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"Four Ways to Eliminate Capital Gains Tax" http://www.javelinmarketing.com/data/capgains.php?s =taxreturn

# How to Read a Tax Return to Uncover Financial Planning/ Sales Opportunities 

Since the majority of time and effort in our business goes to prospecting, you want to make the most profit from each contact, which means you want to have a broad array of services and products that will interest your target market and know how to determine when there is a fit.

To assist in doing that, I always have prospects bring their tax return. Here's what I look for to uncover opportunities and help me ask the right questions (the following may be more valuable if you follow the attached tax return). Since retirees generally have accumulated more money than younger people, attached is a tax return for a senior couple:

## Form 1040, page 1 \& 2

Line 8 a - Is taxable interest high? More than $\$ 10,000$ ? Right now, taxable interest from CDs and money markets is maybe $3 \%$, so if you see $\$ 10,000$ taxable interest, you know right away they have $\$ 330,000$ sitting in low yielding taxable accounts ( $\$ 10,000 / .03$ ). But you do not need to guess. You flip to schedule B and it's all detailed right there. A listing of every penny of interest they get. You can quickly determine how much is invested in each asset by estimating the yield and dividing that number into the amount you see on schedule B.

## Schedule B

In this case we see on Schedule B that $\$ 5500$ of interest is from banks. They cannot be earning more than $5 \%$ and probably closer to $3 \%$, so we know they have somewhere between $\$ 110,000$ and $\$ 183,000$ in bank deposits. As to the interest item from ABC Securities, the item probably does not pay more than $8 \%$, so we know they have at least $\$ 56,250$ there ( $\$ 4500 / .08$ ). This analysis could be an opportunity to provide tax-free income or annuities to reduce taxes.
We can ask the prospect the details or if they bring their investments statements as you should insist, you will have your answer there. Let's continue back on form 1040

Line 8b - Do they have tax-exempt income? Should they? Look at line 39 on page 2 "taxable income" to determine if they are in a high bracket and should be investing for tax-free income. Look up their income on the attached tax rate schedule. If it's below $20 \%$ they should NOT own tax-free securities. In this case, taxable income is $\$ 106,412$ and their federal tax bracket from the tax rate schedule is $30.5 \%$. Since tax free bonds usually yield about $80 \%$ of taxable securities of similar quality, these folks would be ahead by investing tax free and avoiding the taxes on interest. An immediate annuity is also a tax saving option if in fact they need the cash flow (otherwise a deferred annuity may meet their objectives).

Line 9 - Are there a lot of dividends? That must mean a lot of stocks or mutual funds and you have an opportunity to get third-party reports from Morningstar or Value Line to show them how their investments are really doing. These folks have $\$ 51,612$ of dividends. Flip to schedule B. Most of the dividends are from a securities firm. You should have the statement in your possession or often, there is a supplemental schedule with more detail attached to the tax return. In this case we see the supplemental schedule shows they own a number of large cap stocks. You should know that large cap stocks have dividends less than 2\%, so \$41,200 of dividends shows they own about $\$ 2$ million of stock.

Obviously, they are not holding the stocks for the cash flow. They have probably owned these for a while and are trapped by capital gains taxes. This gives rise to some estate planning possibilities like a charitable trust or charitable gift annuity and possibly a life insurance sale and a portfolio to manage.

The other dividends are generated by two mutual fund positions. Check a Morningstar repot to find out how the funds have been performing and their tax efficiency.

Line 12 - Do they have a business? If so, there may be multiple opportunities-establishing or managing a pension plan or 401 k , group benefits: life, health, LTC, key man insurance, disability, etc. In this case, there is no business.

Line 13 - Unusually large capital gains last year? Did they sell something and have money sitting around now? Should they have a Charitable Trust to shelter capital gains or do they have mutual funds that generate 1099 capital gains (schedule D will show that)? The capital gains were generated by the mutual funds they own as you can see by schedule D .

## Schedule D

Had they actually sold securities, Part I and Part II of the form would have entries. But the only gains appear on line 13 which are gains distributions from mutual funds.

Had there actually been sales, maybe that money is still sitting around for new investment.

Line $\mathbf{1 5 a}$ - Are they taking large IRA distributions? Then they must have a large IRA that you should be investing for them! Or if it's large, they should use an advanced strategy to transfer it to future generations, tax-free. Just by looking at the amount on line 15 a of $\$ 14,000$, we now that their IRAs have a value about $\$ 300,000$ (see IRS publication 590 for the life expectancy tables and multiply the number there matching the prospect's ages by the amount on line 15a).

Line 16a shows you they are receiving taxable pension income. You should ask who owns that account and what happens when they pass away. If the pension stops at death, you have the opportunity to sell a life insurance policy to replace that income for the surviving spouse.

Line $\mathbf{1 7 , 1 8}$ - Any real estate holdings and any plans to sell soon (and free up some cash)? Or maybe they don't sell because of gains taxes. This creates an opportunity to convert the property
to cash for you to manage using a charitable trust, foundation or donor-advised account. Or, don't forget about 1031 exchanges for like kind property that may be easier to manage, like triple net property. You may want to make friends with a real estate broker who specializes in tax-free real estate exchanges.

Line 20a - Indicate that they are receiving social security income and the number at the far right shows how much of that is taxable (up to $85 \%$ ). Some people can reduce or eliminate taxes on social security income completely by moving investments from tax-free bonds or taxable investments to annuities (because deferred annuity income is one of the only items not included when calculating the tax on social security income). In this case, their total income is so far above the minimum threshold for taxing SS income ( $\$ 25,000$ for singles, $\$ 32,000$ for joint return), there is no opportunity.

Line 23 \& 29 - Did they make an IRA or qualified plan contribution-should they have? Can you help increase their deduction on a qualified plan by giving them a more advanced type of plan (e.g. age-weighted profit sharing plan vs. plain profit sharing plan). Do they have an IRA and a qualified plan? As of $1 / 1 / 02$, the IRA can be rolled into the qualified plan. Why do that? Because qualified plans can own life insurance while IRAs cannot-possible sale in this case.

Line 33 - Total income--can they afford LTC or life premiums out of their cash flow?
Schedule A-This schedule is where people list their itemized deductions. Many seniors use the standard deduction rather than itemize as they have too little to itemize (e.g. their mortgage is paid off, medical costs are covered by insurance, etc). In this example, schedule A is attached but it is blank because they used the standard deduction. But here's what you can learn from schedule A:

Lines 1-4 Medical expenses. If they do not have their medical expenses covered by health insurance and they are able to take a deduction, it's your opportunity to sell them better health insurance! Also, if they were deducting medical expenses (or close to being able to do so), their long-term care insurance premium would be deductible (some limitations apply). So you may have an opportunity to sell an LTC policy and have the IRS share the cost.

Lines 10-14 Interest Paid. By the size of the mortgage interest deduction, you can get an idea of how large a mortgage they hold. Knowledge of mortgage size is useful if you are engaged in brokering mortgages or if you are seeking a source of liquidity (a property with a modest mortgage can be refinanced to get cash for investments).

Lines 15-18 Gifts to Charity. If you see significant gifts (e.g. more than $2 \%$ of income) this may indicate some interest in charitable gifting giving rise to 1) the sale of life insurance, 2) a CRT and life policy, 3) a charitable gift annuity, commissionable to you

After looking at the tax return, which takes less than 5 minutes once you have a little practice, the only thing I ask is if they own any annuities or savings bonds or life policies (since these tax deferred items will not show on the tax return).

By reviewing the tax return, even if your prospect forgets to mention some investment they own, you will probably find out about it. If you insist that prospect bring their tax return and investment statements when they first meet with you, you have pretty much the entire picture.

Department of the Treasury-Internal Revenue Service
U.S. Individual Income Tax Return

| For the year Jan. 1-Dec. 31, 2005, or other tax year beginning Bob \& Alis, 2005, ending , 20 |  |  | OMB No. 1545-0074 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Your first name and initial Bob | Last name Test |  | Your social security number $\begin{array}{l:l:l}  & 208 & 38 \\ \hline \end{array}$ |
| If a joint return, spouse's first name and initial Alice | Last name Test |  | Spouse's social security number $\text { : } 208: 39: 000$ |
| Home address (number and street). If you have a P.O. box, see page 16. 14400 Any Street |  | Apt. no. | You must enter your SSN(s) above. |
| City, town or post office, state, and ZIP code. If you have a foreign address, see page 16. Anytown, CA 94111 |  |  | Checking a box below will not change your tax or refund. |

Check here if you, or your spouse if filing jointly, want $\$ 3$ to go to this fund (see page 16) change your tax or refund.

## Label

(See instructions on page 16.) Use the IRS label. Otherwise, please print or type.

\begin{tabular}{|c|c|}
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{\multirow[t]{2}{*}{}} <br>
\hline \& <br>
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{A
B
B

L} <br>
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{\multirow[t]{2}{*}{${ }_{\text {L }}$}} <br>
\hline \& <br>
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{\multirow[t]{2}{*}{H
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\hline \& <br>
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{} <br>
\hline
\end{tabular}

## Election Campaign <br> Filing Status <br> Check only one box.

## Exemptions

If more than four dependents, see page 19.

## Income

Attach Form(s) W-2 here. Also attach Forms W-2G and 1099-R if tax was withheld.

If you did not get a W-2, see page 22.

Enclose, but do not attach, any payment. Also, please use
Form 1040-v.

## Adjusted Gross Income


6a $\downarrow$ Yourself. If someone can claim you as a dependent, do not check box 6a

## 6a

$6 a$
$b$
c
d
b Tax-exempt intert. Do not includ or
9a Ordinary dividends. Attach Schedule B if required
b Qualified dividends (see page 23)
10 Taxable refunds, credits, or offsets of state and local income taxes (see page 23)
11 Alimony received
12 Business income or (loss). Attach Schedule C or C-EZ
13 Capital gain or (loss). Attach Schedule D if required. If not required, check here $\square$
14 Other gains or (losses). Attach Form 4797

23 Educator expenses (see page 29)

24 Certain business expenses of reservists, performing artists, and fee-basis government officials. Attach Form 2106 or 2106-EZ 25 Health savings account deduction. Attach Form 8889.
26 Moving expenses. Attach Form 3903
27 One-half of self-employment tax. Attach Schedule SE .
28 Self-employed SEP, SIMPLE, and qualified plans
29 Self-employed health insurance deduction (see page 30)
30 Penalty on early withdrawal of savings .
31a Alimony paid b Recipient's SSN
32 IRA deduction (see page 31)
33 Student loan interest deduction (see page 33).
34 Tuition and fees deduction (see page 34)
35 Domestic production activities deduction. Attach Form 8903
36 Add lines 23 through 31a and 32 through 35
37 Subtract line 36 from line 22. This is your adjusted gross income


| Boxes checked on 6a and 6b | 2 |
| :---: | :---: |
| No. of children on 6 c who: |  |
| - lived with you |  |
| - did not live with you due to divorce or separation <br> (see page 20) |  |
| Dependents on 6c not entered above |  |
| Add numbers on lines above | 2 |


| 13 | 4,000 | 00 |
| :---: | ---: | :---: |
| 14 |  |  |
| 15 b | 14,000 | 00 |
| 16 b | 25,000 | 00 |
| 17 |  |  |
| 18 |  |  |
| 19 |  |  |
| 20 b | 17,000 | 00 |
| 21 |  |  |
| 22 | 121,612 | 00 |

Tax and
Credits

| Standard <br> Deduction <br> for- <br> - People who <br> checked any <br> box on line <br> 39a or 39b or <br> who can be <br> claimed as a <br> dependent, <br> see page 36. <br> - All others: <br> Single or <br> Married filing <br> separately, <br> $\$ 5,000$ <br> Married filing <br> jointly or <br> Qualifying <br> widow(er), <br> $\$ 10,000$ <br> Head of <br> household, <br> $\$ 7,300$ |
| :--- |



## Schedule B—Interest and Ordinary Dividends

## Part I

## Interest

(See page B-1 and the instructions for Form 1040, line 8a.)

Note. If you received a Form 1099-INT, Form 1099-OID, or substitute statement from a brokerage firm, list the firm's name as the payer and enter the total interest shown on that form.

## Part II

Ordinary Dividends
(See page B-1 and the instructions for Form 1040, line 9a.)

Note. If you
received a Form
1099-DIV or substitute statement from a brokerage firm, list the firm's name as the payer and enter the ordinary dividends shown on that form.

1 List name of payer. If any interest is from a seller-financed mortgage and the buyer used the property as a personal residence, see page B-1 and list this interest first. Also, show that buyer's social security number and address Wells Fargo Bank
ABC Securities
Cal Fed Bank Sequence No.
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$

2 Add the amounts on line 1
3 Excludable interest on series EE and I U.S. savings bonds issued after 1989. Attach Form 8815
4 Subtract line 3 from line 2. Enter the result here and on Form 1040, line 8a Note. If line 4 is over $\$ 1,500$, you must complete Part III.

5 List name of payer
ABC Securities
Vanguard Funds
Fidelity Funds
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$

6 Add the amounts on line 5 . Enter the total here and on Form 1040, line 9 a

| 1 | Amount |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 4,500 | 00 |
|  | 4,500 | 00 |
|  | 1,000 | 00 |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| 2 | 10,000 | 00 | Note. If line 6 is over $\$ 1,500$, you must complete Part III.

## Part III Foreign Accounts and Trusts

You must complete this part if you (a) had over \$1,500 of taxable interest or ordinary dividends; or (b) had a foreign account; or (c) received a distribution from, or were a grantor of, or a transferor to, a foreign trust.

7a At any time during 2005, did you have an interest in or a signature or other authority over a financial account in a foreign country, such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account? See page B-2 for exceptions and filing requirements for Form TD F 90-22.1.
b If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country
(See
page B-2.)

8 During 2005, did you receive a distribution from, or were you the grantor of, or transferor to, a foreign trust? If "Yes," you may have to file Form 3520. See page B-2

## Part I Short-Term Capital Gains and Losses—Assets Held One Year or Less



## Part II Long-Term Capital Gains and Losses-Assets Held More Than One Year



## Part III Summary

16 Combine lines 7 and 15 and enter the result. If line 16 is a loss, skip lines 17 through 20 , and go to line 21. If a gain, enter the gain on Form 1040, line 13, and then go to line 17 below

17 Are lines 15 and 16 both gains?
$\checkmark$ Yes. Go to line 18.No. Skip lines 18 through 21, and go to line 22.

18 Enter the amount, if any, from line 7 of the $\mathbf{2 8 \%}$ Rate Gain Worksheet on page D-7 of the instructions.

| 16 |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  |
| 18 |  |  |
| 19 |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| 21 |  |  |

Note. When figuring which amount is smaller, treat both amounts as positive numbers.

22 Do you have qualified dividends on Form 1040, line 9b?
$\checkmark$ Yes. Complete Form 1040 through line 43, and then complete the Qualified Dividends and Capital Gain Tax Worksheet on page 38 of the Instructions for Form 1040.No. Complete the rest of Form 1040.

Supporting details of:
Schedule B/Ordinary dividends-1

| Description | Amount |
| :--- | :--- |
| AT\&T | $-\frac{6,500.00}{2,000.00}$ |
| GE | $8,200.00$ |
| SBC | $-4,000.00$ |
| General. Motors | $5,500.00$ |
| Proctor and Gamble | $3,000.00$ |
| Bank of America | 12.00 |
| Home Depot | $12,000.00$ |
| Philip Morris | $41,212.00$ |
| Total |  |

Smart Worksheet for: Schedule B: Interest \& Dividend Income

| Interest Income Smart Worksheet |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Payer's Name | Box 1 |  |  | Box 3 US Savings Bond/Treasury Obligations |
| To access a Form 1099-INT, <br> Double-Click from a payer's name | Regular Interest | Type | State ID |  |
| Wells Fargo Bank | 4,500.00 |  | CA |  |
| ABC Securities | 4,500.00 |  | CA |  |
| Cal Fed Bank | 1,000.00 |  | CA |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
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|  |  |  |  |  |

Smart Worksheet for: Schedule B: Interest \& Dividend Income

| Dividend Income Smart Worksheet |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Payer's Name <br> To access 1099-DIV, Double-Click from payer | Box 1 Ordinary <br> Dividends | Box 2a <br> Capital Gain <br> Distributions | Box 2b Capital Gain At 28\% | Box 3 <br> Nontaxable Distributions | Box 5 Investment Expenses |
| $A B C$ Securities |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 41,212.00 | 1,500.00 | 500.00 |  |  |
| Vanguard Funds |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 2,200.00 | 2,500.00 | 2,200.00 |  |  |
| Fidelity Funds |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 8,200.00 |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

The Tax Rate Schedules are shown so you can see the tax rate that applies to all levels of taxable income. Do not use them to figure your tax. Instead, see the instructions for line 44 that begin on page 37.

## Schedules

Schedule X—If your filing status is Single

| If your taxable income is: | The tax is: |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | of the |
|  | But not over- |  | amount over- |
| \$0 | \$7,300 | 10\% | \$0 |
| 7,300 | 29,700 | \$730.00 + 15\% | 7,300 |
| 29,700 | 71,950 | 4,090.00 + 25\% | 29,700 |
| 71,950 | 150,150 | 14,652.50 + 28\% | 71,950 |
| 150,150 | 326,450 | 36,548.50 + 33\% | 150,150 |
| 326,450 |  | 94,727.50 + 35\% | 326,450 |

Schedule Y-1—lf your filing status is Married filing jointly or Qualifying widow(er)

| If your taxable income is: | The tax is: |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | of the |
| Over- | But not over- |  | amount over- |
| \$0 | \$14,600 | . 10\% | \$0 |
| 14,600 | 59,400 | \$1,460.00 + 15\% | 14,600 |
| 59,400 | 119,950 | 8,180.00 + 25\% | 59,400 |
| 119,950 | 182,800 | 23,317.50 + 28\% | 119,950 |
| 182,800 | 326,450 | 40,915.50 + 33\% | 182,800 |
| 326,450 |  | 88,320.00 + 35\% | 326,450 |

Schedule Y-2—If your filing status is Married filing separately

| If your taxable income is: | The tax is: |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | f |
|  | But not over- |  | amount over- |
| \$0 | \$7,300 | . 10\% | \$0 |
| 7,300 | 29,700 | \$730.00 + 15\% | 7,300 |
| 29,700 | 59,975 | 4,090.00 + 25\% | 29,700 |
| 59,975 | 91,400 | 11,658.75 + 28\% | 59,975 |
| 91,400 | 163,225 | 20,457.75 + 33\% | 91,400 |
| 163,225 | -------- | 44,160.00 + 35\% | 163,225 |

Schedule Z—If your filing status is Head of household

| If your taxable income is: | The tax is: |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | of the |
|  | But not |  | amount |
| Over- | over- |  | over- |
| \$0 | \$10,450 | ----- 10\% | \$0 |
| 10,450 | 39,800 | \$1,045.00 + 15\% | 10,450 |
| 39,800 | 102,800 | 5,447.50 + 25\% | 39,800 |
| 102,800 | 166,450 | 21,197.50 + 28\% | 102,800 |
| 166,450 | 326,450 | 39,019.50 + 33\% | 166,450 |
| 326,450 |  | 91,819.50 + 35\% | 326,450 |

