# Kentucky Tax Alert

A REVENUE PUBLICATION FOR THE TAX PROFESSIONAL

January 2006; Vol. 25, No. 1

### **Changes to 2005 Kentucky Individual Income Tax Forms**

Form 8863-K, Education Tuition Tax Credit, has been revised. You may download a copy at the DOR Web site (www.revenue.ky.gov), obtain a copy at one of our local service centers or request a copy of the revised form by calling (502) 564-4581. This form replaces the Form 8863-K in the 740 booklets and Package K.

The form included in your tax booklet may be used by changing the form as follows: In Part III, mark through Column (e) Tentative Lifetime Credit. Add the Qualified Expenses on line 3, Column (d), and enter on line 4. Complete the rest of the form.

#### Form 740-NP Instructions, page 1, left column.

WHO MUST FILE FORM 740-NP—Form 740-NP must be used by full-year nonresidents who had income from Kentucky sources and by part-year residents who

had income while a Kentucky resident or from Kentucky sources while a nonresident. These persons must file Form 740-NP if: (1) they had *any gross income* from Kentucky sources *and gross income from all sources* in excess of modified gross income for their family size; or (2) Kentucky gross receipts from self-employment in excess of modified gross income for their family size listed on page 2 in Chart A.

### 42A740-S4 (10-05), Instructions for Filing Estimated Tax Vouchers

The date in the upper right-hand corner should read 2006 on printed copies and in the Package K.

The corrected versions are posted on our Web site (www.revenue.ky.gov). We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused in completing your Kentucky return.

#### **Table of Contents**

| Changes to 2005 Kentucky Individual Income Tax Forms    | 1   |
|---|-----|
| Tax Politis   | 1   |
| Homestead Exemption Remains at \$29,400                 | 1   |
| Employer Reporting Requirements                         | 2   |
| DOR Sets 2006 Tax Interest Rate at 7 Percent            | 3   |
| Gasoline Excise Tax Rate                                | 3   |
| Use Tax Reminder  | 3   |
| Tax Calendar 2006                                       | 6,6 |
| Index for 2005 Kentucky Tax Alert—Volume 24             | 7   |
| 2005 Federal/Kentucky Individual Income Tax Differences | 8   |

## Homestead Exemption Remains at \$29,400

The maximum Homestead Exemption (HEX) on real estate owned by qualified persons remains at \$29,400 for the 2006 tax period. The amount of the Homestead Exemption is adjusted every two years in accordance with KRS 132.810 to compensate for changes in the purchasing power of the dollar. The amount was set in 2005 and remains in effect for 2006. The 2005–2006 exemption represents a \$1,400 increase over the 2003–2004 exemption of \$28,000.

To qualify for the Homestead Exemption, a person must be at least 65 years old during the tax period or have been classified as totally disabled by any public or private retirement system. The property must also be owned, occupied and maintained by the taxpayer as a personal residence on the January 1 assessment date. Disabled persons less than 65 years of age must make an application on an annual basis.

### **Employer Reporting Requirements**

### **Methods of Submitting Wage and Tax Statements to DOR**

Regulation 103 KAR 18:050 requires any employer who issues **100 or more** Form W-2s annually to utilize an acceptable form of electronic or magnetic media filing. Employers with **fewer than 100** Form W-2s are encouraged, but not required, to utilize electronic or magnetic media filing.

The methods listed below are acceptable and listed in order of preference:

- 1. Web Filing;
- 2. CD;
- 3. 3 ½" Diskette: and
- 4. Paper (for employers with fewer than 100 Form W-2s).

NOTE: MMREF-1 IS THE ONLY ACCEPTABLE FILE LAYOUT FOR WEB FILING AND CD/DISKETTE SUBMISSIONS. REFER TO http://revenue.ky.gov/business/whtax.htm FOR SPECIFICATIONS.

Methods other than Web Filing require a Transmitter Report for Filing Kentucky Wage Statements (Form 42A806) when filing Kentucky wage and tax information.

### Completing Wage and Tax Statements (Form W-2/K-2)

In order to properly process W-2 forms, the following information must be provided on all W-2 forms submitted to DOR:

- 1. Employer's and employee's name and address
- 2. Employer's withholding account number
- 3. Employee's Social Security number
- 4. Total wages paid to employee
- 5. Federal income tax withheld
- 6. Kentucky tax withheld
- 7. Federal ID number
- 8. State abbreviation in box 15

The most common error found on W-2 forms is an incorrect or missing withholding tax number. This number is used to reconcile the employer's account.

Failure to include the correct account number

creates delays in reconciling the account, as well as problems when employees file their individual income tax returns. If you are unsure of the correct account number, please call (502) 564-7287 prior to issuing wage and tax statements.

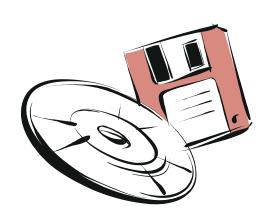
An extension of 30 days for filing W-2 forms may be granted if requested in writing prior to the January 31 due

date. The K-3 return and payment must be filed by January 31.



An employer's filing frequency for withholding tax is updated each year based on the prior year's withholding tax amount. Letters are sent to affected taxpayers each January advising them of the change. Filing frequencies are based upon the amount of Kentucky income tax withheld annually.

| Frequency           | Tax Withheld     |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Annual Filer        | less than \$400  |
| Quarterly Filer     | \$400-\$1,999    |
| Monthly Filer       | \$2,000-\$49,999 |
| Twice-Monthly Filer | \$50,000 or more |



### DOR Sets 2006 Tax Interest Rate at 7 Percent

Pursuant to KRS 131.183(1), the 2006 tax interest rate charged by the Kentucky DOR on unpaid and delinquent taxes has been set at 7 percent. Where applicable, the same rate is paid on refunds issued by DOR.

The rate, effective Jan. 1, 2006, through Dec. 31, 2006, is based on the prime rate charged by Kentucky banks during October 2005. A recent survey of Kentucky banks showed that the average prime interest rate in October was 6.75 percent, which was rounded to the nearest whole percent (7 percent).

#### **Gasoline Excise Tax Rate**

Under KRS 138.210 and KRS 138.220, the DOR is responsible for establishing the average wholesale price (AWP) of gasoline for the purposes of calculating the gasoline excise tax rate. The current price calculation is based on sales data accumulated for the month of October 2005 and a



grade and formulation weighted average reflecting gasoline consumption patterns.

For the quarter commencing Jan. 1, 2006, the DOR has determined the AWP of gasoline remains at \$1.34. Therefore, the rate remains 18.5 cents per gallon for gasoline and 15.5 cents per gallon for special fuels and is inclusive of the 1.4 cents Petroleum Storage Tank Environmental Assurance Fee. Additionally, the rate for liquefied petroleum remains at 17.1 cents per gallon.



#### **Use Tax Reminder**

We would like to remind tax professionals and their clients of the use tax responsibilities. KRS 139.310 and 139.330 impose use tax on those out-of-state purchases for storage, use or other consumption in Kentucky. Purchases of items









such as aircraft, boats, artwork, jewelry, furniture, clothing, software, sporting goods, electronics, computers, books and magazines are examples of personal items bought out of state that may be subject to Kentucky use tax.

Use tax purchases may be reported by individuals on line 27 of the Kentucky individual income tax return (740 and 740-NP) or line 9 (740EZ). Use tax may also be reported and paid on Form 51A113(O), available on the Web site. Businesses and entities registered for sales tax must report their use tax on line 23(a) of the Kentucky sales and use tax return. If you have any questions about use tax, please call the Division of Sales and Use Tax at (502) 564-5170.

**Kentucky Tax Alert** comments and suggestions should be addressed to the Office of Public Information, Finance Secretary's Office, Frankfort, Kentucky, (502) 564-9165, ext. 4500.

ERNIE FLETCHER, Governor

ROBBIE RUDOLPH, Secretary
Finance and Administration Cabinet

Mark Treesh, Commissioner Department of Revenue

The Kentucky Department of Revenue does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

The Department of Revenue can be found at www.revenue.ky.gov.

| NOT      | E: If a return due date falls on a scheduled holiday or weekend, returns will be due the next working day.   |   |
|----------|--|---|
|          |  |   |
| January  | <ul> <li>17 Estimated Corporation Income Tax/One Half Est. (FY ending 7/31)</li> <li>17 Estimated Corporation Income Tax/One Fourth Est. (FY ending 1/31)</li> </ul> |   |
|          | 17 Estimated Corporation Income Tax/One Fourth Est. (FY ending 4/30)   |   |
|          | 17 Estimated Tax/Individuals/One Fourth Est.   |   |
|          | 20 Coal Severance Tax Returns (December Payment)   |   |
|          | 20 Oil Production Tax Returns (December Payment)   |   |
|          | 20 Monthly Sales Tax Returns (December Payment)  |   |
|          | 20 Quarterly Sales Tax Returns   |   |
|          | 20 Annual Sales Tax Returns  |   |
|          | 20 Health Care Provider Tax Returns (December Payment)   |   |
| _        | 25 Monthly Motor Fuels Tax Returns (December Payment)  |   |
|          | 25 Monthly Motor Fdels Tax Returns (Accelerated Payment)   |   |
| •        | 31 Income Tax Withholding Returns/Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) Filers/Annual Reconciliation   |   |
| <b>A</b> | 31 Monthly Income Tax Withholding Returns (December Payment and K-2s)  |   |
| Δ        | 31 Quarterly Income Tax Withholding Returns (Quarterly Payment and K-2s)   |   |
| A        | 31 Annual Income Tax Withholding Returns (Annual Payment and K-2s)   |   |
| February | A Microsoft and Oce Occurrence Too Determine (December December)   |   |
| February | <ul> <li>Minerals and Gas Severance Tax Returns (December Payment)</li> <li>Annual Report of Distilled Spirits in Bonded Warehouses (as of 1/1/06)</li> </ul>        |   |
|          | 10 Twice-Monthly Income Tax Withholding Returns (January 1 - January 31  | _ |
|          | Payment/EFT Payment)   | J |
|          | 15 Estimated Corporation Income Tax/One Half Est. (FY ending 8/31)   | _ |
| _        | 15 Estimated Corporation Income Tax/One Fourth Est. (FY ending 2/28)   | Α |
| <b>2</b> | 15 Estimated Corporation Income Tax/One Fourth Est. (FY ending 2/26) 15 Estimated Corporation Income Tax/One Fourth Est. (FY ending 5/31)                            |   |
|          | 15 Monthly Income Tax Withholding Returns (January Payment)  | Ν |
|          | 20 Coal Severance Tax Returns (January Payment)  |   |
| A        | 20 Oil Production Tax Returns (January Payment)  | U |
| 4        | 20 Monthly Sales Tax Returns (January Payment)   | _ |
|          | 20 Health Care Provider Tax Returns (January Payment)  | Α |
|          | 27 Twice-Monthly Income Tax Withholding Returns (February 1 - February 15  |   |
| _        | Payment/EFT Payment)   | R |
|          | 27 Monthly Motor Fuels Tax Returns (January Payment)   |   |
| <b>.</b> | 27 Monthly Sales Tax Returns (Accelerated Payment)   | Y |
|          | A Missault and One Occurrence True Butters (Income Business)   |   |
| March    | 1 Minerals and Gas Severance Tax Returns (January Payment)   |   |
| Maron    | 1 Watercraft Property Tax Return (as of 1/1/06)  | * |
| '        | 10 Twice-Monthly Income Tax Withholding Returns (February 16 - February 28   |   |
|          | Payment/EFT Payment)   | * |
| )        | 15 Estimated Corporation Income Tax/One Half Est. (FY ending 9/30)   |   |
|          | 15 Estimated Corporation Income Tax/One Fourth Est. (FY ending 3/31)   | * |
|          | 15 Estimated Corporation Income Tax/One Fourth Est. (FY ending 6/30)   |   |
|          | 15 Monthly Income Tax Withholding Returns (February Payment)   |   |
|          | 15 Bank Franchise Tax Returns  |   |
|          | 20 Coal Severance Tax Returns (February Payment)   | Α |
|          | 20 Oil Production Tax Returns (February Payment)   | • |
|          | 20 Monthly Sales Tax Returns (February Payment)  | Р |
|          | 20 Health Care Provider Tax Returns (February Payment)   | • |
|          | 27 Twice-Monthly Income Tax Withholding Returns (March 1 - March 15 Payment/EFT Payment)   | R |
|          | 27 Monthly Motor Fuels Tax Returns (February Payment)  |   |
|          | 27 Monthly Sales Tax Returns (Accelerated Payment)   |   |
|          |  | 1 |
| April    | 3 Minerals and Gas Severance Tax Returns (February Payment)  | _ |
|          | 3 Electric Plant Board Property Tax Returns (as of 1/1/06)   |   |
|          | 10 Twice-Monthly Income Tax Withholding Returns (March 16 - March 31 Payment/EFT Payment)  |   |
|          | 17 Estimated Corporation Income Tax/One Half Est. (FY ending 10/31)  |   |
|          | 17 Estimated Corporation Income Tax/One Fourth Est. (FY ending 4/30)   |   |
|          | 17 Estimated Corporation Income Tax/One Fourth Est. (FY ending 7/31)   |   |
|          | 17 Monthly Income Tax Withholding Returns (March Payment)  |   |
|          | 17 Quarterly Estimated Tax Returns/Individuals (One Fourth Payment)  |   |
|          | 17 Annual Individual Income Tax Returns  |   |
|          | 20 Monthly Sales Tax Returns (March Payment)   |   |
|          | 20 Quarterly Sales Tax Returns   |   |
|          | 20 Coal Severance Tax Returns (March Payment)  |   |
| 1        | 20 Coal Severance Tax Returns (March Payment) 20 Oil Production Tax Returns (March Payment)  |   |
|          |  |   |
|          | 20 Health Care Provider Tax Returns (March Payment) 25 Twice Monthly Income Tax Withhelding Potures (April 1 April 15 Payment/FET Payment)                           |   |
|          | 25 Twice-Monthly Income Tax Withholding Returns (April 1 - April 15 Payment/EFT Payment)   |   |
|          | 25 Monthly Motor Fuels Tax Returns (March Payment)   |   |
| 1        | 25 Monthly Sales Tax Returns (Accelerated Payment)   |   |
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| T<br>A<br>X | Мау    | Income Tax Withholding Returns/Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) Filers/First Quarter Reconciliation Quarterly Income Tax Withholding Returns Minerals and Gas Severance Tax Returns (March Payment) Public Service Company Property Tax Returns (as of 12/31/05) Railroad Car Line Property Tax Returns (as of 12/31/05) Twice-Monthly Income Tax Withholding Returns (April 16 - April 30 Payment/EFT Payment) Intangible Personal Property Tax Return (Taxpayer will be billed later) Tangible Personal Property Tax Return (Taxpayer will be billed later) Estimated Corporation Income Tax/One Half Est. (FY ending 11/30) Estimated Corporation Income Tax/One Fourth Est. (FY ending 5/31) Estimated Corporation Income Tax/One Fourth Est. (FY ending 8/31) Monthly Income Tax Withholding Returns (April Payment) Monthly Sales Tax Returns (April Payment) Coal Severance Tax Returns (April Payment) Health Care Provider Tax Returns (April Payment) Twice-Monthly Income Tax Withholding Returns (May 1 - May 15 Payment/EFT Payment) Monthly Motor Fuels Tax Returns (April Payment) Monthly Motor Fuels Tax Returns (April Payment) Monthly Sales Tax Returns (April Payment) Monthly Sales Tax Returns (April Payment) | M                     |
|-------------|--------|--|-----------------------|
| CALEN       | June   | Minerals and Gas Severance Tax Returns (April Payment) Twice-Monthly Income Tax Withholding Returns (May 16 - May 31 Payment/EFT Payment) Estimated Corporation Income Tax/One Half Est. (FY ending 12/31) Estimated Corporation Income Tax/One Fourth Est. (FY ending 6/30) Estimated Corporation Income Tax/One Fourth Est. (FY ending 9/30) Estimated Tax/Individuals/One Fourth Est. Monthly Income Tax Withholding Returns (May Payment) Monthly Sales Tax Returns (May Payment) Coal Severance Tax Returns (May Payment) Oil Production Tax Returns (May Payment) Health Care Provider Tax Returns (May Payment) Twice-Monthly Income Tax Withholding Returns (June 1 - June 15 Payment/EFT Payment) Monthly Motor Fuels Tax Returns (May Payment) Monthly Sales Tax Returns (Accelerated Payment)   | * * * A               |
| D A R 2 0   | July   | Minerals and Gas Severance Tax Returns (May Payment) Cigarette License Annual Renewal Applications and License Fee Twice-Monthly Income Tax Withholding Returns (June 16 - June 30 Payment/EFT Payment) Estimated Corporation Income Tax/One Half Est. (FY ending 1/31) Estimated Corporation Income Tax/One Fourth Est. (FY ending 7/31) Estimated Corporation Income Tax/One Fourth Est. (FY ending 10/31) Monthly Income Tax Withholding Returns (June Payment) Coal Severance Tax Returns (June Payment) Oil Production Tax Returns (June Payment) Monthly Sales Tax Returns (June Payment) Quarterly Sales Tax Returns Health Care Provider Tax Returns (June Payment) Twice-Monthly Income Tax Withholding Returns (July 1 - July 15 Payment/EFT Payment) Monthly Motor Fuels Tax Returns (June Payment) Monthly Sales Tax Returns (Accelerated Payment) Income Tax Withholding Returns/Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) Filers/Second Quarter Reconciliation Quarterly Income Tax Withholding Returns  | U<br>G<br>U<br>S<br>T |
| 0<br>6      | August | Minerals and Gas Severance Tax Returns (June Payment) Twice-Monthly Income Tax Withholding Returns (July 16 - July 31 Payment/EFT Payment) Estimated Corporation Income Tax/One Half Est. (FY ending 2/28) Estimated Corporation Income Tax/One Fourth Est. (FY ending 8/31) Estimated Corporation Income Tax/One Fourth Est. (FY ending 11/30) Monthly Income Tax Withholding Returns (July Payment) Coal Severance Tax Returns (July Payment) Oil Production Tax Returns (July Payment) Monthly Sales Tax Returns (July Payment) Health Care Provider Tax Returns (July Payment) Twice-Monthly Income Tax Withholding Returns (August 1 - August 15 Payment/EFT Payment) Monthly Motor Fuels Tax Returns (July Payment) Monthly Sales Tax Returns (Accelerated Payment)  |                       |

|          | September | 1        | Minerals and Gas Severance Tax Returns (July Payment)  |    |
|----------|-----------|----------|--|----|
|          |           | 11       | Twice-Monthly Income Tax Withholding Returns (August 16 - August 31 Payment/EFT Payment)   |    |
|          |           | 15       | Estimated Corporation Income Tax/One Half Est. (FY ending 3/31)  |    |
|          |           | 15       | Estimated Corporation Income Tax/One Fourth Est. (FY ending 9/30)  |    |
|          |           | 15       | Estimated Corporation Income Tax/One Fourth Est. (FY ending 12/31)   |    |
|          |           | 15<br>15 | Estimated Tax/Individuals/One Fourth Est.  |    |
|          |           | 15<br>20 | Monthly Income Tax Withholding Returns (August Payment) Coal Severance Tax Returns (August Payment)                                  |    |
|          |           | 20       | Oil Production Tax Returns (August Payment)  |    |
| _        |           | 20       | Monthly Sales Tax Returns (August Payment)   |    |
|          |           | 20       | Health Care Provider Tax Returns (August Payment)  |    |
|          |           | 25       | Twice-Monthly Income Tax Withholding Returns (September 1 - September 15   |    |
| <b>A</b> |           | 25       | Payment/EFT Payment) Monthly Motor Fuels Tax Returns (August Payment)  |    |
|          |           | 25       | Monthly Sales Tax Returns (Accelerated Payment)  | S  |
|          |           |          | , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,  | E  |
| X        | October   | 2        | Minerals and Gas Severance Tax Returns (August Payment)  |    |
|          |           | 10       | Twice-Monthly Income Tax Withholding Returns (September 16 - September 30  | P  |
|          |           | 16       | Payment/EFT Payment) Estimated Corporation Income Tax/One Half Est. (FY ending 4/30)   |    |
|          |           | 16       | Estimated Corporation Income Tax/One Fourth Est. (FY ending 4/30)  | T  |
|          |           | 16       | Estimated Corporation Income Tax/One Fourth Est. (FY ending 10/31)   | E  |
|          |           | 16       | Monthly Income Tax Withholding Returns (September Payment)   | -  |
|          |           | 20       | Coal Severance Tax Returns (September Payment)   | M  |
| C<br>A   |           | 20<br>20 | Oil Production Tax Returns (September Payment) Monthly Sales Tax Returns (September Payment)   |    |
| A        |           | 20       | Quarterly Sales Tax Returns  | B  |
| I I      |           | 20       | Health Care Provider Tax Returns (September Payment)   | E  |
| L        |           | 25       | Twice-Monthly Income Tax Withholding Returns (October 1 - October 15 Payment/EFT Payment)  | R  |
|          |           | 25       | Monthly Motor Fuels Tax Returns (September Payment)  |    |
| E        |           | 25       | Monthly Sales Tax Returns (Accelerated Payment)  |    |
| _        |           | 31       | Income Tax Withholding Returns/Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) Filers/Third Quarter Reconciliation                                   | *  |
| NI I     |           | 31       | Quarterly Income Tax Withholding Returns   | "  |
| N        |           |          |  | *  |
|          | November  | 1<br>13  | Minerals and Gas Severance Tax Returns (September Payment) Twice-Monthly Income Tax Withholding Returns (October 16 - October 31     | *  |
| <b>D</b> |           |          | Payment/EFT Payment)   | "  |
|          |           | 15       | Estimated Corporation Income Tax/One Half Est. (FY ending 5/31)  |    |
| <b>A</b> |           | 15<br>15 | Estimated Corporation Income Tax/One Fourth Est. (FY ending 2/28) Estimated Corporation Income Tax/One Fourth Est. (FY ending 11/30) |    |
|          |           | 15       | Monthly Income Tax Withholding Returns (October Payment)   | D  |
|          |           | 20       | Coal Severance Tax Returns (October Payment)   | ΙE |
| K        |           | 20       | Oil Production Tax Returns (October Payment)   | -  |
|          |           | 20<br>20 | Monthly Sales Tax Returns (October Payment) Health Care Provider Tax Returns (October Payment)                                       | C  |
|          |           | 20<br>27 | Twice-Monthly Income Tax Withholding Returns (November 1 - November 15   |    |
|          |           |          | Payment/EFT Payment)   | E  |
|          |           | 27       | Monthly Motor Fuels Tax Returns (October Payment)  | M  |
| 2        |           | 27       | Monthly Sales Tax Returns (Accelerated Payment)  |    |
|          |           |          |  | B  |
| 0        | December  | 1        | Minerals and Gas Severance Tax Returns (October Payment)   | E  |
| <b>U</b> |           | 11       | Twice-Monthly Income Tax Withholding Returns (November 15 - November 30  |    |
|          |           | 15       | Payment/EFT Payment) Estimated Corporation Income Tax/One Half Est. (FY ending 6/30)   | R  |
| 0        |           | 15       | Estimated Corporation Income Tax/One Fourth Est. (FY ending 3/31)  |    |
|          |           | 15       | Estimated Corporation Income Tax/One Fourth Est. (FY ending 12/31)   |    |
| 6        |           | 15       | Monthly Income Tax Withholding Returns (November Payment)  |    |
| U        |           | 20       | Coal Severance Tax Returns (November Payment)  |    |
|          |           | 20<br>20 | Oil Production Tax Returns (November Payment)  Monthly Sales Tax Returns (November Payment)  |    |
|          |           | 20       | Health Care Provider Tax Returns (November Payment)  |    |
|          |           | 27       | Twice-Monthly Income Tax Withholding Returns (December 1 - December 15   |    |
|          |           |          | Payment/EFT Payment)   |    |
|          |           | 27<br>27 | Monthly Motor Fuels Tax Returns (November Payment)   |    |
|          |           | 27       | Monthly Sales Tax Returns (Accelerated Payment)  |    |
|          |           |          |  |    |
|          |           |          |  |    |
|          |           |          |  |    |

### Index for 2005 Kentucky Tax Alert—Volume 24

| Compliance Issues  | Legal Cases   |
|--|---|
| Beware of Tax Schemes March                              | American Life and Accident Insurance Company  |
| DOR Posts Delinquent Taxpayers on Web Site March         | of Kentucky, Inc. v. Revenue Cabinet  |
| Envelopes, Envelopes and More Envelopes January          | Annox, Inc. v. Revenue Cabinet  |
| Gov. Ernie Fletcher Announces More Than \$127 Million in | City of Somerset v. Bell  |
| Delinquent Taxes Recovered in 2004                       | King Drugs, Inc. v. Revenue Cabinet   |
| Kentucky Tax Registration Application January            | Lee and Richelle Baugher v. Department of Revenue   |
| New Fraud Detection and Collection Efforts               | Monumental Life Insurance Company v. Revenue  |
| by DOR March   | Cabinet   |
|  | Revenue Cabinet v. Curtsinger   |
| Staple Fiduciary Return Payments to Front Page of Return | Revenue Cabinet v. O'Daniel   |
| Use Tax Reminder January                                 | Rudolph v. Citizens National CorporationOctober   |
| Use Tax Reminder January                                 |   |
| Composition Income and License Toy                       | St. Andrew Orthodox Church, Inc. v. Jessamine County Property  Voluntian Administratory  Manual |
| Corporation Income and License Tax                       | Valuation Administrator March   |
| Importance of Using Correct Corporation                  | To all all or Tomas   |
| Account Numbers December                                 | Legislative Issues  |
| New Kentucky Tax Registration Application March          | A Review of Tax Law Changes Enacted by the 2005   |
| T1 4 15  | General Assembly  |
| Educational Programs                                     | Excise Tax Changes Legislation Affecting Cigarette  |
| Louis A. Grief Tax Institute Scheduled for               | Retailers (HB 272) May  |
| December December  | Legislation Affecting Hotels, Motels and Other  |
| Tax Modernization Seminars October                       | Lodging Businesses (HB 272) May   |
| University of Kentucky General Income Tax                | Tax Modernization a Reality for Kentuckians March   |
| Seminars for 2005 July                                   |   |
|  | Miscellaneous   |
| Electronic Commerce                                      | Tax Calendar 2005 January   |
| Kentucky Department of Revenue, IRS Sponsor              |   |
| Electronic Filing Seminars October                       | Publications and Forms  |
| Reminder to Electronic Return Originators March          | 2004 <b>Kentucky Tax Alert</b> Index—Volume 23 January  |
|  | Kentucky Income Tax Forms Requisition   |
| Enterprise Zone  | (Form 40A727) December  |
| Enterprise Zone Update January                           |   |
| •  | Revenue   |
| Individual Income Tax                                    | DOR Offices Closed for Holidays December  |
| 2004 Federal/Kentucky Individual Income Tax              | DOR Offices Closed Sept. 5 for Labor Day  |
| Differences January                                      | Governor Appoints New PVA in Garrard County October   |
| Department of Revenue Concerns for Practitioners January | McQueary Named Executive Director of Property   |
| Employers Encouraged to Release Forms                    | Valuation   |
| W-2/K-2 Early December                                   | New Appointments Within the Office of Property  |
| Estimated Tax Payment Deadlines December                 | Valuation October   |
| Foreign Income Is Now Tax Deductible March               | PVA Exam Scheduled for November 1October  |
| Kentucky's Standard Deduction; Pension Exclusion         |   |
| for 2006 Tax Year December                               | Tax Rates   |
| Postsecondary Education Tuition Credits                  | 2005-2006 Homestead Exemption Set at \$29,400 January   |
| Tax Rate Reduction and Family Size Tax Credit            | Gasoline Excise Tax Rate  |
| Web Filing of Wage and Tax Statements (W-2s) January     | State Property Tax Rate Remains 13.1 Cents for 2005 July  |
| What's New   | Utility Gross Receipts License Tax (School Tax) March   |
| surfuct y  |   |
|  | J , , , ,   |

#### 2005 FEDERAL/KENTUCKY INDIVIDUAL INCOME TAX DIFFERENCES

Kentucky income tax law is based on the federal income tax law in effect on December 31, 2004. The Department of Revenue generally follows the administrative regulations and rulings of the Internal Revenue Service in those areas where no specific Kentucky law exists.

The chart below provides a quick reference guide to the major federal/Kentucky differences. It is not intended to be all inclusive. Items not listed may be referred to the Department of Revenue to determine Kentucky tax treatment.

| PROVISION   | FEDERAL<br>TAXTREATMENT   | KENTUCKY<br>TAXTREATMENT   |
|---|---|--|
| Interest from Federal Obligations   | Taxable   | Exempt   |
| 2. Retirement Income from:  |   | Bartistia account 16 material  |
| Commonwealth of Kentucky Retirement Systems   | Taxable   | Partially exempt if retired<br>after December 31, 1997;<br>exempt if retired before                          |
| Kentucky Local Government Retirement Systems  | Taxable   | January 1, 1998;   |
| Federal and Military Retirement Systems   | Taxable   | Schedule P may be required — — — — — — — —   |
| 3. Pensions and Annuities Starting After 7/1/86 and Before 1/1/90   | 3-year recovery rule eliminated   | 3-year recovery rule retained  |
| 4. Other Pension and Annuity Income   | Taxable   | 100% excludable up to \$41,110;<br>Schedule P may be required  |
| 5. Benefits from U.S. Railroad Retirement Board   | May be taxable  | Exempt; Schedule P may be required   |
| <ol> <li>Social Security Benefits</li> <li>Capital Gains on Sale of Kentucky Turnpike Bonds</li> <li>Other States' Municipal Bond Interest Income</li> <li>Kentucky Local Government Lease Interest Payments</li> <li>Long-Term Care Insurance Premiums Paid With         After-Tax Dollars     </li> <li>Medical and Dental Insurance Premiums Paid With         After-Tax Dollars     </li> <li>Capital Gains on Property Taken by</li> </ol> | May be taxable Taxable Exempt Taxable Limited deduction as self-employed health insurance Limited deduction as self-employed health insurance Taxable | Exempt Exempt Taxable Exempt 100% adjustment to gross income 100% adjustment to gross income Exempt          |
| Eminent Domain  13. Election Workers—Income for Training or  Working at Election Booths   | Taxable   | Exempt   |
| 14. Artistic Contributions  | Noncash contribution allowed as itemized deduction  | Appraised value allowed as itemized deduction or adjustment to income  |
| 15. State Income Taxes 16. Leasehold Interest—Charitable Contribution   | Deductible<br>May be deductible   | Nondeductible Deductible; Schedule HH required   |
| 17. Kentucky Unemployment Tax Credit  | No credit allowed   | \$100 per certified employee;  |
| 18. Work Opportunity Credit (federal Form 5884)   | Tax credit allowed; wage expense reduced by amount of credit  | Schedule UTC required No credit allowed; entire wage expense is deductible                                   |
| 19. Welfare to Work Credit (federal Form 8861)  | Tax credit allowed; wage expense reduced by amount of credit  | No credit allowed; wage expense<br>reduced by amount of federal<br>credit                                    |
| <ul><li>20. Child and Dependent Care Credit</li><li>21. Family Size Tax Credit</li><li>22. Education Tuition Tax Credit</li></ul>   | Tax credit based on expenses<br>No credit allowed<br>Tax credit based on expenses   | 20% of federal credit Decreasing tax credit allowed 25% of federal credit for Kentucky undergraduate studies |
| 23. Taxpayer who may be Claimed as Dependent on Another's Return (i.e., full-time student)  | May not claim self  | May claim self   |
| 24. Child's Income Reported by Parent 25. National Tobacco Settlement TLAP Income Quota Buyout  | Permitted; taxed at parent's rate<br>Taxable  | Not permitted<br>Exempt  |
| 26. Bonus depreciation/additional Section 179 expense 27. Sales tax deduction   | Deductible Schedule A deduction in lieu of state and local income tax   | Nondeductible<br>Nondeductible   |