
From: Faith Kates <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, December 31, 2017 8:39 PM
To: jeevacation@gmail.com
Subject: Fwd: wages vs flow-through

From Michael

Faith/Joel--You are no doubt aware of the so-called "pass-thru" deduction for "QBI"--new=Code section 199A which should apply to your interests in Next so as to reduce somewhat your individual taxes on the (non-compensation, non guaranteed payment) income you derive from Next. The new law is extraordinarily complicated-- and requires many variable calculations applicable to your particular business. Therefore the net tax savings must await detailed analysis. The calculation below is but one simple part of the equation. One thing that is clear, however, is that "compensation" above certain amounts and "guaranteed payments" are "bad" for purposes of the new provision---"Flow-through" income is treated preferentially. New law applies in 2018---it should benefit you ---attorneys and accountants don't get the benefit--nor do "employees". Happy New Year to everyone. (Gar---we will somehow survive this 1,067 page abomination.)

Suppose Taxpayer is a partner or S corp shareholder and there are \$100 of profits that can be paid either as wages or distributed as flow-through to Taxpayer. (I understand that a tiered structure would be needed to pay wages to T in partnership form.) Suppose T's share of wages paid to others is $\$W$.

The optimal distribution between wages and flow-through is this—

Wages to T: $\$28.6 - .714W$

Flow-through to T: $\$71.4 + .714W$

Total to T: \$100

For example, simplifying by assuming there are no third-party wages, \$100 of earnings for T should be divided \$28.6 wages and \$71.4 flow-through. That way 20% of flow-through ($.2 \times \$71.4 = \14.3) is equal to 50% of wages ($.5 \times \$28.6 = \14.3).