



- ▶ THE WASH SALE ...1
- ▶ REMINDERS.....1
- ▶ HOME SALE.....2

CKR Financial Services

monthly journal

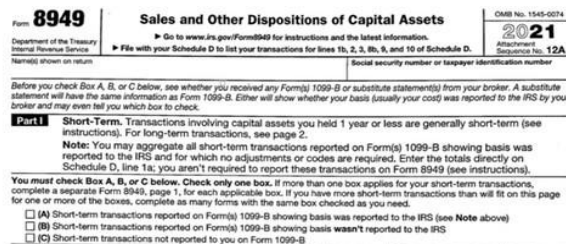
HELPING OUR CLIENTS GAIN THE ADVANTAGE OVER THE COMPETITION

Last month, I shared some tax strategies to help minimize liabilities. Today, I'd like to share something that has caused several tax clients angst. It's important to keep this in mind while making investment decisions during the year.

The Wash Sale Rule

When the pandemic happened and people were at home, some folks began testing their hand at day trading. While there's nothing wrong with that and it is YOUR money to do with as you wish, there are some things you want to steer clear of. One of these is the "Wash Sale". Simply put, a wash sale is when you sell a security for a loss but have purchased the same asset, or a very similar one, within 30 days before or after the sale. Normally, you can write off your capital losses and use them to offset any capital gains. However, if you have a loss from a wash sale, you can't deduct the loss on your return. Despite this, a gain on a wash sale is taxable.

Investors try to find ways around this IRS wash sale rule. They often try what's called Tax Loss Harvesting. Tax loss harvesting is when you sell some investments at a loss to offset gains you've realized by selling other stocks at a profit, resulting in paying taxes only on your net profit. Unfortunately, the IRS is savvy and has given this forethought. For instance, if you are filing jointly, you may think that if you sold at a loss, you could have your spouse buy the same stock. However, the wash rule applies to you and your spouse as a unit so you cannot claim a loss while your spouse buys within that 30-day window. Similarly, if you sell at a loss and



then re-buy the same stock out of a different account such as a retirement account, you do not get to take the loss according to the wash sale rule.

Keep in mind that you only have until Dec 31 to clear your wash sales and be able to claim any loss for that year's tax return. But wash rules still carryover into the new year regarding the 30-day rebuy or resell.

Keep in mind that wash sales apply 30 days before or after the buy and sell of the asset.

Wash sales are not illegal and there is no IRS penalty. However, they do tend to creep up on day-traders if you don't know what to look for and often find out too late that the loss you were counting on is not allowed. This is a good time to review your accounts and check for these events so you can make appropriate adjustments now before they pop up next tax season!

REMINDERS

- On July 1, 2022, the hourly minimum wage in Nevada will increase to \$9.50 for employers who offer health benefits that meet certain criteria, and \$10.50 for employers who do not offer sufficient benefits.
- Mileage rates increase on July 1, 2022 from \$.585/mile to \$.625/mile. If you use mileage on your tax return, be sure to have it calculated up through June 30 so you can use the new rate starting July 1, 2022.





Home Sale

When deciding to sell your primary residence, you must keep in mind the repercussions of capital gains and the effect they will have on your tax return.

“Success usually comes to those who are too busy to be looking for it.”

-HENRY DAVID THOREAU

Business or Busy-ness?

Meetings, Networking, Business Lunches, Conferences, Webinars- they all sound like legitimate business efforts. But take a look at which activities contribute to your business and which ones just keep you busy and away from the productive pursuits. Replace “Busy” with “Productive” and see what activities are hollow and no longer deserve the prominent position in your calendar. Busyness will easily diminish your focus and your ability to create true value for your company. It may be time to discard some of your busy activities for ones that actually pay off.

With home prices at historic levels, many homeowners are considering if they would like to sell their home. If you’ve owned your home for a couple of years, chances are your principal residence is worth more than you paid for it.

Individuals who sell their primary residence can exclude up to \$250,000 (\$500,000 if married filing jointly) if they meet 3 tests:

Ownership: You must have owned the home for at least 2 years during the 5-year period ending with the date of sale.

Use: You have used the home as your principal residence for at least 2 years during the 5-year

period ending with the date of sale.

Two-Year Period: You did not exclude gain from the sale of another home during the 2-year period ending on the date of sale.

What this means is that you must have owned the home for at least 2 years, used it as your primary residence for 2 of the last 5 years (doesn’t have to be continuous), and not have excluded any gains from a home sale in the past 2 years. If these conditions are met, you can exclude \$250,000 (\$500,000 if married filing jointly) from the gains of your home sale.

If you do not meet the 3 tests mentioned, you may

still get a Partial Maximum Exclusion of Gain. This would happen if you had to sell your home due to a change in place of employment (at least 50 miles away) of a qualified individual, the health of a qualified individual (to get a diagnosis and obtain treatment for yourself or family member), or unforeseen circumstances (involuntary conversion of your home, natural or man-made disasters, events such as death, unemployment, divorce or legal separation, and multiple births from the same pregnancy).

DO YOU NEED TO REVIEW YOUR TAX STRATEGY FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR? THIS IS A GOOD TIME TO BOOK APPOINTMENTS FOR SOME ADVISORY SERVICES. CALL NOW AND MENTION “ADVISORY SPECIAL” AND LET’S REVIEW YOUR TAX STRATEGIES AND GOALS. \$100 INSTEAD OF THE NORMAL \$125/HR.

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