

Example 2. The facts are the same as in *Example 1*, except that Employee A also interviews B's clients and obtains from them information needed for the preparation of tax returns. Employee A determines the amount and character of entries on the returns and whether the information provided is sufficient for purposes of preparing the returns. For at least some of B's clients, A obtains information and makes determinations that constitute all or substantially all of the tax return. Employee A is a tax return preparer required to apply for a PTIN or other identifying number as the Internal Revenue Service may prescribe in forms, instructions, or other appropriate guidance. Employee A is a tax return preparer even if Employee A relies on tax preparation software to prepare the return.

Example 3. C is an employee of a firm that prepares tax returns and claims for refund of tax for compensation. C is responsible for preparing a Form 1040, "U.S. Individual Income Tax Return," for a client. C obtains the information necessary for the preparation of the tax return during a meeting with the client, and makes determinations with respect to the proper application of the tax laws to the information in order to determine the client's tax liability. C completes the tax return and sends the completed return to employee D, who reviews the return for accuracy before signing it. Both C and D are tax return preparers required to apply for a PTIN or other identifying number as the Internal Revenue Service may prescribe in forms, instructions, or other appropriate guidance.

Example 4. E is an employee at a firm which prepares tax returns and claims for refund of tax for compensation. The firm is engaged by a corporation to prepare its Federal income tax return on Form 1120, "U.S. Corporation Income Tax Return." Among the documentation that the corporation provides to E in connection with the preparation of the tax return is documentation relating to the corporation's potential eligibility to claim a recently enacted tax credit for the taxable year. In preparing the return, and specifically for purposes of the new tax credit, E (with the corporation's consent) obtains advice from F, a subject matter expert on this and similar credits. F advises E as to the corporation's entitlement to the credit and provides his calculation of the amount of the credit. Based on this advice from F, E prepares the corporation's Form 1120 claiming the tax credit in the amount recommended by F. The additional credit is one of many tax credits and deductions claimed on the tax return, and determining the credit amount does not constitute preparation of all or substantially all of the corporation's tax return under this paragraph (g). F will not be considered to have prepared all or substantially all of the corporation's tax re-

turn, and F is not a tax return preparer required to apply for a PTIN or other identifying number as the Internal Revenue Service may prescribe in forms, instructions, or other appropriate guidance. The analysis is the same whether or not the tax credit is a substantial portion of the return under §301.7701-15 of this chapter (as opposed to substantially all of the return), and whether or not F is in the same firm with E. E is a tax return preparer required to apply for a PTIN or other identifying number as the Internal Revenue Service may prescribe in forms, instructions, or other appropriate guidance.

(h) The Internal Revenue Service, through forms, instructions, or other appropriate guidance, may prescribe exceptions to the requirements of this section, including the requirement that an individual be authorized to practice before the Internal Revenue Service before receiving a preparer tax identification number or other prescribed identifying number, as necessary in the interest of effective tax administration. The Internal Revenue Service, through other appropriate guidance, may also specify specific returns, schedules, and other forms that qualify as tax returns or claims for refund for purposes of these regulations.

(i) *Effective/applicability date.* Paragraph (a)(1) of this section is applicable to tax returns and claims for refund filed after December 31, 2008. Paragraph (a)(2)(i) of this section is applicable to tax returns and claims for refund filed on or before December 31, 2010. Paragraph (a)(2)(ii) of this section is applicable to tax returns and claims for refund filed after December 31, 2010. Paragraph (d) of this section is applicable to tax return preparers after December 31, 2010. Paragraphs (e) through (h) of this section are effective after September 30, 2010.

[T.D. 9014, 67 FR 52863, Aug. 14, 2002, as amended by T.D. 9436, 73 FR 78439, Dec. 22, 2008; T.D. 9501, 75 FR 60315, Sept. 30, 2010]

§ 1.6115-1 Disclosure requirements for quid pro quo contributions.

(a) *Good faith estimate defined*—(1) *In general.* A good faith estimate of the value of goods or services provided by an organization described in section 170(c) in consideration for a taxpayer's payment to that organization is an estimate of the fair market value, within

the meaning of §1.170A-1(c)(2), of the goods or services. The organization may use any reasonable methodology in making a good faith estimate, provided it applies the methodology in good faith. If the organization fails to apply the methodology in good faith, the organization will be treated as not having met the requirements of section 6115. See section 6714 for the penalties that apply for failure to meet the requirements of section 6115.

(2) *Good faith estimate for goods or services that are not commercially available.* A good faith estimate of the value of goods or services that are not generally available in a commercial transaction may be determined by reference to the fair market value of similar or comparable goods or services. Goods or services may be similar or comparable even though they do not have the unique qualities of the goods or services that are being valued.

(3) *Examples.* The following examples illustrate the rules of this paragraph (a).

Example 1. Facility not available on a commercial basis. Museum *M*, an organization described in section 170(c), is located in Community *N*. In return for a payment of \$50,000 or more, *M* allows a donor to hold a private event in a room located in *M*. Private events other than those held by such donors are not permitted to be held in *M*. In Community *N*, there are four hotels, *O*, *P*, *Q*, and *R*, that have ballrooms with the same capacity as the room in *M*. Of these hotels, only *O* and *P* have ballrooms that offer amenities and atmosphere that are similar to the amenities and atmosphere of the room in *M* (although *O* and *P* lack the unique collection of art that is displayed in the room in *M*). Because the capacity, amenities, and atmosphere of ballrooms in *O* and *P* are comparable to the capacity, amenities, and atmosphere of the room in *M*, a good faith estimate of the benefits received from *M* may be determined by reference to the cost of renting either the ballroom in *O* or the ballroom in *P*. The cost of renting the ballroom in *O* is \$2500 and, therefore, a good faith estimate of the fair market value of the right to host a private event in the room at *M* is \$2500. In this example, the ballrooms in *O* and *P* are considered similar and comparable facilities to the room in *M* for valuation purposes, notwithstanding the fact that the room in *M* displays a unique collection of art.

Example 2. Services available on a commercial basis. Charity *S* is an organization described in section 170(c). *S* offers to provide a one-hour tennis lesson with Tennis Professional

T in return for the first payment of \$500 or more that it receives. *T* provides one-hour tennis lessons on a commercial basis for \$100. Taxpayer pays \$500 to *S* and in return receives the tennis lesson with *T*. A good faith estimate of the fair market value of the lesson provided in exchange for Taxpayer's payment is \$100.

Example 3. Celebrity presence. Charity *U* is an organization described in section 170(c). In return for the first payment of \$1000 or more that it receives, *U* will provide a dinner for two followed by an evening tour of Museum *V* conducted by Artist *W*, whose most recent works are on display at *V*. *W* does not provide tours of *V* on a commercial basis. Typically, tours of *V* are free to the public. Taxpayer pays \$1000 to *U* and in return receives a dinner valued at \$100 and an evening tour of *V* conducted by *W*. Because tours of *V* are typically free to the public, a good faith estimate of the value of the evening tour conducted by *W* is \$0. In this example, the fact that Taxpayer's tour of *V* is conducted by *W* rather than *V*'s regular tour guides does not render the tours dissimilar or incomparable for valuation purposes.

(b) *Certain goods or services disregarded.* For purposes of section 6115, an organization described in section 170(c) may disregard goods or services described in §1.170A-13(f)(8)(i).

(c) *Value of the right to purchase tickets to college or university athletic events.* For purposes of section 6115, the right to purchase tickets for seating at an athletic event in exchange for a payment described in section 170(1) is treated as having a value equal to twenty percent of such payment.

(d) *Goods or services provided to employees or partners of donors—(1) Certain goods or services disregarded.* For purposes of section 6115, goods or services provided by an organization described in section 170(c) to employees of a donor or to partners of a partnership that is a donor in return for a payment to the donee organization may be disregarded to the extent that the goods or services provided to each employee or partner are the same as those described in §1.170A-13(f)(8)(i).

(2) *Description permitted in lieu of good faith estimate for other goods or services.* The written disclosure statement required by section 6115 may include a description of goods or services, in lieu of a good faith estimate of their value, if the donor is—

(i) An employer and, in return for the donor's quid pro quo contribution, an

Internal Revenue Service, Treasury

§ 1.6151-1

organization described in section 170(c) provides the donor's employees with goods or services other than those described in paragraph (d)(1) of this section; or

(ii) A partnership and, in return for its quid pro quo contribution, the organization provides partners in the partnership with goods or services other than those described in paragraph (d)(1) of this section.

(e) *Effective date.* This section applies to contributions made on or after December 16, 1996. However, taxpayers may rely on the rules of this section for contributions made on or after January 1, 1994.

[T.D. 8690, 61 FR 65954, Dec. 16, 1996]

REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO RETURNS OR CLAIMS FOR REFUND FILED PRIOR TO JANUARY 1, 2000

§ 1.6109-2A Furnishing identifying number of income tax return preparer.

(a) *Furnishing identifying number.* For returns or claims for refund filed prior to January 1, 2000, each return of tax under subtitle A of the Internal Revenue Code or claim for refund of tax under subtitle A of the Internal Revenue Code prepared by one or more income tax return preparers must bear the identifying number of the preparer required by § 1.6695-1(b) to sign the return or claim for refund. In addition, if there is a partnership or employment arrangement between two or more preparers, the identifying number of the partnership or the person who employs (or engages) one or more other persons to prepare for compensation the return or claim for refund shall also appear on the return or claim for refund. If the preparer is:

(1) An individual (not described in subparagraph (2) of this paragraph (a) who is a citizen or resident of the United States such preparer's social security account number shall be affixed; and

(2) A person (whether an individual, corporation, or partnership) who employs (or engages) one or more persons to prepare the return or claim for refund (other than for the person), or who is not a citizen or resident of the United States and also is not employed

or engaged by another preparer, such preparer's employer identification number shall be affixed.

For the definition of the term "income tax return preparer" (or "preparer") see section 7701(a)(36) and § 301.7701-15.

(b) *Furnishing address.* (1) Each return or claim for refund which is prepared by one or more income tax return preparers shall bear the street address, city, State, and postal ZIP code of that preparer's place of business where the preparation of the return or claim for refund was completed. However, if this place of business is not maintained on a year-round basis, the return or claim for refund shall bear the street address, city, State, and postal ZIP code of such preparer's principal office or business location which is maintained on a year-round basis, or it none, that preparer's residence.

(2) For purposes of satisfying the requirement of the first sentence of paragraph (b)(1) of this section, and income tax return preparer, may, on returns and claims for refund, disclose only the postal ZIP code of the described place of business as a satisfactory address, but only if the preparer first by written notice advises each affected Internal Revenue Service Center that he intends to follow this practice.

(c) *Penalty.* For the civil penalty for failure to furnish an identifying number as required under paragraph (a) of this section, see section 6695(c) and § 1.6695-1(c).

(d) *Effective date.* Paragraph (a) of this section and this paragraph (d) apply to returns or claims for refund filed prior to January 1, 2000. For returns or claims for refund filed after December 31, 1999, see § 1.6109-2(a).

[T.D. 7519, 42 FR 59967, Nov. 23, 1977, as amended by T.D. 8835, 64 FR 43911, Aug. 12, 1999. Redesignated and amended by T.D. 9014, 67 FR 52863, Aug. 14, 2002]

TIME AND PLACE FOR PAYING TAX

PLACE AND DUE DATE FOR PAYMENT OF TAX

§ 1.6151-1 Time and place for paying tax shown on returns.

(a) *In general.* Except as provided in section 6152 and paragraph (b) of this section, the tax shown on any income