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Gray, Gray & Gray, LLP's News

Estate Planning Even More Important for Massachusetts Residents



By Michael D. Koppel, CPA, MBA, MSA, PFS, CITP
Gray, Gray & Gray, LLP

For a number of years, most state tax authorities have "piggybacked" on federal tax laws when it comes to estate and gift tax. It was often easier for the state and less complex for the taxpayer to duplicate federal statutes on the state level.

However, in recent years a number of states have "decoupled" from federal estate and gift tax laws. Massachusetts has frozen its estate tax rates at the federal level that was in effect at the end of the year 2000. So state taxpayers must contend with different rates and exemptions that can have a significant effect on effective estate and gift tax planning.

[Click here to read the full article.](#)

If you have any questions regarding your gift and estate tax situation, please contact Gray, Gray & Gray at (781) 407-0300.

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A Closer Look at Home Office Deductions



Working from home has its perks. Not only can you skip the commute, you also might be eligible to deduct home office expenses on your tax return. Beginning in 2013, there's a new simplified option but it has limitations. And as one recent U.S. Tax Court case illustrates, employees are held to a different standard than self-employed people. If you qualify for home office deductions, which expenses can you deduct without raising a red flag? This article explains.

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Management

Hey, That's A Brilliant Idea!



Suggestion boxes work wonders. They cost little to set up and as many as 50 percent of the ideas your employees have will likely save your company money and help it become more efficient. Here's how to update an old-fashioned system and reap the rewards.

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Business Tax

Deduct More For Business Gifts



You may want to give your best customers a generous gift to thank them for their patronage. But the tax law only allows a measly \$25 annual deduction for each recipient. Here's a strategy to increase your business write-off and treat your clients to a special gift.

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