



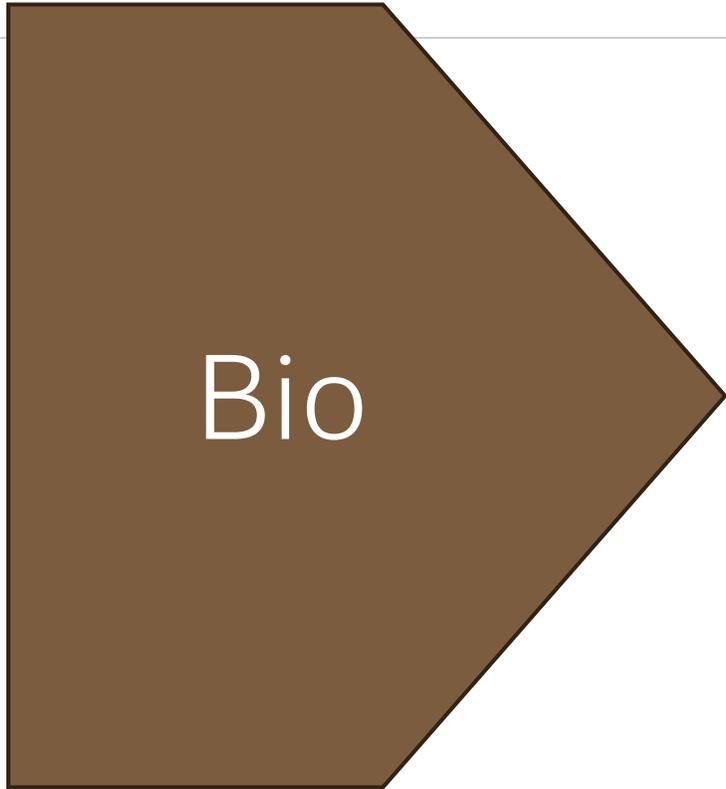
Arthur Weiss  
Tax Accountant



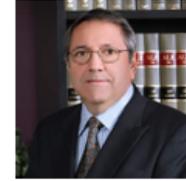
**MOUNT  
PLEASANT**  
**COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT  
CORPORATION**

# MPCDC Tax Planning Webinar Pt 1– February 12, 2026 Time : 7PM-8:30 PM

Strategies and insights for effective tax management



THE LAW OFFICE OF  
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LAW | TAX | FINANCE



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#### **About the Firm**

The Law Office of Arthur Weiss is a client-focused practice dedicated to delivering practical, results-driven legal representation. Founded on the principles of integrity, diligence, and personalized service, the firm works closely with clients to understand their challenges and provide clear, effective solutions.

Arthur Weiss brings extensive legal experience and a disciplined, detail-oriented approach to every matter. His practice emphasizes thoughtful legal analysis, strategic advocacy, and responsive communication, ensuring clients remain informed and confident throughout the legal process.

#### **Practice Areas**

- Law: Civil and business representation
- Tax: Guidance on compliance, disputes, and planning
- Finance: Advisory services for individuals and businesses

#### **Philosophy**

Whether advising individuals, families, or businesses, Arthur Weiss is dedicated to protecting clients' interests and achieving favorable outcomes with professionalism and respect. His approach combines legal expertise with a commitment to client empowerment, ensuring every case is handled with care and precision.

# WEBINAR INTRODUCTION AND AGENDA

# Welcome and Opening Remarks



## Webinar Introduction

Deneen Davis AND Darla Sligh welcomed participants and set the stage for the tax planning session.

## Speaker Background

Arthur Weiss shared his extensive experience and personal passion for community education in tax law.

## Webinar Structure

The session was designed to be conversational with encouragement for audience questions and diverse content.

## Purpose and Reflection

Opening remarks emphasized education, community support, and key tax responsibility reflections for attendees.

# INDIVIDUAL TAX RESPONSIBILITIES AND BEST PRACTICES

# Tax Filing and Legal Obligations



## Timely Tax Filing Importance

Filing tax returns on time prevents severe IRS penalties even if payment is not possible.

## Separate IRS Penalties

Failure to file and failure to pay incur separate penalties, making late filing costlier.

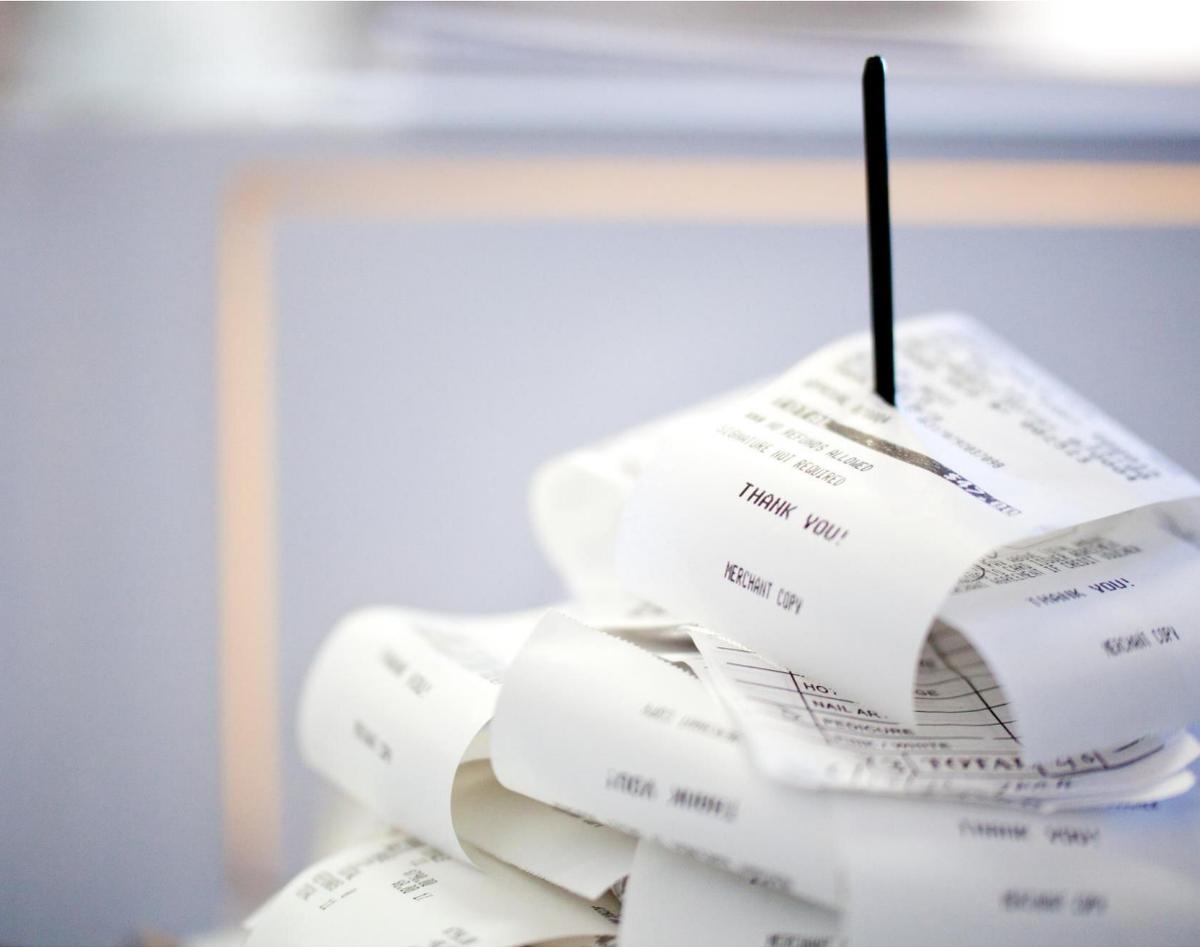
## Legal Responsibility for Accuracy

Taxpayers are legally responsible for accuracy even if a professional prepares the return.

## Proactive Tax Habits

Review returns carefully, ask questions, submit documents early, and communicate if deadlines are tight.

# Receipts, Recordkeeping, and Substantiation



## Importance of Detailed Records

Taxpayers must keep clear, detailed records to support deductions and withstand IRS audits.

## Insufficient Proof Examples

Credit card statements alone cannot prove the purpose or location of a purchase for deductions.

## Contemporaneous Annotations

Annotating receipts with dates and property addresses provides strong substantiation for audits.

## Ethical Documentation Practices

Maintaining original, unaltered receipts is essential to avoid serious legal consequences.

# TAX LAW STRUCTURE AND PLANNING OPPORTUNITIES

# Understanding Form 1040 and the Tax Ladder

## Form 1040 Income Components

Lines 1–9 of Form 1040 capture wages, dividends, capital gains, pensions, and Social Security benefits as income sources.

## Adjustments and AGI Calculation

Adjustments or above-the-line deductions reduce gross income to arrive at adjusted gross income, influencing tax credits eligibility.

## Impact of TCJA on Deductions

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act eliminated personal exemptions and increased standard deductions, reducing itemized deductions usage.

## Tax Planning Opportunities

Effective tax planning now focuses on managing capital gains, retirement contributions, and strategic year-end financial decisions.



# Impact of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA)



## Major Tax Overhaul

TCJA doubled the standard deduction and eliminated many personal exemptions and itemized deductions, changing filing methods.

## Impact on Homeowners

Higher standard deductions reduce the benefit of itemizing mortgage interest and property tax deductions for many homeowners.

## Limits on Deductions

New limits on state and local tax deductions and removal of some deductible fees reduce Schedule A filers.

## Shift in Tax Planning

Post-TCJA planning focuses on income timing and strategic capital gains rather than deduction maximization.

# CHARITABLE GIVING AND SPECIALIZED SITUATIONS

# Charitable Contributions and Documentation



## Documentation for Donations

Proper records like donation envelopes, checks, or year-end statements are essential for substantiating charitable contributions.

## Anonymous Cash Donations

Anonymous cash donations cannot be deducted without documentation, even if generously given during church collections.

## Tax Deduction Eligibility

Charitable deductions apply only to taxpayers who itemize their taxes, which is less common due to the higher standard deduction.

## Importance of Detailed Records

Detailed, contemporaneous donation records help taxpayers comply with IRS audits and avoid disallowed deductions.

# Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs)



## QCD Basics

QCDs allow individuals 70½+ to transfer up to \$100,000 yearly from IRAs directly to charities, excluding it from taxable income.

## Tax Benefits

QCDs lower taxable income, potentially reducing Medicare premiums and taxation of Social Security benefits for retirees.

## Execution Requirements

QCDs must be made directly from IRA custodians to charities with proper acknowledgment to qualify for tax benefits.

## Strategic Importance

QCDs help retirees meet charitable goals tax-efficiently while complying with required minimum distribution rules.

# IRS AUDITS, CORRESPONDENCE, AND PROBLEM RESOLUTION

# Types of IRS Audits



## Correspondence Audits

Correspondence audits are the most common and involve mailed requests for documentation without in-person meetings.

## Office Audits

Office audits require taxpayers to visit IRS offices where auditors review documents and ask questions face-to-face.

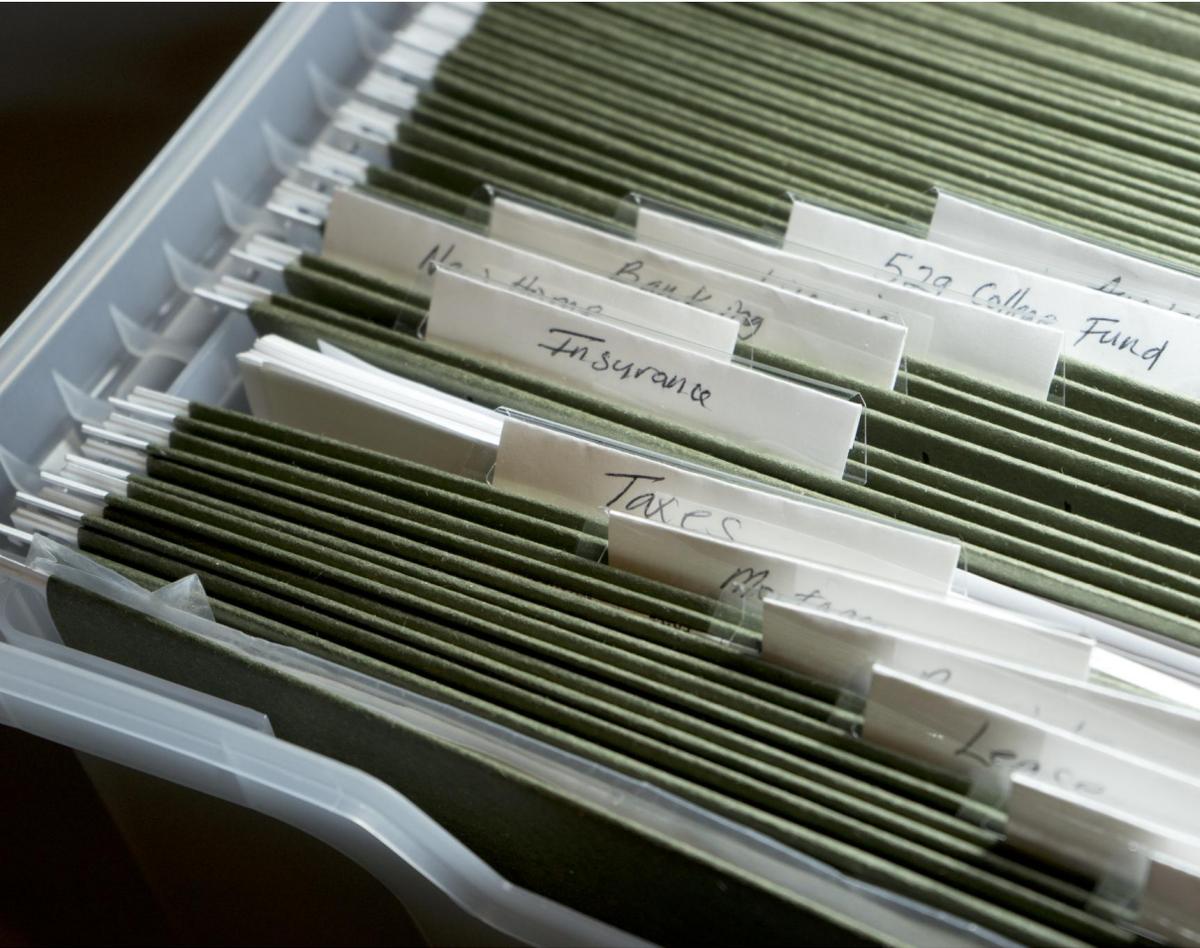
## Field Audits

Field audits are extensive, with IRS agents visiting homes or businesses to examine records on-site.

## Audit Preparedness

Being selected for an audit is not proof of wrongdoing; taxpayers should stay calm and respond promptly.

# How to Prepare for an IRS Audit



## Central Role of IDR

The IRS Information Document Request guides the audit by specifying required documents in numbered paragraphs.

## Effective Document Organization

Using a binder with numbered dividers helps organize documents according to the IDR for easy access and clarity.

## Examples of Required Documentation

Include proof of dependent eligibility and vehicle mileage records as specified in the IDR to demonstrate transparency.

## Benefits of Preparedness

Prepared and respectful taxpayers often experience quicker audits and better outcomes without added penalties.

# Responding to IRS Notices and Tax Problems



## Common Tax Problems

Unfiled returns, unpaid taxes, and ignoring IRS letters cause serious tax issues and missed deadlines.

## Avoidance Consequences

Ignoring IRS correspondence intensifies problems, risking lost appeal rights and payment options.

## Seek Professional Help

Promptly consulting a tax attorney or CPA clarifies notices and improves resolution chances.

## Manageable Solutions

Most tax issues are solvable with early communication and honest dialogue with the IRS.

# BUSINESS TAXATION AND COMPLIANCE CONSIDERATIONS

# Business Entities and Compliance Burdens



## Variety of Business Entities

Different business entities have unique tax treatments and filing requirements including sole proprietorships and corporations.

## Tax Compliance Responsibilities

Business owners must comply with multiple tax obligations such as sales tax, meals tax, and business license fees.

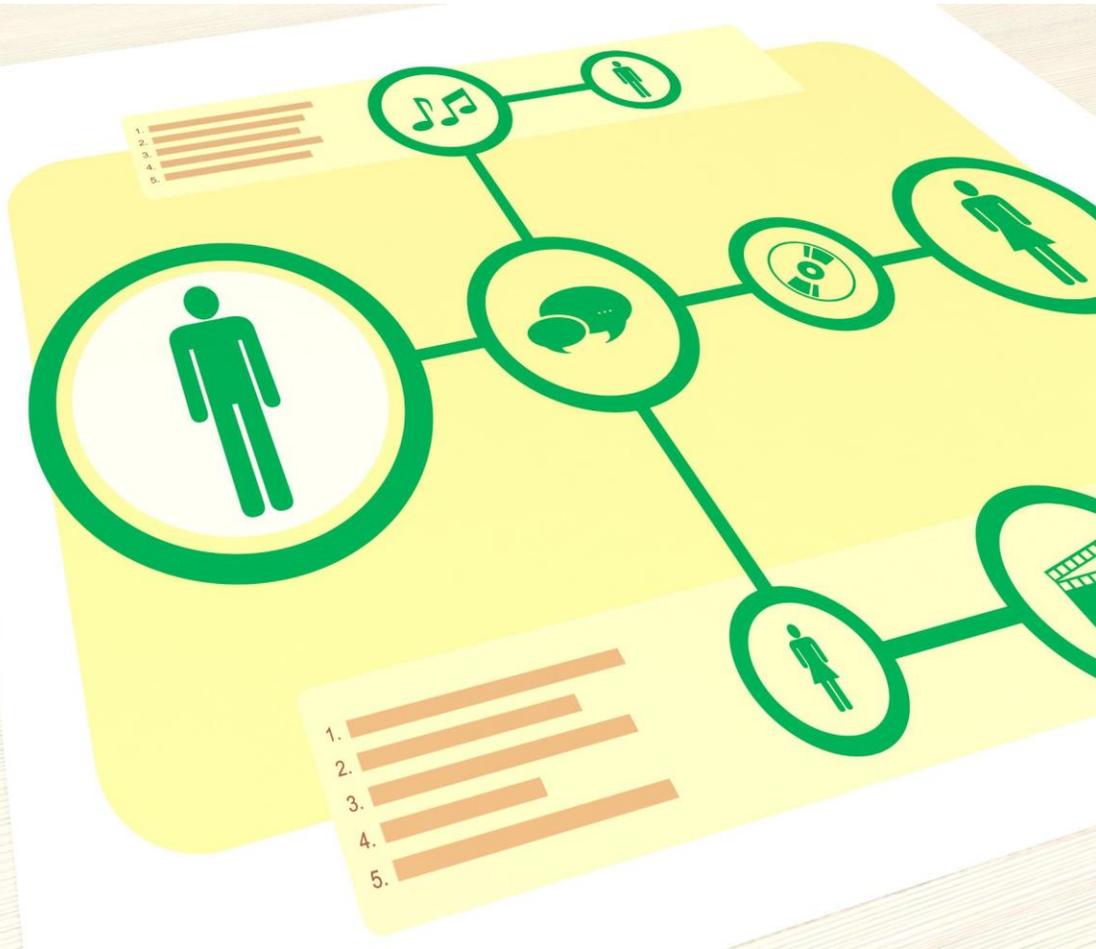
## Impact of Late Filings

Late submissions result in penalties that reduce capital and affect business financial stability.

## Proactive Compliance Management

Effective recordkeeping and seeking professional help ensure timely filings and regulatory adherence.

# Employees, Payroll, and Worker Classification



## Risks of Misclassification

Misclassifying workers risks IRS penalties, back taxes, audits, and legal exposure for businesses.

## Importance of Accurate Classification

Workers must be classified according to IRS standards to avoid costly corrections and legal issues.

## Payroll Compliance Solutions

Using payroll services ensures compliance with wage laws, tax withholding, and reporting requirements.

## Protecting Small Businesses

Proper payroll and classification protect small businesses from financial loss and legal jeopardy.



# LLC and S Corporation Tax Pitfalls

## Quarterly Tax Payment Oversight

LLC owners often miss quarterly estimated tax payments due to receiving distributions instead of wages with withholding.

## Unreasonably Low Salaries

S corporation owners paying low salaries risk IRS reclassification and substantial penalties for tax avoidance.

## Importance of Reasonable Salary

Paying a reasonable salary aligned with industry standards helps avoid IRS disputes and ensures tax compliance.

# SPECIAL TOPICS AND AUDIENCE QUESTIONS

# Tax Software and Professional Assistance



## Reliability of Tax Software

Commercial tax software is reliable for simple tax situations with straightforward income and minimal complexities.

## Limitations of Software

Tax software may not suit complex tax profiles such as business income or multiple state filings.

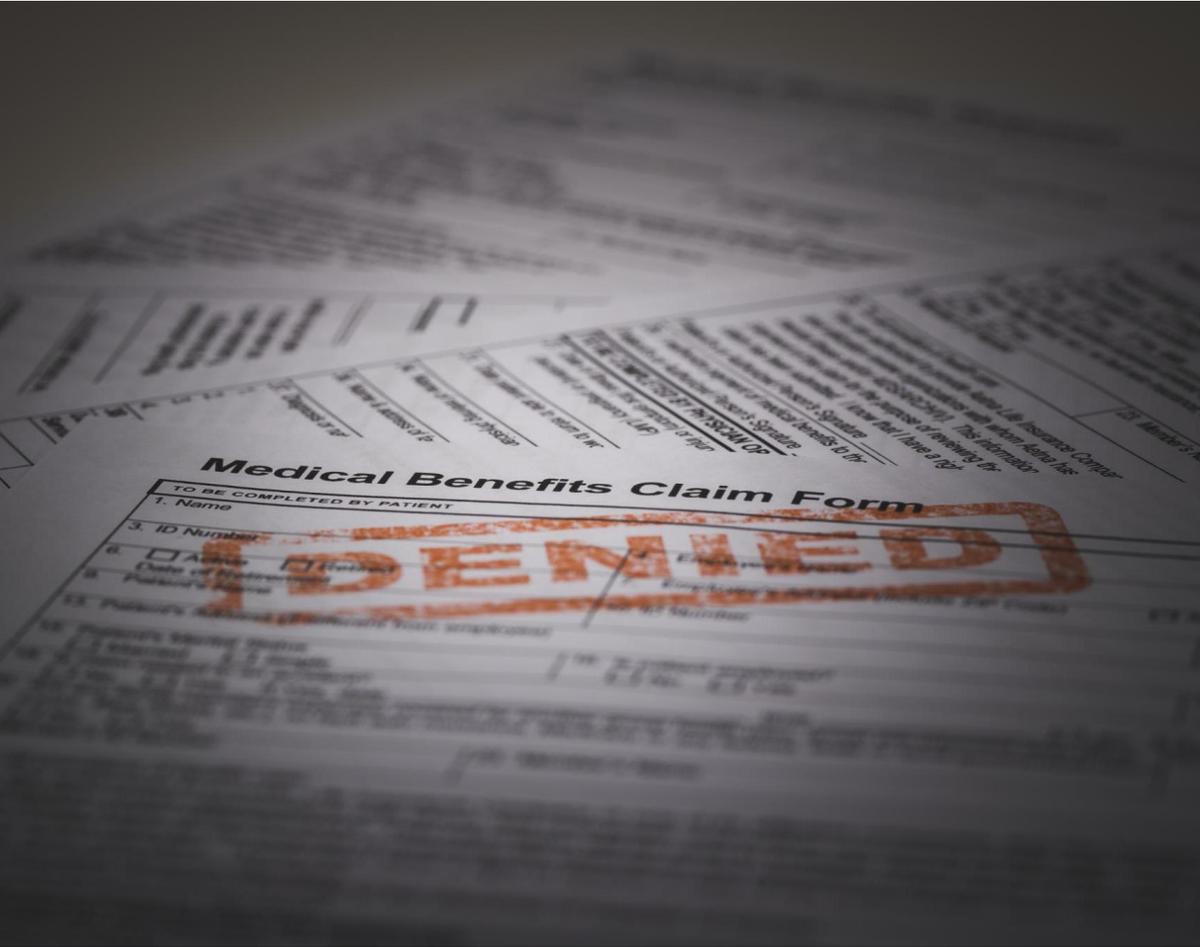
## Professional Assistance Benefits

Consulting CPAs or tax attorneys can provide accurate filings and strong IRS defense for complex cases.

## Choosing the Right Option

Evaluating financial complexity helps decide between using software or professional tax services.

# Filing Returns for Deceased Taxpayers



## Tax Year Segmentation

The tax year for a deceased individual is divided into two periods: before and after death, for accurate income reporting.

## Final Tax Return Income

Only income earned before death is reported on the final individual tax return of the deceased taxpayer.

## Executor Authority and Refunds

Executor or authorized representative must file Form 56 to sign returns and manage refunds belonging to the estate.

## Professional Assistance

IRS has clear procedures for death-related tax matters, and professional help ensures compliance and accuracy.

# CONCLUSION AND NEXT STEPS

# Final Remarks and Future Engagement



## Webinar Appreciation

Participants appreciated the informative and practical tax guidance provided during the session.

## Ongoing Support

Speaker offered to assist with document review, follow-up questions, and future business tax sessions.

## Community Engagement

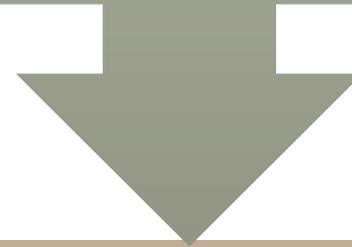
Upcoming MPCDC activities were announced, encouraging community sharing and involvement.

## Proactive Tax Management

Emphasis on detail, communication with tax professionals, and timely tax management to prevent setbacks.

Coming Soon

MPCDC will have a series of training with MR Weiss once a month at least for the next 3 months



## Topics

Business  
growth

Estate  
planning

Consumer  
law