

Internal Revenue Service

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Department of the Treasury

Washington, DC 20224

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Person To Contact:

, ID No.

Telephone Number:

Refer Reply To:

CC:PSI:B04

PLR-156446-04

Date: SEPTEMBER 22, 2005

Re:

Legend

Husband =

Wife =

Trust 1 =

Date 1 =

Date 2 =

Date 3 =

Year 1 =

Year 2 =

Amount =

Attorney 1 =

Attorney 2 =

Accountant =

Financial Planner =

Dear _____ :

This is in response to a letter from your authorized representative dated October 15, 2004, requesting an extension of time under § 301.9100 of the Procedure and Administration Regulations to make an allocation of generation-skipping transfer (GST) exemption.

The facts and representations submitted are summarized as follows: On the advice of Attorney 1, Accountant, and Financial Planner, Husband and Wife established Trust on Date 1 for the primary benefit of Husband and Wife's children and their descendants. On Date 2, Husband transferred cash in the amount of Amount to Trust.

For the Year 1 calendar year, Accountant prepared and Husband and Wife timely filed separate Forms 709, United States Gift (and Generation-Skipping Transfer) Tax Return. Husband and Wife treated the gift by Husband as made one-half by Husband and one-half by Wife, as provided under § 2513. In preparing the gift tax returns, Accountant inadvertently failed to allocate Husband's or Wife's available GST exemptions to Trust. Wife died on Date 3. In Year 2, Attorney 2 discovered the failure by Accountant to make the allocations.

To date, no taxable distributions, taxable terminations, or any other events have occurred with respect to Trust that would give rise to a GST liability on the part of Trust or any of its beneficiaries. Husband and Wife have sufficient GST tax exemption remaining and available to allocate sufficient GST tax exemption to Trust.

Section 2513(a) provides generally that, for gift tax purposes, if the parties consent, a gift made by one spouse to any person other than his or her spouse shall, for gift tax purposes, be considered as made one-half by the donor spouse and one-half by his or her spouse.

Section 2601 imposes a tax on every generation-skipping transfer. A generation-skipping transfer is defined under § 2611(a) as (1) a taxable distribution, (2) a taxable termination, and (3) a direct skip.

Section 2652(a) and § 26.2652-1(a)(4) of the Generation-Skipping Transfer Tax Regulations provide that, if, under § 2513, one-half of a gift is treated as made by an individual and one-half is treated as made by the spouse of the individual, then for purposes of the GST tax, each spouse is treated as the transferor of one-half of the entire value of the property transferred by the donor spouse, regardless of the interest the electing spouse is actually deemed to have transferred under § 2513.

Section 2631(a), as in effect for the tax years at issue, provided that, for purposes of determining the GST tax, every individual shall be allowed a GST exemption of \$1,000,000 (adjusted for inflation under § 2631(c)) which may be allocated by such individual (or his executor) to any property with respect to which such individual is the transferor. Section 2631(b) provides that any allocation under § 2631(a), once made, shall be irrevocable.

Section 2632(a) provides that any allocation by an individual of his or her GST exemption under § 2631(a) may be made at any time on or before the date prescribed for filing the estate tax return for such individual's estate (determined with regard to extensions), regardless of whether such a return is required to be filed.

Section 26.2632-1(b)(2) provides that an allocation of GST exemption to property transferred during the transferor's lifetime, other than in a direct skip, is made on Form 709.

Section 2642(b)(1) provides that, except as provided in § 2642(f), if the allocation of the GST exemption to any transfers of property is made on a gift tax return filed on or before the date prescribed by § 6075(b) for such transfer the value of such property for purposes of § 2642(a) shall be its value as finally determined for purposes of chapter 12 (within the meaning of § 2001(f)(2)).

Section 2642(g)(1)(A) provides that the Secretary shall by regulation prescribe such circumstances and procedures under which extensions of time will be granted to make an allocation of GST exemption described in § 2642(b)(1) or (2).

Section 2642(g)(1)(B) provides that in determining whether to grant relief under this paragraph, the Secretary shall take into account all relevant circumstances, including evidence of intent contained in the trust instrument or instrument of transfer and such other factors as the Secretary deems relevant. For purposes of determining whether to grant relief under this paragraph, the time for making the allocation (or election) shall be treated as if not expressly prescribed by statute. See Notice 2001-50, 2001-2 C.B. 189.

Section 301.9100-1(c) provides that the Commissioner has discretion to grant a reasonable extension of time under the rules set forth in §§ 301.9100-2 and 301.9100-3 to make a regulatory election, or a statutory election (but no more than 6 months except in the case of a taxpayer who is abroad), under all subtitles of the Internal Revenue Code except subtitles E, G, H, and I.

Section 301.9100-3 provides the standards used to determine whether to grant an extension of time to make an election whose date is prescribed by a regulation (and not expressly provided by statute). Under § 301.9100-1(b), a regulatory election includes an election whose due date is prescribed by a notice published in the Internal Revenue Bulletin. In accordance with § 2642(g)(1)(B) and Notice 2001-50, taxpayers may seek an extension of time to make an allocation described in § 2642(b)(1) under the provisions of § 301.9100-3.

Requests for relief under § 301.9100-3 will be granted when the taxpayer provides the evidence to establish to the satisfaction of the Commissioner that the taxpayer acted reasonably and in good faith, and that granting relief will not prejudice the interests of the government.

Section 301.9100-3(b)(1)(v) provides that a taxpayer is deemed to have acted reasonably and in good faith if the taxpayer reasonably relied on a qualified tax professional, including a tax professional employed by the taxpayer, and the tax professional failed to make, or advise the taxpayer to make, the election.

Based on the facts submitted and the representations made, we conclude that the requirements of § 301.9100-3 have been satisfied. Therefore, Wife's estate is granted an extension of time of 60 days from the date of this letter to make an allocation

of Wife's available GST tax exemption, with respect to Wife's transfers to Trust in Year 1. The allocation will be effective as of the respective date of the transfer to Trust, and the inclusion ratio of Trust will be determined based on the value of the transfer to Trust as determined for federal gift tax purposes and the amount of exemption allocated to Trust.

These allocations should be made on supplemental Form 709 and filed with the Cincinnati Service Center at the following address: Internal Revenue Service, Cincinnati Service Center – Stop 82, Cincinnati, OH 45999. A copy of this letter should be attached to the supplemental Forms 709.

The rulings contained in this letter are based upon information and representations submitted by the taxpayer and accompanied by a penalty of perjury statement executed by an appropriate party. While this office has not verified any of the material submitted in support of the request for rulings, it is subject to verification on examination.

Except as specifically ruled herein, we express or imply no opinion on the federal tax consequences of the transaction under the cited provisions or under any other provisions of the Code.

This ruling is directed only to the taxpayer requesting it. Section 6110(k)(3) provides that it may not be used or cited as precedent.

Sincerely,

Heather C. Maloy
Associate Chief Counsel
(Passthroughs and Special Industries)

Enclosures

Copy for section 6110 purposes
Copy of this letter