Privacy Policy for WENDY DEGROOT TAX SERVICE LLC

Last Updated: September 5, 2025

Your privacy is a huge deal to me. This Privacy Policy explains what information I collect, how I use it, and how I keep it safe. This policy applies to all clients who use my tax preparation services.

When you hire me, you're trusting me with your information, and I take that responsibility seriously.

1. What Information I Collect

To prepare your taxes accurately, I need to collect certain personal and financial information from you. This may include:

- **Personal Information:** Your name, address, Social Security Number (SSN), date of birth, and contact information (email and phone number). I'll also need this for your spouse and any dependents, if applicable.
- **Financial Information:** Your income details (W-2s, 1099s, etc.), investment information, bank account numbers (for direct deposit or debit), and details about expenses you plan to deduct.
- **Other Information:** Any other information you provide that is necessary for me to accurately complete your tax returns.

2. How We Use Your Information

I use the information you provide for a few key purposes:

- To Prepare Your Tax Returns: This is the main reason I collect your data. I need it to fill out your federal, state, and local tax forms correctly.
- To File Your Returns: I use your information to electronically file your tax returns with the IRS and state tax authorities, but only with your explicit consent.
- To Communicate With You: I'll use your contact information to send you updates, ask questions about your tax documents, and deliver your completed returns.
- To Comply with the Law: I am required by law to retain certain records and may need to use your information to comply with legal or regulatory obligations.

3. How I Share Your Information

I do not sell or rent your personal information to anyone. Ever.

I will only share your information with third parties in the following limited circumstances:

- **Government Authorities:** I will share your information with the IRS and state/local tax authorities when I file your tax returns on your behalf.
- As Required by Law: If I am required by a subpoena, court order, or other legal process, I may disclose your information.
- With Your Consent: I may share your information with others (like a mortgage lender or financial advisor) if you give me your express written permission to do so.

4. Keeping Your Information Safe

Protecting your data is a top priority. I use a combination of physical, electronic, and procedural safeguards to protect your information from unauthorized access, use, or disclosure. This includes secure storage for physical documents and encryption for electronic data.

5. How Long We Keep Your Information

I am required by the IRS to keep copies of your prepared tax returns and supporting documents for a specific period of time (typically three to seven years). My holding period is ten years. After that period, we will securely destroy your information.

6. Your Rights

You have the right to review the information you have provided to me and make sure it's accurate. If you have any questions about the information I have on file, please let us know.

7. Changes to This Policy

I may need to update this Privacy Policy from time to time. If I make any significant changes, I will let you know by sending an email or posting a notice on my website.

8. Questions? Let's Talk!

If you have any questions at all about my privacy practices, please don't hesitate to reach out.

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