672	<i>Nelson v. Commissioner</i>	593
<i>Fleischaker v. Commissioner</i>	583	<i>Nielsen v. Commissioner</i>	633
<i>Fransen v. United States</i>	654	<i>Nissley v. Commissioner</i>	572
<i>Gaudiano v. Commissioner</i>	595	<i>Normandie Metal Fabricators, Inc. v. Commissioner</i>	673
<i>Gitlitz v. Commissioner</i>	593	<i>Northrop v. Commissioner</i>	587
<i>Hancock v. Commissioner</i>	591	<i>Norwood v. Commissioner</i>	688
<i>Harding v. Commissioner</i>	626	<i>O'Neal's Feeder Supply, Inc. v. United States</i>	582
<i>Hayden v. Commissioner</i>	607	<i>Olpin v. Commissioner</i>	667
<i>Hennen v. Commissioner</i>	688	<i>Olstein v. Commissioner</i>	590
<i>Herman v. United States</i>	651	<i>Osteopathic Medical Oncology and Hematology, P.C. v. Commissioner</i>	564
<i>Hughes v. Commissioner</i>	661	<i>Parsons v. Commissioner</i>	662
<i>Johnston v. Hazlett</i>	600	<i>Pelton & Gunther, Professional Corporation v. Commissioner</i>	585
<i>Jones v. Commissioner</i>	680	<i>Phillip M. Wenger, CPA v. Commissioner</i>	682
<i>Jones v. United States</i>	670	<i>Pugh v. Commissioner</i>	595
<i>Jorgensen v. Commissioner</i>	690		

2000 Workbook

<i>Quietwater Entertainment, Inc. v. United States</i>	618
<i>RACMP Enterprises, Inc. v. Commissioner</i>	566
<i>Randolph v. Commissioner</i>	634
<i>Read v. Commissioner</i>	578
<i>Robertson v. Commissioner</i>	691
<i>Shotgun Delivery, Inc. v. United States</i>	619
<i>Sleiman v. Commissioner</i>	596
<i>Smith v. Commissioner</i>	668
<i>Spiroff v. United States</i>	665
<i>Steger v. Commissioner</i>	587
<i>Storch v. United States</i>	594
<i>Strange v. Commissioner</i>	656
<i>Sutherland Lumber-Southwest, Inc. v. Commissioner</i>	692
<i>Thomas B. Benham v. Commissioner</i>	580
<i>Thomas v. United States</i>	626

<i>Tobin v. Commissioner</i>	573
<i>Torpie v. Commissioner</i>	627
<i>United States v. Farley</i>	594
<i>USFreightways Corporation v. Commissioner</i>	569
<i>Van Wyk v. Commissioner</i>	597
<i>Visco v. Commissioner</i>	632
<i>Von Euw & L.J. Nunes Trucking, Inc. v. Commissioner</i>	566
<i>Walker v. United States</i>	687
<i>Warren v. Commissioner</i>	628
<i>Williams v. Commissioner</i>	669
<i>Witzel v. Commissioner</i>	594
<i>Wollenburg v. Commissioner</i>	631
<i>Wuebker v. Commissioner</i>	684
<i>Young v. Commissioner</i>	577

2000 Workbook

RULINGS

Announcement 99-116	676	Rev. Proc. 2000-18	606
CCA 200022051	603	Rev. Proc. 2000-22	563
CCA 200026025	698	Rev. Rul. 99-41	643
FSA 1999400002	623	Rev. Rul. 99-45	644
FSA 199949031	608	Rev. Rul. 99-48	644
IR 1999-80	679	Rev. Rul. 99-56	624
IR 1999-105	664	Rev. Rul. 2000-1	644
IR 2000-23	662	Rev. Rul. 2000-7	570
IR 2000-31	669	Rev. Rul. 2000-9	645
IRS Problem Alerts Report	602	Rev. Rul. 2000-11	645
ISP Paper	621	Rev. Rul. 2000-19	645
Notice 2000-4	605	Rev. Rul. 2000-23	646
Notice 2000-21	663	Rev. Rul. 2000-24	651
Notice 2000-26	562	Rev. Rul. 2000-26	648
Notice 2000-30	678	Rev. Rul. 2000-32	646
Notice 2000-45	575	Rev. Rul. 2000-41	647
Notice 2000-50	611	Rev. Rul. 2000-42	642
Prop. Reg. §1.1301-1	577	Rev. Rul. 2000-45	647
Reg. 105316-98	635	SCA 199945043	635
Rev. Proc. 99-38	696	T.D. 8854	612
Rev. Proc. 99-49	568	T.D. 8864	693
Rev. Proc. 2000-9	693	T.D. 8865	609
Rev. Proc. 2000-15	637	T.D. 8893	663
Rev. Proc. 2000-18	605		

2000 Workbook

LETTER RULINGS

Ltr. Rul. 199937050	576
Ltr. Rul. 199938005	617
Ltr. Rul. 199945008	589
Ltr. Rul. 199945008	628
Ltr. Rul. 199950030	675
Ltr. Rul. 199951053	678
Ltr. Rul. 199952075	611
Ltr. Rul. 200004001	650
Ltr. Rul. 200004022	674
Ltr. Rul. 200006005	621
Ltr. Rul. 200007031	658

Ltr. Rul. 200014001	666
Ltr. Rul. 200014010	655
Ltr. Rul. 200014035	601
Ltr. Rul. 200018021	675
Ltr. Rul. 200020055	697
Ltr. Rul. 200027060	683
Ltr. Rul. 200028034	604
Ltr. Rul. 200028035	602
Ltr. Rul. 200030001	697
Ltr. Rul. 200030023	652

2000 Workbook