CCH[®] AnswerConnect Virtual Coffee Talk A discussion of the latest tax updates

An Update on Partnership Audits and the IRS Campaigns Saga

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August 25, 2022





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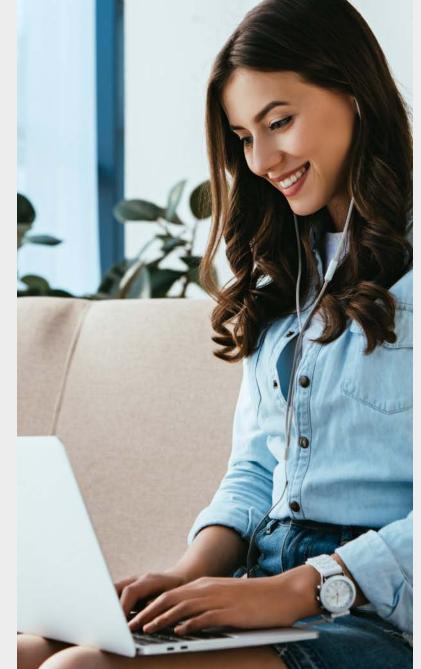
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Today's speakers



Kevin M. Jacobs Managing Director Alvarez & Marsal Taxand, LLC



Kat Gregor Partner Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP



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Agenda

- Review of the Partnership Audit Rules
- IRS and Partnership Compliance
 - Large Partnership Compliance Program
 - Key IRS Campaigns
- What to do when an audit starts?

Polling Question #1

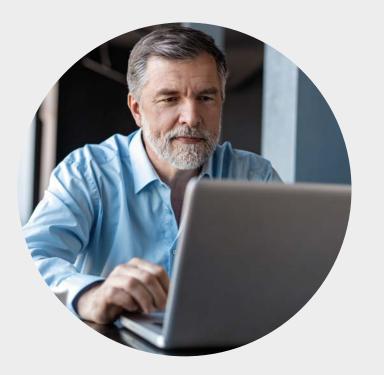
Have you been involved in a partnership audit for a taxable year that began after December 31, 2017?

- Yes
- No

Review of the Partnership Audit Rules



Why are the new rules important?



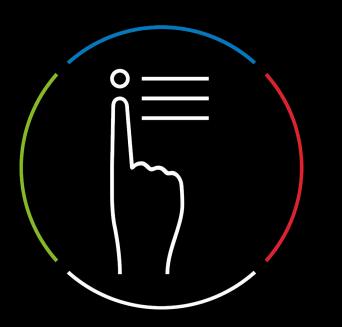
- May change the risk analysis in evaluating uncertain tax positions
- Impact on due diligence
- May require changes to partnership agreements and related documents
- Tax protection agreements will be impacted
- May affect financial statement reporting

"Highlights" of the New Partnership Audit Rules

- Centralized: all adjustments and collection consolidated at partnership level
- Applies to taxable years beginning after 12/31/2017 (i.e., 2018 calendar year for most)
- Limited ability to opt out of centralized proceedings
- Items subject to the partnership audit rules are extremely broad

Polling Question #2

True or False: If I do not work for or represent a partnership, then I do not need to be worried about these rules?



- True
- False

Adjustments



- Partnership-Level Adjustments (section 6225)
 - Partnership, not partner, liable in the partnership adjustment year for any imputed underpayment
- Push-Out Election (section 6226)
 - Reviewed year partners take into account adjustments, including penalties and interest
 - Partner consent not required
 - Interest charged on deficiency is 2% higher
- IRS discretion to divide adjustments into groupings or subgroupings
 - Two types of imputed underpayments general and specific
 - Partnership may make different decisions (use of section 6225 or 6226) with respect to different imputed underpayments

Administrative Adjustment Requests (AAR) (section 6227)

- Partnerships may file an AAR
 - No longer allowed to file amended partnership returns
 - Partnership must determine whether the adjustments result in an "imputed underpayment"
 - If yes, then must either have partnership-level adjustments or a push-out election
 - If no, then must push out the adjustments

IRS and Partnership Compliance



IRS Audits of Partnerships

Two Main Prongs:



- Similar to Large Corporation Compliance Program (LCCP)
- Returns selected based on data analytics to select largest partnerships
- Issues might cover campaign topics, but not limited



- Coordinated efforts to audit, educate and issue guidance around a specific issue
- Audits can focus on education, but also can evolve into coordinated-style positions by the IRS (e.g., SECA campaign)
- Many can include partnerships but are not limited to partnerships

Key Campaigns



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Sale of Partnership Interest



Lending Activities/ ECI



SECA Tax

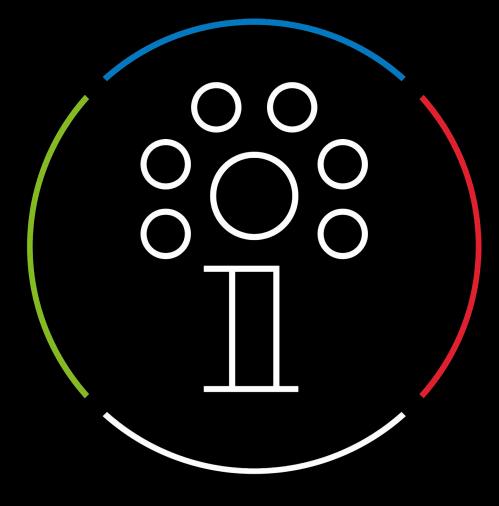


Losses/Distributions in Excess of Partner's Basis

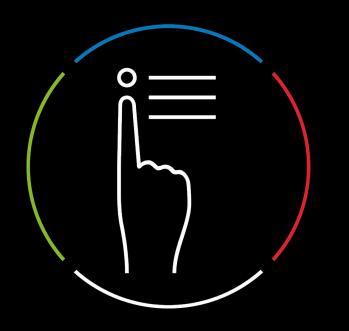


Withholding Compliance

What to do when an audit starts?



Polling Question #3



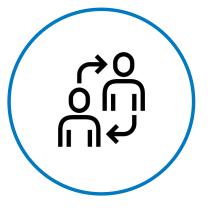
In the following sentence, Their are nine dogs, and there all chasing they're tails, which is your favorite?

- Their
- There
- They're

Key First Step — Examine the Partnership Agreement







Partnership Representative

Who is it?

What can they do?

Partners' Rights

Information Sharing

Both directions

Time Sensitive Actions with the IRS



Redesignate PR or designated individual?



Limited window between notice of intent to audit and actual notice of beginning of audit — file an AAR?



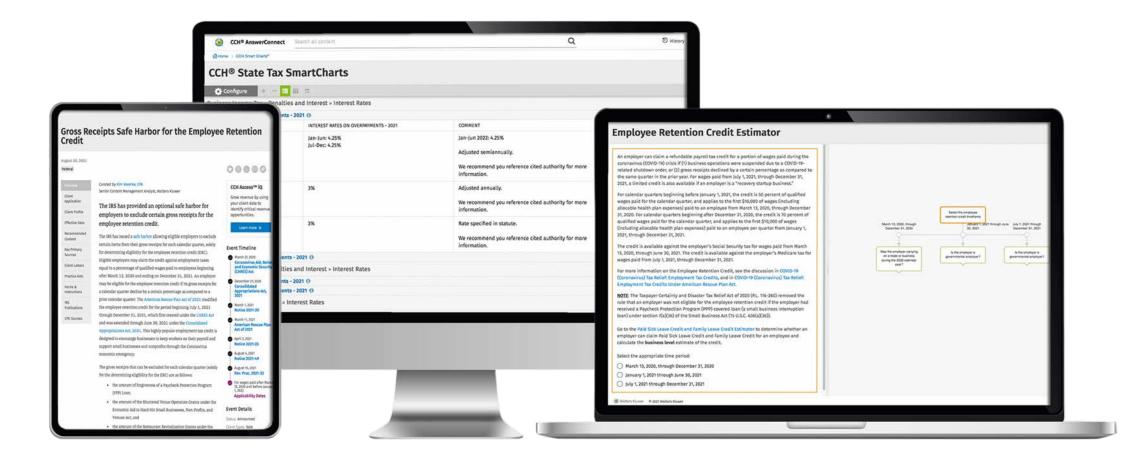
Allows partnerships to make affirmative adjustments up front (comparable to procedure allowing affirmative amendments at outset of corporation audits)



Once audit begins, AARs are no longer permitted

- Plan for dealing with partners
- Learn more from the examiner: LPCP? Campaign-related?

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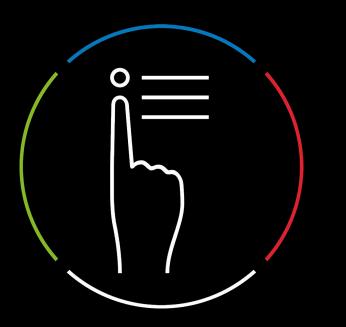


Kevin DeYoung

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Polling Question #4

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Thank you for attending the Virtual Coffee Talk — An Update on Partnership Audits and the IRS Campaigns Saga



Kevin M. Jacobs

Kevin M. Jacobs is a Managing Director with Alvarez & Marsal Taxand, LLC in Washington D.C. and the National Tax Office Practice Leader. He brings more than 15 years of experience in tax matters in both the public and the private sectors.

Prior to joining A&M, Mr. Jacobs was a Senior Technician Reviewer (TCJA) with the IRS Office of Associate Chief Counsel (Corporate) for more than six years, where he advised on tax issues such as corporate reorganizations and corporation-shareholder issues, earning and profits, recovery and allocation of stock basis, liquidations, redemptions, bankruptcies, spin-offs and consolidated returns.

Mr. Jacobs was the principal Associate Chief Counsel (Corporate) attorney on several regulatory projects including the proposed section 382(h) regulations on built-in gains and losses, the global intangible low-taxed income regulations, and debt-equity regulations. He provided substantial contributions to numerous other guidance projects, such as the limitation on interest deductions regulations, and assisted in overseeing the Corporate Division's response to TCJA, including the coordination with Treasury's Offices of Tax Legislative Counsel and International Tax Counsel.

Mr. Jacobs earned a bachelor's degree in accounting, a master's degree in accounting (with a concentration in taxation), a J.D. (*magna cum laude*) from the University of Florida and an LL.M. in taxation from New York University. He is admitted to practice before multiple courts and to the District of Columbia and Florida Bars. He is also a licensed Certified Public Accountant (CPA) in Florida and Colorado. Mr. Jacobs is a member of several organizations including the American Bar Association, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the International Fiscal Association, and the New York State Bar Association.



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Kat Gregor

Repeatedly recognized by *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business and The Best Lawyers in America*, Ms. Gregor represents corporate clients spanning a broad range of industries, including retail, entertainment, energy, technology, communications, financial services and manufacturing. Her work in the financial services industry includes counseling fintech and other blockchain companies, asset managers (and related investment funds) and financial institutions. She also advises high-net-worth individuals to resolve inquiries by tax authorities into matters involving estate tax, residency and domicile, and reporting of foreign and digital assets. Known for her innovative approach to resolving tax disputes, clients regularly turn to Ms. Gregor for achieving favorable negotiated outcomes beyond traditional paths to court.

Ms. Gregor also is experienced in advising on complex cross-border investment structures in the context of tax disputes, which she frequently encounters when counseling on bilateral and multilateral investment treaty disputes with non-U.S. tax authorities and overseeing strategy for managing controversies involving foreign tax authorities. In connection with these types of disputes, she has been involved in several major international arbitration matters. She also works closely with non-U.S. counsel in coordinating the defense of multijurisdictional inquiries, including through competent authority proceedings.

Ms. Gregor earned a bachelor's degree (*magna cum laude*) from Georgetown University and an J.D. (*cum laude*) from Harvard Law School.



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Thank you for joining us today!

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