# What Constitutes "Gross Monthly Income" for OIC Purposes

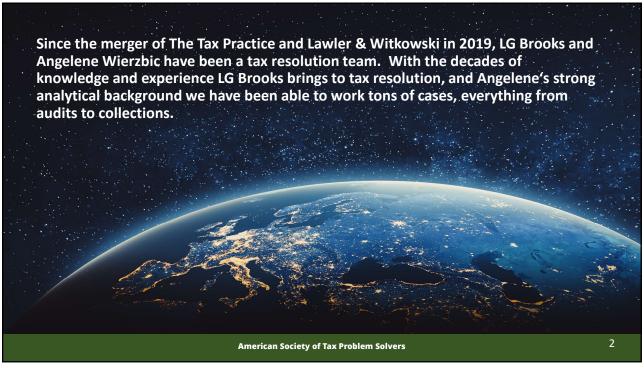
LG Brooks, EA, CTRS &
Angelene Wierzbic, EA, CTRS



**American Society of Tax Problem Solvers** 

1

1





## **Definition of Gross (Taxable) Income**



- Internal Revenue Code (IRC) §61, "<u>Gross Income Defined</u>" provides a detailed explanation of the types of income that are required to be recognized and reported as taxable income pertaining to income tax filing purposes.
- The income defined via IRC §61 is required to be reported and is subject to the appropriate personal or corporate tax (subject to certain legally allowable exclusions).
  - Exclusions: For example, income exempt from tax such as child support funds, certain social security benefits, tax exempt interest, etc.
- IRC §61 further explains that "except as otherwise provided, gross income means all income from whatever source derived ............
  - Derived (Income earned, received, constructively received, received via distribution, recognized via a pass-thru entity, etc.)

American Society of Tax Problem Solvers

3

3

## **Tax Law Commentary**



- Do you know how to compute or calculate the "Earned Income Credit" (EIC)?
- Do you know how to compute of calculate "Straight Line Depreciation?
- Do you know how to report & calculate "Capital Gains & Losses"

**Of course, you do**. Now tell me, do you know how to calculate monthly gross income for OIC purposes?

• Well, your answer may be ...... I'm not absolutely sure.

**Polling Question** 

American Society of Tax Problem Solvers

## **Determining & Defining Individual CIS Income**

### **Internal Revenue Manual (IRM) 5.15.1.12**

- Income consists of the following:
  - Wages Other *money or compensation received* by the taxpayer
  - Interest & Dividends Funds <u>received, credited to</u> an account or allowed to be withdrawn
  - Net Income from Self-Employment or Schedule C Amount earned <u>after payment of ordinary and</u> <u>necessary business expenses</u>
  - Net Rental Income Amount earned <u>after payment</u> of ordinary and necessary monthly rental expenses



American Society of Tax Problem Solvers

5

#### 5

## **Determining & Defining Individual CIS Income**

## **Internal Revenue Manual (IRM) 5.15.1.12**

- More Income Sources:
  - Pensions Includes Social Security, IRA, Profit-Sharing Plans, etc.
  - Child Support Include the <u>actual amount</u> received
  - Other Income Represents <u>income received</u> that does not fit into a specific category



## **Determining & Defining Business CIS Income**

#### IRM 5.15.1.19

- Income represents the return in money from a business, labor or capital investment & includes(but is not limited to):
  - Gross Receipts or Sales Gross receipts represents <u>money</u> <u>received</u> by the business entity
  - Dividends –Represents <u>receivables or money received</u> by the entity.
  - Interest Income Represents <u>money received</u> from bank accounts or investments
  - Gross Rents <u>Payments received</u> for the use of corporate assets



**American Society of Tax Problem Solvers** 

7

#### 7

## **Determining & Defining Business CIS Income**

#### IRM 5.15.1.19

- Income represents the return in money from a business, labor or capital investment & includes(but is not limited to):
  - Gross Royalties *Payments received* (similar to gross rents)
  - Capital Gain Net Income <u>Proceeds received</u> from the sale of an asset
  - Other Income Represents <u>income received</u> that does not fit into a specific category





## **Accrual Basis Taxpayers & CIS Gross Income**

- Publication 5059, (Pub 5059) "<u>How to Prepare a Collection Information Statement-Form 433-B</u>" provides the official instructions pertaining to the proper preparation of Form 433-B related to Partnerships, Corporations, Exempt Organization, S Corporations & Limited Liability Companies.
- *Pub 5059 also explains that any of the above entities are required to*:
  - "Identify a time period that reflects the typical business income";
  - "Complete the average monthly income for a stated time period", and states that;
  - "The <u>business information should reconcile with your business profit & loss statement</u>

American Society of Tax Problem Solvers

ç

9

## How is Accrual Based Income Reported via a CIS?



- Neither "Pub 5059" nor the IRM provide official guidance regarding the treatment of "accrual basis" income (financial information) when preparing a CIS
- However, in practice, "Accrual Basis Taxpayers" are required to *convert all financial information to the* "cash basis" when submitting a CIS.

## **Review Analysis of Individual & Business CIS Income**

Based upon the review & analysis of the previous IRM provisions pertaining to "*The Determination of Individual or Business Income*", it should be clear & irrefutable that the presentation and/or recognition of "Monthly Gross Income" reported via a "Collection Information Statement", is in-fact based upon the concept of "income being received" by a taxpayer and <u>not just merely reported to a taxpayer</u>.

**American Society of Tax Problem Solvers** 

11

#### 11

## **Review Analysis**

- Additionally, the determination of "gross monthly income" based upon the concept of "receipt", is synonymous with the "<u>Cash Flow</u>" method. Although <u>IRM 5.15.1.16</u>, explains the basis of "cash flow", it does not provide a "<u>plain English</u>" explanation which states that CIS income should be or is required to be submitted on a "cash flow" basis (cash-in/cash-out), with the exception of IRS National & Local Standards.
- Also, please note that an <u>accrual basis taxpayer would be</u> required to "convert" their financial information to the cash basis to conform to CIS & IRM provisions as noted above.

## Other Determinations of Income Issues

#### IRM 5.8.5.20-6

• The taxpayer has been <u>receiving gifts</u> from their parents to meet current living expenses for the past six months. The taxpayer has no "<u>guaranteed right to the funds</u>" in the future and the amount does not appear to be based on the transfer of assets to the parents. <u>DO NOT</u> include the gift amount as income.

#### IRM 5.8.5.20-6

• The taxpayer had gambling winnings over a period of time but is not consistent. **<u>DO NOT</u>** include these winnings as additional income on the IET. (This provision does not apply to professional gamblers).



**American Society of Tax Problem Solvers** 

13

#### 13

#### Other Determinations of Income Issues

### IRM §5.8.5.20-5

If the taxpayer is <u>a wage earner</u>, the use of income averaging over the prior three years of income **is not appropriate**.

## IRM §5.8.5.20-6

In situations where the taxpayer's <u>income does not appear to meet their</u> <u>stated living expenses</u> the differences <u>should not be included as additional income</u> to the taxpayer, unless there are clear indications additional income not included on the collection information statement <u>is being received</u> and <u>will continue to be received</u> by the taxpayer.

**Polling Question** 

American Society of Tax Problem Solvers

## IRS Misconception/Mistreatment of "Gross Monthly Income"



What IRS thinks Taxpayers can obtain from their business....



What Taxpayers can really get....

**American Society of Tax Problem Solvers** 

15

### 15

## **K-1 Income Issue**

Based upon my vast experience related to the preparation, submission and representation of taxpayers concerning Offer-in-Compromise income disclosure & calculation matters, I have determined that the inclusion of "K-1 Income" by the IRS has been and is one of the most misconceived, misapplied & miscalculated components with respect to the evaluation & consideration of "Gross Monthly Income".



American Society of Tax Problem Solvers

#### The K-1 Income Problem

Although "Ordinary Income" reported via a Form K-1 is reportable, recognizable & taxable related to income tax reporting purposes, however "Ordinary Income" may NOT be really what constitute "Gross Monthly Income" for CIS and OIC purposes. Recent additions to the IRM in 5.8.5.8 have clarified a process for Offer Examiners (OE) & Offer Specialists (OS) to determine K-1 income and the inclusion of certain business assets. These changes clarify what items are to be included in the income component of the taxpayer's "Reasonable Collection Potential" (RCP).



**American Society of Tax Problem Solvers** 

17

#### 17

## **Analysis of K-1 Income Prior to April 2024 Changes**

- Little to no guidance was provided relating to closely held pass-through entity income. K-1's were referenced as a source of "verification" of ownership in the IRM, however this was in a section relating to documentation to verify asset ownership. This was often misconstrued allowing OE & OS staff to utilize "phantom income" to inflate personal RCP on the CIS. Based upon further IRM analysis, individual income should be distributions received by the entity, and any benefits which were paid by the business on the individual's behalf.
- Guidance was provided to include a valuation of the entity's "stock" on the individual's CIS.



## **Analysis of Pass-Through Entity Income for OICs** (IRM 5.8.5.8-7 Post April 2024 Changes)

## Compensation of Officers

- wages & other compensation (aka draws & distributions)
- IRS to review "Reasonable Compensation" from the entity. Instructed to review Allowable Living Expense standards to determine compensation along with ownership interest, individual financial condition, local economy & the control of the taxpayer over their compensation.
- Excessive compensation can be added back into business income.



**American Society of Tax Problem Solvers** 

19

19

## Analysis of Pass-Through Entity Income for OICs (IRM 5.8.5.8-7 Post April 2024 Changes)

## Repayment of Loans to Officers

- Loans should be considered as an account receivable based upon collectability.
- To be reviewed for indications of paying personal shareholder expenses in lieu of salary. If being consistently received, these can be included in the Income Expense Table (IET). Also instructed to look at Alter Ego possibilities depending upon amounts taken from the entity
- If taxpayer is not taking a reasonable salary and making excessive loan repayments, OS or OE instructed to refer the case to exams and return the OIC.



20

American Society of Tax Problem Solvers

## **Analysis of Pass-Through Entity Income for OICs** (IRM 5.8.5.8-7 Post April 2024 Changes)

#### Undistributed K-1 Income

- IRS acknowledges K-1 reports may include "Phantom Income" reportable for income tax purposes but not received by the taxpayer.
- OS & OE instructed "The amount reported on the K-1 should be used as a source to verify the individual taxpayer's income.
   If, the taxpayer indicates they did not receive the amount reported on the K-1, an adjustment may be necessary to remove the undistributed income from the IET.



**American Society of Tax Problem Solvers** 

21

21

## The Undistributed Income Asset Issue (IRM 5.8.5.8-7 Post April 2024 Changes)

### Undistributed K-1 Income

- The use of Undistributed K-1 income must still be determined.
  - If the entity is holding the "undistributed K-1 Income" in the bank or other account, <u>then the amount of cash being held can be added to the individual's Asset Equity Table (AET).</u>
  - If the funds were used to purchase an asset, then the asset can be included in determining the taxpayer's interest in the business.



22

American Society of Tax Problem Solvers

## How IRS Can Use the K-1 Income

- K-1 income allowed to be used as income source
  - Does not reflect the distributed income (phantom income)
  - Does not accurately reflect future income
- IRS to review for back earnings that could be distributed
  - Non-distributed amounts in cash accounts may be considered asset for individual owner's RCP



**American Society of Tax Problem Solvers** 

23

23

## Practitioner Approach to Alleged K-1 Undistributed Income

#### K-1 does not reflect the distributed income

- Provide proof of distributions received by the taxpayer
  - Actual K-1 form shows distributions
  - Form 7203 (S-Corps)
  - Personal Bank Account deposit history

#### Undistributed K-1 Income as Individual's RCP

- Review & provide business financials focusing on uses of cash:
  - Can the business afford to distribute to the owners?
  - Is it being used for the business continuing operations?
  - Are the funds used to pay loans?
  - Are funds held for future projects?



24

**American Society of Tax Problem Solvers** 

## Closely Held Entity Guidance on Asset Valuations (IRM 5.8.5.8-5 Post April 2024 Changes)

For entities that do not have publicly traded stocks to determine asset value:

- The taxpayer's interest in the business must be determined and added to RCP.
- To determine the RCP of a taxpayer's interest, consider the following to determine the value of the company's assets and assign a value to the taxpayer's interest that is equal to their percentage of ownership in the cumulative assets.



American Society of Tax Problem Solvers

25

25

## **Verification of Asset Sources**

- Secure and verify a CIS for the S Corp., Partnership, or LLC
- Recent year's annual report to stockholders
- Recent year's corporate income tax returns.
- Secure and review statements for bank accounts or other investments, mortgage statements, or other loan documents.
- Research IRPTRO and internet sources, including online real estate valuation resources, to identify or value assets.
- Determine the net realizable equity (NRE) of the corporate assets including cash, property interests, or other holdings.
- Consider requesting an appraisal of the business as a going concern by a qualified and impartial appraiser.
  - Note: Use business appraisals only when the cost of the appraisal is justified by the complexity of the business activity.



American Society of Tax Problem Solvers

## **Observation: Potential Asset Duplications from Undistributed K-1 Income**

- RCP in entity based upon asset valuations instructed in section of IRM regarding "Stocks & Investments"
  - Instructed to review Balance sheets or tax returns to determine valuations
- Further instructions include addition of undistributed K-1 income in the taxpayer's RCP under "Cash"
  - This amount already reported on balance sheets and could be part of stock



**Polling Question** 

American Society of Tax Problem Solvers

27

27

## **REMOVE - K-1 Income Solution**

Although "Ordinary Income" is NOT a factor of what constitute "Gross Monthly Income" for CIS and OIC purposes, K-1 income identified as "Distributions" ARE a factor of what constitutes "Gross Monthly Income" for CIS & OIC purposes. However, OE's & OS's consistently demand that all K-1 income be included via a CIS for OIC gross income purposes.



American Society of Tax Problem Solvers

## **Example Case: Facts & Circumstances**

A business prepared a proper CIS with respect to resolution of their federal tax liabilities, which included & disclosed all business income received as required. Also, although the taxpayer reported "K-1 Income" via their previous business tax return, the taxpayer did not receive nor was **currently receiving K-1 distributions** from a third party or related entity. Eventually, the CIS was subsequently reviewed and evaluated by an Appeals Officer pursuant to a Docketed case matter.

<u>Statement Made by Appeals Officer</u>
"After obtaining information regarding this income, I have found that distributions are considered income and must be used when calculating the Offer. They, the shareholders, are the ones that decide what to do with the income, but we (the IRS) still consider it income to evaluate the Offer amount and cannot be removed".

American Society of Tax Problem Solvers

29

#### 29

## **Future & Disposable Income Issue**

• The calculation & basis of "Disposable Income" as well as the calculation & basis of "Future Income" are predicated upon the proper "Determination of Income". If the IRS is allowed to make an inaccurate & improper "Determination of Income", the outcome of any disposable or future income calculation is therefore inaccurate and possibly substantially overstated.

#### IRM 5.8.5.20-8

- Revenue Officers, Appeals Officers & other IRS personnel are instructed to:
  - Exercise good judgment when determining future income. The history must be clearly documented and support the known facts and circumstances of the case and include analysis of the supporting documents. Each case needs to be evaluated on its own particular set of facts and circumstances. The history must clearly explain the reasoning behind our actions.

**American Society of Tax Problem Solvers** 

## **Challenging the Veracity of IRS's Determination**



As noted above, the IRS's decision and analysis of the "Determination of Income" must be **clearly documented** AND support the known facts & circumstances of the case. Also, it further states that the "history must clearly <u>EXPLAIN THE REASONING</u> behind their actions.

**American Society of Tax Problem Solvers** 

3:

#### 31

## **Challenging the Veracity of IRS's Determination**



### **Considerations:**

- (1)Elevate the case (Exhaust your administrative remedy)
- (2)Request the agent's workpapers (to secure the "History")
- (3)Raise any appropriate
  "argument" or "defense" via the
  context of a Collection Due
  Process (CDP) Hearing (if
  available)

American Society of Tax Problem Solvers

## **Challenging the Veracity of IRS's Determination**



NOTE: Subsequent to the issuance of a "Notice of Determination" (regarding a CDP hearing), the taxpayer can only request the court to consider an issue that was properly raised during the taxpayer's CDP hearing. Therefore, it is imperative that the issues & challenges noted above be raised, discussed & documented at the appropriate level.

**Polling Question** 

American Society of Tax Problem Solvers

3:

33

## Example #1 - K-1 Income

Mr. Norman is the sole shareholder of the S-corporation Bates Hotel Inc. Bates Hotels shows a large profit on it's returns, however the company is also paying a monthly mortgage with most of it. Out of the \$120K in K-1 income, \$105K has been utilized for mortgage payments. The rest is used for operating expenses and distributions. Norman is preparing an individual Offer in Compromise for personal income tax liabilities and needs to report the proper amount on his 433-A(OIC).

How does all this come into play on the personal 433?

## Example #1 - K-1 Income

What IRS Sees... K-1 Income \$120,000

Reality of the situation.... Liability Payments (\$105,000)

Depreciation \$ 40,000 Current Improvements (\$ 35,000) **True Cash Income \$ 20,000**\*\*

Impact on Norman... Distributions \$ 10,000

\*\* Undistributed K-1 Income arguments?

American Society of Tax Problem Solvers

35

35

## Example #2 - K-1 Income

Miss Carrie owns 50% of a partnership, Prom Fun LLC. Carrie's Prom Fun K-1 had a large profit of \$125K last year. Carrie's distributions for the year were \$45K. The company has been very profitable. The company paid all of its liabilities the prior year and has \$150K in the bank account which is not necessary for future operations. Carrie is preparing an individual Offer in Compromise for personal income tax liabilities and needs to report the proper amount on her 433-A(OIC).

How does this impact her individual 433?

## Example #2 - K-1 Income

**What IRS Sees... K-1 Income** \$125,000

Reality of the situation.... Liability Payments (\$0)

True Cash Income \$ 125,000

Impact on Carrie... Distributions \$ 45,000

### Does Carrie have access to more than stated?

- Arguments Future use of cash at business level?
- Undistributed Income issues

American Society of Tax Problem Solvers

37

37

## Case #1 Background

Rich Sufferen is a 50% partner in the law firm, Payne & Sufferen, LLP. In 2015, the firm had a large unexpected windfall coming from a case done many years before by Payne. A portion of the funds were used to pay credit cards and liabilities of the business and other operating expenses. The remainder of the funds were split amongst the two partners. Sufferen used his to make a downpayment for a home for him and his young daughter.

When Sufferen prepared his tax return for 2015, there was a large balance from the self-employment taxes which he could not afford to pay. He tried to set up an installment agreement, but because he was making the payments, he didn't make estimates and fell further behind. After four years of attempting to catch up through installment agreements, he accumulated a debt of \$152K.

After years of struggle, and the inability to get out from under his IRS debts, he hired our firm for assistance with the matter in 2020.

American Society of Tax Problem Solvers

## Case #1 Financial Situation: ASSETS as of February 2020

Asset	Fair Market Value	Loans	Value for OIC
Checking	\$15	\$0	\$0
Residence	\$233,400	\$210,645	\$0
Vehicle	\$35,452	\$36,815	\$0
Boat	\$21,643	\$39,153	\$0
Furnishing/ Personal Items	\$7,500	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Equity</b>	\$298,010	\$286,613	\$0

**American Society of Tax Problem Solvers** 

39

39

## **Case #1: Distributions from Partnership**

Date	Amount	Date	Amount
8/2/2019	\$3,000	10/25/2019	\$2,500
8/8/2019	\$1,500	11/1/2019	\$2,000
8/14/2019	\$2,000	11/8/2019	\$2,000
8/22/2019	\$800	11/18/2019	\$2,000
8/29/2019	\$3,500	11/21/2019	\$2,000
9/6/2019	\$2,000	11/30/2019	\$3,000
9/17/2019	\$2,000	12/6/2019	\$2,000
9/24/2019	\$2,000	12/21/2019	\$2,000
10/1/2019	\$2,000	12/31/2019	\$2,000
10/11/2019	\$2,000	1/11/2020	\$2,000
10/15/2019	\$1,000	1/22/2020	\$2,000
10/18/2019	\$2,000	TOTAL	\$43,300

Cash Distributions \$43,300/ 6 months = \$7,216.67

Non-Cash Distributions
Health Insurance
\$603
Personal Truck Payment
\$961

Total Distributions \$7,216.67 + \$603 + \$961= \$8,780.67

American Society of Tax Problem Solvers

## **Case #1 Financial Situation: EXPENSES**

Income/Expense	Actual Payments	Allowed for OIC
Food, Clothing, Misc.	\$1,288	\$1,288
Housing & Utilities	\$2,385	\$1,661
Vehicle Loan	\$961	\$508
Vehicle Operating	\$511	\$210
Public Transportation	\$30	\$30
Health Insurance Premiums	\$603	\$603
Out of Pocket Health	\$110	\$110
Current Taxes	\$2,385	\$2,385
Student Loan	\$799	\$799
Delinquent Taxes	\$738	\$162
Total Expenses	\$9,810	\$7,756

**American Society of Tax Problem Solvers** 

41

## Case #1 Offer in Compromise

Income/Expense	Allowed for OIC		
Distributions	\$8,781		
Food, Clothing, Misc.	\$1,288	Assets for OIC Purposes:	\$ 0
Housing & Utilities	\$1,661	Income for OIC Purposes	\$ 1,025
Vehicle Loan	\$508	Multiplier	x 24
Vehicle Operating	\$210	OIC Cash Component	\$ 24,592
Public Transportation	\$30	TOTAL OIC	\$ 24,592
Health Insurance Premiums	\$603	Amount of Debt	\$152,000
Out of Pocket Health	\$110		7-0-,000
Current Taxes	\$2,385		
Student Loan	\$799		
Delinquent Taxes	\$162		
Remaining Monthly Income	\$1,025		

American Society of Tax Problem Solvers

Checking Account \$ 15.00 \$ 498.00 100% \$ 498.00 \$ 1,000.00 \$ 1,000.00 \$		lax	payer FMV	IF	RS FMV	QS%	Qui	ick Sale Amt	Encumbrance	Exemption	Net E	Equity
Real Estate – Father's Life Estate         \$ -         \$ 152,000.00         80%         \$ 121,600.00         \$ 121,60           Furniture/Personal Effects         \$ 7,500.00         \$ 7,500.00         80%         \$ 6,000.00         \$ 9,790.00         \$           Car#1 - Chevy Truck         \$ 35,452.00         \$ 35,452.00         80%         \$ 28,361.60         \$ 36,815.00         \$										\$ 1,000.00		-
Furniture/Personal Effects \$ 7,500.00 \$ 7,500.00 \$ 80% \$ 6,000.00 \$ 9,790.00 \$ Car#1 - Chevy Truck \$ 35,452.00 \$ 35,452.00 \$ 80% \$ 28,361.60 \$ 36,815.00									\$ 210,645.00			
Car#1 - Chevy Truck \$ 35,452.00 \$ 35,452.00 \$ 80% \$ 28,361.60 \$ 36,815.00 \$					·					ć 0.700.00		,600.00
			·					· ·	\$ 36.815.00	\$ 5,750.00		
	r Asset - Boat	\$	21,643.00		21,643.00	80%	\$	17,314.40	\$ 27,549.00		\$	
Other Asset College Fund \$ - \$ 7,924.00 80% \$ 6,339.20 \$ 6,339.20									\$ 27,545.00			
Net Equity in Assets \$ 180,7									Net Equity in As	ssets	\$ 180	0,782.2

Income Type			Income R	eported Gross	IRS V	erified		_
Other Income			\$	1,564.00	\$	1,564.00		
- Truck & Health Ins pai	id by Busin	ess						
Other Income - Sch E			\$	8,781.00	\$	14,735.00		
					Total	Income	\$	16,299.00
Expense Type	TP Cla	imed Amount	Allowable	e Amount	Perce	ntage	Net All	owed Amount
Food, Clothing Misc	\$	1,288.00	\$	1,298.00		100%	\$	1,298.00
Housing & Utilities	\$	1,661.00	\$	1,661.00		100%	\$	1,661.00
Ownership of Car	Ś	508.00	\$	521.00		100%	\$	508.00
Operating Costs	\$	210.00	\$	193.00		100%	\$	193.00
Health Insurance	\$	603.00	\$	603.00		100%	\$	603.00
Other Health Care	\$	110.00	\$	112.00		100%	\$	112.00
Current Taxes	\$	2,385.00	\$	2,385.00		100%	\$	2,385.00
Student Loan	\$	799.00	\$	799.00		100%	\$	799.00
State Taxes	\$	162.00	\$	-		100%	\$	-
			Total Expe	enses			\$	7,559.00
			Gross Moi	nthly			\$	16,299.00
			Less Hous	ehold Exps			\$	7,559.00
			Total Net I	Monthly Inc			\$	8,740.00
			Months of	f Future Income		X		11
			Amount T	hat Could be paid			\$	970,140.00
			Assets				\$	180,782.20
Total Liability	\$	158,410.73	Collectibil	ity			\$	1,150,922.20
Original OIC Amount	\$	24,592.00						

## **Case #1 Areas of Contention**

- 1. AET Value of Residence
  - IRS Used Zillow valuation
- 2. AET Value of Father's Residence
  - Father transferred to kids with life estate
  - 50% ownership with sister
  - Father's mortgage is still on the property
  - · IRS used Zillow valuation

#### 3. IET – Income from the Partnership

- IRS used K-1 income for the calculation
- 4. IET Inconsistent updates for standards
  - · Housing & Utilities were not updated
  - · Vehicle Ownership was not updated
- 5. IET Denial of all state tax payment
- 6. Other issue IET Increase for current tax rates



**American Society of Tax Problem Solvers** 

45

#### 45

## **Case #1 Issue #3 IRS Income Calculation**

RICH SUFFEREN 1 HOMESTEAD DR MARYLAND

STATE: MD ZIP: 21000-0000

PAYER ENTITY DATA: TIN 11111111 PAYNE & SUFFEREN LLP PO BOX 1

MARYLAND MD 21000

INTEREST.....\$2+
OR INC K-1...\$168,730+
GUAR PAYMT...\$8,081+
RECOURBEG...\$26,260+

SUBMITTED TO: IRS ELECTRONICALLY

PARTNER SHARE BEGINNING: 000.600 PARTNER SHARE ENDING: 000.700 IRA SEP KEOGH IND: BOX IS NOT CHKD BEGINNING TAX PERIOD: 201901 ENDING TAX PERIOD: 201912

Income \$168,730 **Guaranteed Payment** \$ 8,081 Total \$176,811 **Monthly Amount** \$ 14,735

ENTER= (N) EXT, (P) REVIOUS, (S) UMMARY, (W) HITE OUT, IRPO (L), (O) NLINE, HARD (C) OPY



46

**American Society of Tax Problem Solvers** 

## **Case #1 Arguments Provided**

- 1. AET Value of Residence
  - Submitted realtor valuation
- 2. AET Value of Father's Residence
  - Submitted deed to show 50% ownership
  - Submitted copy of mortgage statement
  - Obtained 3<sup>rd</sup> party home valuation

#### 3. <u>IET – Income from the Partnership</u>

- · Provided evaluation of distributions
- Proof with 12 months bank statements
- 4. IET Inconsistent updates for standards
  - Written request to update standards consistently
- 5. IET Denial of all state tax payment
  - Evaluation based on new income levels
- 6. Other issue IET Increase for current tax rates
  - Provided new estimates





47

#### 47

## **Case #1 Appeals Officer Responses**

- 1. AET Value of Residence
  - Zillow valuation
- 2. AET Value of Father's Residence
  - Allowed 50% of value
  - Allowed 50% of mortgage
  - · Zillow valuation

#### 3. <u>IET – Income from the Partnership</u>

- Would not concede IRS position
- Agreed with K-1 amounts
- 4. IET Inconsistent updates for standards
  - Believed prior standard limitations were actual expenses
  - Denied updates for Housing & Vehicle Ownership standards
  - Updated non-appealed out of pocket medical standard
- 5. IET Denial of all state tax payment
  - Disallowed "unverified" but records were submitted with OIC
- 6. Other issue IET Increase for current tax rates
  - · Allowed changes to 2019 return amounts



## **Case #1 Issues Raised to Manager**

- 1. AET Valuation of Properties
  - · Use of Zillow
- 2. IET Income from the Partnership
  - Would not concede IRS position
  - Agreed with K-1 amounts
  - · Insistence that "ATM deposits" equaled cash by appeals officer
- 3. IET Inconsistent updates for standards
  - · Believed prior standard limitations were actual expenses
  - Denied updates for Housing & Vehicle Ownership standards
  - · Updated non-appealed out of pocket medical standard
- 4. IET Denial of all state tax payment
  - Disallowed "unverified" but records were submitted with OIC

American Society of Tax Problem Solvers



49

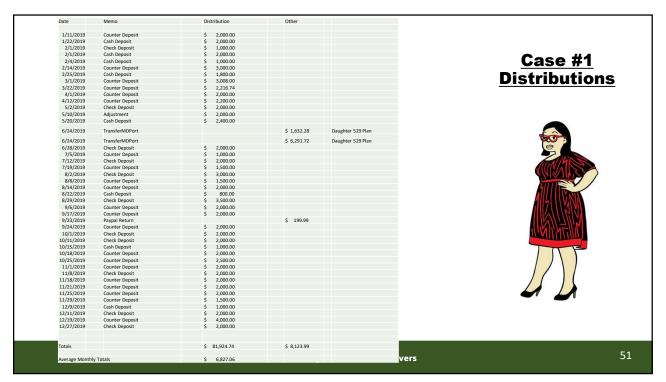
#### 49

## **Case #1 Interesting Notes**

- Appeals Manager did <u>NOT</u> know how to treat business income
- We sent a memo regarding the calculation of future income to the manager upon elevation request
- He sent our memo to IRS Technical Analyst
- Analyst AGREED with our memo
- Manager requested updated records
- Provided proof of distributions for whole 2019 year which (IRS was using K-1 from that year to calculate income)
- Appeals Manager requested property valuations

American Society of Tax Problem Solvers





					<u>Case #1</u> <u>Distributions</u>
Date	Memo	Distribution	Other		
Totals		\$ 81,924.74	\$ 8,123.99	Daughter 529 Plan	
Average Mo	onthly Totals				
		American So	ciety of Tax Problem	Solvers	52

				Case	<b>e</b> :	#1 O	ur (	ΑI	ET)					
	Tax	kpayer FMV	1	RS FMV	Co	orrect Amt	QS%	Qu	ick Sale Amt	En	cumbrance	Exemption	Net E	quity
Checking Account	\$ <b>\$</b>	15.00	\$		\$	498.00	100%	\$	498.00		240 645 00	\$ 1,000.00	\$	-
Residence  Real Estate – Father's Life Estate	\$	233,400.00	- 1	329,360.00 5 152,000.00		244,267.00 69,466.50	80%	\$	195,413.60 55,573.20	\$	210,645.00 45,337.00		\$ 10.	- 263.20
Furniture/Personal Effects	\$	7,500.00		7,500.00	\$		80%	\$	6,000.00	_	.5,557.150	\$ 9,790.00	\$ 10,	-
Car#1 - Chevy Truck	\$	35,452.00	\$	35,452.00	\$	35,452.00	80%	\$	28,361.60	\$	36,815.00		\$	-
Other Asset - Boat	\$	21,643.00	\$	21,643.00	\$	21,643.00	80%	\$	17,314.40	\$	27,549.00		\$	-
Other Asset College Fund	\$	-	\$	7,924.00	\$	7,924.00	80%	\$	6,339.20				\$ 6,3	39.20
										Ne	t Equity in As	sets	\$ 16,	575.40
													1	
				America	n Se	ociety of Ta	v Drobler	n Sal	vors					53

Income Type		Inc	ome Reported	IRS	Verified	Corre	ct Amount			
Other Income - Truck &	Health Ins pad by Biz		1,564.00	\$	1,564.00	\$	1,564.00			
Other Income - Sch E		\$	8,781.00	\$	14,735.00	\$	6,827.00	Total Income	\$	8,391.00
Expense Type	TP Claimed	IRS	Verified	Pei	r IRS	Corre	ct Amount	Percentage	Net Allo	wed Amount
Food, Clothing Misc	\$ 1,288.00			\$	1,298.00	\$	1,298.00	100%	\$	1,298.00
Housing & Utilities	\$ 1,661.00			\$	1,661.00	\$	1,686.00	100%	\$	1,686.00
Ownership of Car	\$ 508.00	\$	508.00	\$	521.00	\$	521.00	100%	\$	521.00
Operating Costs	\$ 210.00			\$	193.00	\$	193.00	100%	\$	193.00
Health Insurance	\$ 603.00			\$	603.00	\$	603.00	100%	\$	603.00
Other Health Care	\$ 110.00			\$	112.00	\$	112.00	100%	\$	112.00
Current Taxes	\$ 2,385.00			\$	2,385.00	\$	2,897.67	100%	\$	2,897.67
Student Loan	\$ 799.00			\$	799.00	\$	799.00	100%	\$	799.00
State Taxes	\$ 162.00			\$	-	\$	38.00	100%	\$	38.00
						Total E	Expenses		\$	8,147.67
	Assets	\$	16,575.40			Net In	come		\$	8,391.00
	OIC Income	\$	243.33			Gross	Monthly		\$	8,391.00
	х	_	12			Less H	lousehold Exps		\$	8,271.67
	4	\$	2,919.96				Net Monthly Inc		\$	243.33
_	New OIC	\$	19,495.36			4	ns of Future Income	e	X \$	27,009.63
		Ė				Amou	nt That Could be	naid	\$	43,585.03

## Case #1 Sad Reality...

- Appeals sustained the rejection of the OIC
- We obtained a FOIA to review what happened
  - Appeals Officer did not take into consideration any of the information provided by our office to the Appeals Manager
- We did not have tax court rights since OIC was not submitted under CDP



**American Society of Tax Problem Solvers** 

55

55

## **Case #1 FOIA Excerpts** From: Appeals Officer < Appeals. Officer@irs.gov> Sent: Thursday, January 20, 2022 9:38 AM

To: Mister Manager < Mister. Manager@irs.gov>

Subject: FW: Fax was received from 8880000000

I have reviewed information you forwarded to me.

POA did not provide any new information that were not already provided and considered by the IRS and Appeals. POA provided summary of all deposits made to the personal bank account in 2019 in total of \$91,924.74, average

monthly \$6,827.06.

K1 income per IDRS IRPTRO

2019 IRPTRO

NTEREST.....\$2+ OR INC K-1.....\$168,730+

GUAR PAYMT .... ...\$8,081+ RECOURBEG ... \$26,260+

K1 and guar paymt total \$ 176,811 - average monthly 14,734

TP did not. Provide verifiable information to ex. Pain the i Theme diff. Fence of 7 907 44 734 - 6,827)

Summary of deposits to bank account is not sufficient verification to warrant income reduction to amount of \$6,872 considering that income can be distributed through other ways.

(b)(3) 26 U S C § 6103

Please let me know how you want to proceed. Thanks, Appeals

**Polling Question** 

**American Society of Tax Problem Solvers** 

56

## Case #2 Background

Dr. Molar is the sole owner of the S-Corporation Molar Dental Inc. The business subcontracts for Grindem and Fixem Dental. Molar Dental pays for malpractice insurance, liability insurance, a small amount of office and general expenses. The remainder of the income is allocated to payroll for Dr. Molar. The company generally holds a minimal amount in the bank account after expenses. Mrs. Molar was a dental receptionist for years but can no longer work due to hearing difficulties rendering her legally deaf.

The couple has been struggling with tax issues for almost a decade. The tax difficulties started from a dental practice Dr. Molar had in Alaska.

American Society of Tax Problem Solvers

57

#### 57

## Case #2 Background - IRS Audit

The couple moved to a small town and started a practice where there was only one competitor, Evil Dental. After an initial successful start the first few years, Molar Dental was audited. It was the first time the Doctor had a business, so he reported a few items on his return erroneously because he did not know how they were supposed to be properly handled. IRS made corrections to two years of S-Corporation returns which led to personal liabilities. Right around the time that the audit was taking place, the couple also faced threats and intimidation from the local community.

## Case #2 Background - Competition & Collections

Evil Dental was getting angry that they were losing customers to Dr. Molar's practice. In an effort to run him out of town, the owner of Evil Dental convinced local community members to file complaints with the Dental Board on Dr. Molar. Even people that were proven not to have been patients of Dr. Molar filed complaints.

With a declining business due to the attacks to the Doctors reputation, they could not afford to pay the IRS debts. Dr. Molar used his personal credit cards and a business line of credit to try to maintain the company.

A Revenue Officer was assigned to the case. In an attempt to pay the debt, the couple cleared out their retirement accounts (without taxes withheld) and applied the funds to the IRS balance. This in turn, created further tax issues.

**American Society of Tax Problem Solvers** 

59

#### 59

## Case #2 Background - Continuing Issues

On top of the shady business intimidation tactics, someone local was making death threats against Mrs. Molar. The couple packed up and moved close to family in Wisconsin for safety.

The complaints to the Dental Board were all eventually determined to be untrue and Dr. Molar was exonerated. Unfortunately, this was after he was forced to leave the community. Dr. Molar sold his patient list due to the damage to his reputation, and the building which held the practice was sold at a major loss. The little amount of funds obtained from the sale of the couple's business and former home in Alaska were used to pay down the IRS debts, but they still had financial issues.

They owed \$270K from 2012, 2013, 2015 and 2016 when Mr. Brooks was hired in 2018 to assist them with their financial issues.

American Society of Tax Problem Solvers

## Case #2 Financial Situation: ASSETS as of April 2019

Asset	Fair Market Value	Loans	Value for OIC
Cash on Hand	\$50	\$0	\$50
Checking	\$275	\$0	\$0
401(K)	\$5,917	\$750	\$3,984
Cash Value Life Insurance	\$47,645	\$32,713	\$14,932
Residence	\$152,000	\$12,500	\$109,100
Vehicles	\$19,450	\$0	\$8,660
Furnishing/Personal Items	\$5,000	\$0	\$0
Total Equity	\$230,337	\$45,963	\$136,726

American Society of Tax Problem Solvers

61

61

## Case #2: Income

No Cash or Non-Cash Distributions

Gross Wages Monthly \$6,954

> Total Income \$6,954

**American Society of Tax Problem Solvers** 

## **Case #2 Financial Situation: EXPENSES**

Income/Expense	Actual Payments	Allowed for OIC
Food, Clothing, Misc.	\$1,288	\$1,288
Housing & Utilities	\$1,725	\$1,721
Vehicle Operating	\$392	\$382
Health Insurance Premiums	\$740	\$740
Out of Pocket Health	\$110	\$110
Life Insurance	\$727	\$727
Current Taxes	\$1,359	\$1,359
Total Expenses	\$6,341	\$6,327

**American Society of Tax Problem Solvers** 

63

63

## Case #2 Offer in Compromise

Income/Expense	Allowed for OIC
Wages	\$6,954
Food, Clothing, Misc.	\$1,288
Housing & Utilities	\$1,721
Vehicle Operating	\$382
Health Insurance Premiums	\$740
Out of Pocket Health	\$110
Life Insurance	\$727
Current Taxes	\$1,359
Remaining Monthly Income	\$627

Assets for OIC Purposes: \$136,726

Income for OIC Purposes \$627

Multiplier x 24

OIC Cash Component \$15,048

TOTAL OIC \$151,774

Unable to get home equity (\$109,100)

DATC OIC with special
Circumstances \$42,674

Amount of Debt \$270,000

64

American Society of Tax Problem Solvers

ASSET TYPE	TAX	PAYER FMV	IRS	FMV	QS%	QS	v	REC	OMBERANCE	EXEMP	TION	NET E	QUITY
Cash on Hand	\$	50.00	\$	-	100.00%	\$	-					\$	
Checking Accounts	\$	275.00	\$	325.00	100.00%	\$	325.00	\$	-	\$	-	\$	325.00
Business Bank Account	\$	-	\$	3,157.00	100.00%	\$	3,157.00					<b>‡</b> \$	3,157.0
Cash Value Life Ins	\$	35,112.00	\$	35,112.00	100.00%	\$	35,112.00	\$	32,713.00	\$	-	\$	2,399.0
Cash Value Life Insurance	\$	12,533.00	\$	12,533.00	100.00%	\$	12,533.00	\$	-	\$	-	\$	12,533.0
Retirement Account	\$	5,917.00	\$	5,917.00	80.00%	\$	4,733.60					\$	4,733.6
Real Estate	\$	152,000.00	\$	25,700.00	80.00%	\$	164,560.00	\$	12,500.00			\$	152,060.0
2013 Volvo XC60 50000mi	\$	10,557.00	\$	10,557.00	80.00%	\$	8,445.60			\$	-	\$	8,445.6
2013 Volvo S60 35000mi	\$	8,893.00	\$	8,893.00	80.00%	\$	7,114.40			\$	-	\$	7,114.4
Retained Earnings	\$	-	\$	82,474.00	100.00%	\$	82,474.00					\$	82,474.0
EQUITY IN ASSETS												\$	273,241.60

				nse Tab			
INCOME TYPE	INCOME	GROSS REPORTED	IRS VERIFIED	)			
Wages Salaries TP1	\$	6,954.00	\$	5,966.00			
Social Security/Pensions	\$	-	\$	535.00			
Distributions	\$	-	\$	3,358.00			
Totals			Total Incom	е		\$	9,859.00
EXPENSE TYPE	TP CLAIF	MED AMOUNT	IRS VERIFIE	)	%	NET ALLOWED AMOU	
Food Clothing & Miscellaneous	\$	1,288.00	\$	1,298.00	100%	\$	1,298.00
Housing & Utilites	\$	1,721.00	\$	1,721.00	100%	\$	1,721.00
Transportation Operating Expenses	\$	382.00	\$	382.00	100%	\$	382.00
Health Insurance	\$	740.00	\$	740.00	100%	\$	740.00
Other Health Care	\$	110.00	\$	228.00	100%	\$	228.00
Current Taxes	\$	1,359.00	\$	2,496.00	100%	\$	2,496.00
Life Insurance	\$	727.00	\$	200.00	100%	\$_	200.00
			Total Expens	ses		\$	7,065.00
			Gross Monthly			\$	9,859.00
			Less Household Exps			\$	7,065.00
			Total Net Monthly Inc			\$	2,794.00
			Months of Future Income		X		10
			Amount That Could be paid			\$	284,988.00
Total Liabilities	\$	313,606.90	Assets	Assets		\$	273,241.60
Original OIC	\$	42,665.00	Collectibility			\$	558,229.60

### **Case #2 Areas of Contention**

- 1. AET Inclusion of S-Corporation Items
  - · Offer Specialist included business bank account
  - Offer Specialist included business retained earnings
- 2. AET Exemptions not included
  - IRS excluded exemption for checking
  - IRS excluded exemptions for cars
- 3. AET Retirement Loan
  - IRS didn't include loan on 401(k)
- 4. AET Residence
  - Zillow valuation
  - Included Equity even through DATC with Special circumstances
- 5. IET Income from the S-Corp
  - IRS used S-Corp taxable income
- 6. IET Income from Levied Pensions
  - · Not continuing source of income
- 7. IET Life Insurance
  - · Allowance for Term life portion of whole life



67

American Society of Tax Problem Solvers

67

## **Case #2 Arguments Provided**

- 1. AET Inclusion of S-Corporation Items
  - · Bank account funds for continuity of the business
  - · Retained earnings cannot accessed
- 2. AET Exemptions not included
  - Provided IRM citations on exemptions
- 3. AET Retirement Loan
  - Provided IRM cites & account statement
- 4. AET Residence
  - Provided 3 denials at equity due to lack of credit
- 5. <u>IET Income from the S-Corp</u>
  - · Provided a breakdown of the distributions
- 6. IET Income from Levied Pensions
  - Submitted proof account was closed
- 7. IET Life Insurance
  - Provided proof of minimum term life payments taxpayer makes



American Society of Tax Problem Solvers

## **Case #2 Appeals Officer Responses**

- 1. AET Inclusion of S-Corporation Items
  - Appeals officer agreed to remove bank and retained earnings
- 2. AET Exemptions not included
  - Agreed to include exemptions
- 3. AET Retirement Loan
  - Allowed loan
- 4. AET Residence
  - Wanted time to review
- 5. IET Income from the S-Corp
  - Needed time to review
- 6. IET Income from Levied Pensions
  - Did not include in final determination
- 7. IET Life Insurance
  - Provided proof of minimum term life payments taxpayer makes



69

American Society of Tax Problem Solvers

69

## **Case #2 Appeals Final Determination**

- 1. Doubt as to Collectibility with Special Circumstances
  - Processed as a regular DATC OIC
- 2. AET Residence
  - IRS should not accept OIC due to the equity in home
- 3. IET Income from the S-Corp
  - Based on prior year, believes potential for more income
  - Used prior year K-1s to determine ability



### Case #2 Continued...

- Appeals sustained the rejection of the OIC
  - Wanted Equity in the home
  - Believed future income from S-Corp \$100K+ per year
- Would not consider Special Circumstances
  - Appeals Officer <u>did not take into consideration the fact</u>
     the OIC was a DATC with special circumstances due to home equity
- We offered Collateral Agreement
  - Appeals denied
- OIC was filed in a CDP filed Tax Court Petition



**Polling Question** 

**American Society of Tax Problem Solvers** 

71

71

## **Key Take Aways**

- Future Income for 433 purposes should be calculated on a cash basis
- How to handle pass through entity income is a major area of IRS inconsistency, but new guidance has been provided
- 3. Providing good backup can help alleviate some issues with AET/IET figures
- 4. Don't be afraid to elevate the case!!

American Society of Tax Problem Solvers





## **Thank You!**

LG Brooks, EA, CTRS &
Angelene Wierzbic, EA, CTRS
Lawler & Witkowski, CPAs
ASTPS Director of Education
2250 Wehrle Dr, Suite 3
Williamsville, NY 14221
(716) 631-5111
Info@landwcpas.com

American Society of Tax Problem Solvers