

2023 Year End Tax Update



## INTRODUCTIONS



Mark Heath, CPA

Partner & Director of Tax Services

#### FIRM OVERVIEW

McKonly & Asbury is a team of CPAs and Business Advisors serving clients from our offices in Camp Hill, Lancaster, and Bloomsburg.

We provide Advisory & Business Consulting, Audit & Assurance, Entrepreneurial Support & Client Accounting, Internal Audit, Professional Placement, Tax, and Technology services to a variety of industries including:









**Employee Benefit Plans** 











## WHAT ARE WE GOING TO TALK ABOUT TODAY?

- Current Tax Law and How We Got Here
- What's Coming in 2026?
- Employee Retention Credit
- IRC Section 174 (R&D) Update
- Supreme Court Update
- Federal Corporate Transparency Act
- PA Annual Reporting Requirement





# CURRENT TAX LAW AND HOW WE GOT HERE

#### **CURRENT TAX LAW**

- Tax Cuts and Jobs Act
  - C Corporation Provisions
    - Lowered rate to a flat 21% PERMANENT
  - Individuals Expire after 2025
    - Lowered the Top Individual Tax Rate to 37%
    - Increased Rate Bracket Spread
    - Allows for a 20% Deduction Against Flow-Through Income (QBI Deduction)
    - Increased the Standard Deduction
      - But Eliminated Personal Exemptions
    - Capped the State and Local Tax Deduction at \$10k
    - Increased the AMT Exemptions
    - Increased the Child Tax Credit
    - Suspended Miscellaneous Itemized Deductions
    - Dramatically Increased the Estate Tax Exemption



#### **CURRENT TAX LAW & HOW WE GOT HERE**

- Tax Cuts and Jobs Act
  - Other
    - Bonus Depreciation CALENDAR YEAR
      - Phase Out Began in 2023 80%
      - **2**024 60% ... 2026 20%
    - IRC Section 174 R&D Capitalization
- How did we get here?
  - Two Words Budget Reconciliation





## WHAT'S COMING IN 2026?

#### **WHAT ABOUT 2026?**

- C Corporations rate stays at 21%
- Individuals
  - Top Rate Back to 39.6%
  - Brackets Get Compressed
  - Standard Deduction Reduced
  - Personal Exemptions Come Back
  - QBI Deduction GONE
  - SALT Cap GONE
  - AMT Exemptions Reduced
  - Estate Tax Exemption Back to \$5m



#### SO WHAT?

- We're Just Back to 2017, Right?
- Wrong!
  - C Corp Rate DOES NOT CHANGE
  - QBI Deduction is GONE
  - Flow-Through Income Max Rate 39.6% PLUS STATE!
    - SALT Deduction Most Likely Limited by AMT
  - C Corp Max Rate 25%?
    - Double Taxation
  - Is This the End of Flow Throughs?



#### WHAT ABOUT YOU AND ME?

- **2023 2025** 
  - Take Advantage of the Standard Deduction
  - Maximize HSA/FSA etc.
  - Accelerate Income?
  - Estate Planning?
- **2026** 
  - Know the Changes
    - What is a \$10k Charitable Contribution Worth in 2025?
    - What is it Worth in 2026?





# EMPLOYEE RETENTION CREDIT

#### **EMPLOYEE RETENTION CREDIT**

- What's the IRS Doing?
  - Officially numerous warnings and clarifications
  - Unofficially 90% of enforcement division switched to ERC compliance
- What are the ERC "Experts" telling you?
  - Mask mandate? You qualify!
  - Social distancing? You qualify!
  - Supply Chain Issues? You qualify!
  - Do we sign the 941X? Well... no.
  - Do I work for the company calculating the credit? Well... no.
  - Are we even calculating the credit? Well... no. We just take the numbers you give us.
  - But You're Certifying that We Qualify, Right? Not Exactly.
  - But you don't need to pay us until you get the credit!



#### **EMPLOYEE RETENTION CREDIT**

- What are the rules?
  - Greater than 50% decrease in gross receipts (20% in 2021)
    - 2020 or 2021 calendar quarter vs same 2019 calendar quarter
  - Shut down by government mandate
    - Supply chain issues?
    - Customer issues?
    - Operate remotely?
    - Partial shutdown?
  - No double dipping with PPP or other wage credits!





## IRC SECTION 174 (R&D) UPDATE

#### **IRC SECTION 174**

#### What is it?

- Specified Research or Experimental Expenditures incurred in tax years beginning after December 31, 2021, must be capitalized and amortized over five years using the half-year method (so six years)
- Over Fifteen years if costs not domestic
- When did they do this?
  - 2017 this is how we're supposed to pay for the Tax Cuts and Jobs
    Act



#### **IRC SECTION 174**

- What are "Specified Research or Experimental Expenditures"?
  - Anything that Generates a Credit
  - Software Development Costs (regardless of whether or not it's eligible for the credit)
  - Includes Costs that are NOT Credit Eligible
    - Labor
    - Materials & Supplies
    - Cost Recovery
    - Patent Costs
    - Management
    - Travel



#### **IRC SECTION 174**

- So, what do we do now?
  - Just don't take the R&D credit? (doesn't solve the problem)
  - Plan accordingly
  - Call your legislators
  - Cross your fingers





## SUPREME COURT - MOORE V. UNITED STATES

#### MOORE V. UNITED STATES

- Can Income be Taxed Before It's Received?
  - Sometimes?
  - Administrative Convenience or Constitutional Mandate?
  - IRC Section 965 Changed with The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act
    - One-Time Tax on Foreign Undistributed Earnings
    - Otherwise Would have Been Untaxed Permanently
  - Ramifications:
    - Flow-Through Entities?
    - Accrual Basis?
    - Wealth Tax?
    - Unrealized Gains?





## FEDERAL TRANSPARENCY ACT AND PA ANNUAL REPORT

- Federal Corporate Transparency Act
  - Who Must File?
    - Corporations, LLCs, and Partnerships
    - Beneficial Owners
      - Exercise "Substantial Control" over a reporting entity; or
      - Owns/Controls 25% or More of a Reporting Entity
  - What Must be Filed?
    - Name/Address
    - State of Formation
    - EIN
    - Beneficial Owners
      - Date of Birth
      - Identification (e.g. Driver's License, Passport)



- Federal Corporate Transparency Act
  - When to File?
    - Existing Companies on or before January 1, 2025
    - Newly Formed Companies (after 1/1/2024) within 30 Days of Formation
    - Within 30 Days of Any Changes
  - How to File?
    - TBD
  - What Happens if I don't File?
    - Big Penalties



- Federal Corporate Transparency Act
  - Large Company Exemption
    - Employs MORE THAN 20 FTEs; and
    - More than 20 FTEs are Employed in the United States; and
    - Operating Presence at a Physical Office in the United States; and
    - MORE THAN \$5,000,000 in Gross Receipts (Excluding Foreign)
  - Most Tax-Exempt Entities Exempt
  - Resources
    - https://www.fincen.gov/boi
    - https://www.fincen.gov/boi-faqs
    - https://www.fincen.gov/boi-faqs#C\_1
    - https://www.fincen.gov/sites/default/files/shared/BOI\_Small\_Compliance\_Guide.v1.1-FINAL.pdf



- Federal Corporate Transparency Act
  - So What, Now What?
    - There is a Solution!
    - Harbor Compliance
      - Setup to Pull Public Record Data
      - You Securely Provide Beneficial Ownership Info
      - They Prepare and File on Your Behalf
      - Tracking and Filing Done by Harbor
      - https://www.harborcompliance.com/beneficial-ownership-information-reporting-service.



- Pennsylvania Annual Reporting
  - Effective for 2025
  - Who?
    - ALL Entities Registered to Do Business in Pennsylvania
  - When?
    - Corporations (For-Profit and Exempt) June 30<sup>th</sup>
    - LLCs September 30<sup>th</sup>
    - LPs, GPs, and anyone else December 31<sup>st</sup>
  - https://www.dos.pa.gov/BusinessCharities/Business/Resources/Pages/Annual-Reports.aspx



## **CONTACT INFORMATION**



Mark Heath, CPA

Partner

Director of Tax Services

mheath@macpas.com

717-972-5755





## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **COLLABORATE! 2024**



#### **SAVE THE DATE!**

