

Gargans Tax Services LLC

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UPDATES FOR TAX YEAR 2024

LOCATION & SCHEDULING – Operating Hours Mon. - Fri. 10 AM to 7 PM, Sat. 11 AM to 6 PM, and Sun. closed. The last evening appointment is 5:30 PM and Sat. 4:30 PM. We are scheduling office appointments now for tax season at our **location**. Please call to reserve a time that is convenient for you (540-371-4923). Be ready with your preferred phone # for us to contact you if a need arises, your email address (for us to send the engagement letter before tax preparation) and your type of return (Individual or Business). We do accept drop-off returns but the sit-down procedure eliminates the calls for additional information needed and speeds up the refund process for you.

AFFORDABLE CARE ACT- If you received Form 1095 for 2024 from any issuer or agency, we MUST have all copies to prepare your tax return. No longer is there a penalty for not having Health Insurance.

DUE DILIGENCE REQUIREMENTS- Last year, this became a reality for those taxpayers who qualified for the EIC- Earned Income Credit, CTC- Child tax credit, AOTC- American Opportunity credit and HOH- Head of Household Filing status has been added to the list. Additional forms were completed by me included with the submission to the IRS. If I fail to comply, a penalty of \$540 will be charged against the tax preparer for each type of credit & HOH review. All who met these credit requirements were most cooperative and get ready for another round in 2024. The charge for form 8867 is \$75.00. Additional documentation will be requested such as health insurance records, student report cards, and lease agreements. Etc. I will work with you to get what I need so this \$540 penalty is not assessed against me.

SECTION 199A (QUALIFIED BUSINESS INCOME (QBI) DEDUCTION (QBID)) - This began in 2018 but a good reminder anyway. If you are an owner of a S corp and receive a K1 with a positive amount on line 1 then the QBI must be listed on the K1. If it is not, then no QBID is allowed on the owners own 1040 tax return. If this happens, you could overpay your Federal Income Tax by a significant amount. I will notify you by letter which you can send to the preparer of the K1. This letter may wind up saving you thousands of dollars in Federal Income Tax. **SPECIAL ELECTRONIC**

FILING IRS NOTICE- I am happy to report that recently the IRS stated that they will begin accepting 2024 electronic and paper returns (all types) on Jan. 27, 2025. In addition, the IRS has expanded electronic filing to include prior years 2022 & 2023 also starting on Jan. 27, 2025 for all return types.

PASSWORD PROTECTED – All scanned tax documents that I email to you will be password protected. After the file name, “. protected.pdf” will appear indicating a password is required to open it. PW to open is **First 4 letters of your last name (lower case) followed by First 4 numbers of your ssn.** I will always select the first (Taxpayer) ssn. On a single, head of household return or married filing separate there is only one Taxpayer. On a joint return, it will be the first name. If the husband's password does not open the document then the wife's will. **Please place a note handy of your password so you can open the document.**

ELECTRONIC SIGNATURE PROCESSING- We are simplifying the process to obtain signed Efile Forms (8879). Alex & or Donna will email you the Efile forms to sign/date through Adobe PDF. These forms will be PW protected (see above category) and will walk you through areas needed to be signed/dated.

COMMUNICATION & FILING EXTENSIONS My best form of communication is email b/c most times attachments accompany them. If possible, I prefer a PDF to a jpeg b/c the PDF is usually easier to read and covers all corners of the document. At times, a jpeg sent through a text may not, which means I will be requesting another document scanned. **Please be sure to request an extension to file in writing.** Letter, Emails, and Texts (Be sure that I respond) are acceptable ways to request an extension.

DISCOUNTS & REFERRALS – The attached price list (with discounts) went into effect January 1, 2025. We highly recommend using the Tax Organizer that you may obtain by contacting us at the above phone number or by e-mail: drgargan@verizon.net and my Assistants Alex Tuck alexstuckatGTS1@gmail.com and Donna Carter getfitbydc@gmail.com. Referral rewards are given to new paying clients. Thank you to those of you who have sent me new clients!

PAYMENTS – We accept cash, debit/credit cards, and personal checks. We cannot accept post-dated checks. For your records, we do recommend a money order instead of cash.

NEW CLIENTS - **Please bring your prior year tax return, which will be reviewed for free.** In addition, information is needed from this prior year tax return to complete the current year tax return.

Shipping & Handling – For mailed returns, there may be a charge of \$20 to mail your return in a secure manner to insure the confidentiality of its contents.