



MARRIAGE PENALTY RELIEF

A married couple may file a joint tax return and be treated as one taxpayer, so that taxes are paid on the couple's total taxable income. While a married couple may file separate returns, this usually results in higher taxes than filing jointly. The so-called "marriage penalty" results when the combined tax liability of a married couple filing jointly is greater than the sum of their tax liabilities calculated as though they were two unmarried filers.

Beginning with the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001 (EGTRRA 2001), various tax bills took steps to alleviate the marriage penalty through 2012. The American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 finally made the following marriage penalty relief provisions permanent.

Marriage Penalty Relief - Standard Deduction Increase

The following standard deduction schedule applies to a married couple filing jointly:

Calendar Year	Joint Return Standard Deduction as a % of Single Return Standard Deduction
2013 and later	200% (in 2021, \$25,100 married/\$12,550 single)

Marriage Penalty Relief – Expansion of 12% Tax Bracket

The following schedule applies to the size of the 12% tax bracket for joint filers as a percentage of the 12% tax bracket for singles:

Calendar Year	Top of 12% Joint Bracket as a % of Top of 12% Single Bracket
2013 and later	200% (in 2021, \$81,050 married/\$40,525 single)

Brought to you by:



David White & Associates

3150 Crow Canyon Place,
Suite 200
San Ramon, CA 94583
Office: (925) 277-2600
info@dwassociates.com
www.dwassociates.com

About our firm:

QUOTES

from the Masters...

On Being the Best

"If a man is called to be a streetsweeper, he should sweep streets even as Michelangelo painted, or Beethoven composed music, or Shakespeare wrote poetry. He should sweep streets so well that all the hosts of heaven and earth will pause and say, here lived a great streetsweeper who did his job well."

-- **Martin Luther King, Jr.**

"Desire is the key to motivation, but it's the determination and commitment to an unrelenting pursuit of your goal – a commitment to excellence – that will enable you to attain the success you seek."

-- **Mario Andretti**

On Getting Started

"Don't let what you cannot do interfere with what you can do."

-- **John Wooden**

"If you wish to reach the highest, begin at the lowest."

-- **Publius Syrus**

"Start from wherever you are and with whatever you've got."

-- **Jim Rohn**

MESSAGES

from the Masters...

THE ANT PHILOSOPHY

by Jim Rohn

Over the years I've been teaching kids about a simple but powerful concept - the ant philosophy. I think everybody should study ants. They have an amazing four-part philosophy, and here is the first part: ants never quit. That's a good philosophy. If they're headed somewhere and you try to stop them, they'll look for another way. They'll climb over, they'll climb under, they'll climb around. They keep looking for another way. What a neat philosophy, to never quit looking for a way to get where you're supposed to go.

Second, ants think winter all summer. That's an important perspective. You can't be so naive as to think summer will last forever. So ants are gathering in their winter food in the middle of summer.

An ancient story says, "Don't build your house on the sand in the summer." Why do we need that advice? Because it is important to be realistic. In the summer, you've got to think storm. You've got to think rocks as you enjoy the sand and sun. Think ahead.

The third part of the ant philosophy is that ants think summer all winter. That is so important. During the winter, ants remind themselves, "This won't last long; we'll soon be out of here." And the first warm day, the ants are out. If it turns cold again, they'll dive back down, but then they come out the first warm day. They can't wait to get out. And here's the last part of the ant philosophy. How much will an ant gather during the summer to prepare for the winter? All that he possibly can. What an incredible philosophy, the "all-that-you-possibly-can" philosophy.

Wow, what a great seminar to attend - the ant seminar. Never give up, look ahead, stay positive and do all you can.

The purpose of this newsletter is to provide information of general interest to our clients, potential clients and other professionals. The information provided is general in nature and should not be considered complete information on any product or concept described.

For more complete information, please contact me (Office: (925) 277-2600).

Representatives offer products and services using the following business names: David White & Associates - insurance and financial services | Ameritas Investment Company, LLC (AIC), Member FINRA/SIPC "securities and investments" | Ameritas Advisory Services (AAS) "investment advisory services. AIC and AAS are not affiliated with David White & Associates. Representatives of AIC and AAS do not provide tax or legal advice. Please consult your tax advisor or attorney regarding your situation.

Published by The Virtual Assistant; © 2021 VSA, LP