

2010 ESTATE TAX UPDATE

As you are probably aware, the federal estate tax was repealed on **January 1, 2010**. Although the repeal has been on the books for several years, it was unexpected that Congress would allow the repeal to occur. While we expect the federal estate tax will be reinstated, we are unable to predict when reinstatement will occur and what the new federal estate tax law will look like.

Given the current environment, estate plans should be revisited and revised to optimize flexible tax planning. If your estate currently exceeds \$1 million, your documents may need to be updated.

Even if your estate planning documents have been reviewed recently, today's environment lends itself to many estate tax reduction strategies. Historically low interest rates, reduced asset values, and new laws for IRAs and Roth IRA conversions all allow for effective tax planning.

Feel free to contact Barry Rubenstein, John J. Christianson or Sarah C. Subias at Watkinson Laird Rubenstein Baldwin & Burgess, P.C., at (541) 484-2277 in Eugene, (541) 673-5528 in Roseburg, or (541) 923-8767 in Redmond for further information.

Watkinson Laird Rubenstein Baldwin & Burgess, P.C.

