

**Nicholson, Michaud & Company**  
**76 Silver St**  
**Waterville, ME 04901-6528**  
**207-872-7077**

Dear :

This Tax Organizer is designed to help you gather the tax information needed to prepare your 2018 personal income tax return. To help you complete the Organizer with minimal time and effort, when available, you will find certain information from your 2017 personal income tax return.

To protect your privacy, your Tax Organizer contains masked data. Masked data displays as asterisks. For example, a Social Security number could display as \*\*\*-\*\*-6789, an account number as \*\*\*\*\*6789, and a date of birth as \*\*/\*\*/2000. If you would like to confirm the masked data or make a change to your data, please contact this office. Do not indicate any changes to your data on your Tax Organizer. When you receive your completed tax return(s), make sure you review all Social Security numbers, bank account numbers, and dates of birth for accuracy.

Enter 2018 information on the Tax Organizer pages provided. If any information does not apply to you or is incorrect, please draw a line through it or make the necessary corrections.

The Client Questionnaire asks about pertinent tax items necessary for preparing the most accurate tax return possible. Please answer all questions and attach a statement when necessary for additional information not provided in the Client Organizer.

You will also need to provide the following information:

- Forms W-2 for wages, salaries and tips.
- All Forms 1099 for interest, dividends, retirement, miscellaneous income, Social Security, state or local refunds, gambling winnings, etc.
- Brokerage statements showing investment transactions for stocks, bonds, etc.
- Schedule K-1 from partnerships, S corporations, estates and trusts.
- Statements supporting educational expenses, deductions or distributions, including any Forms 1098-T, 1098-E, or 1099-Q.
- All Forms 1095-A, 1095-B, and/or 1095-C related to health care coverage or the Premium Tax Credit.
- Statements supporting deductions for mortgage interest, taxes, and charitable contributions (including any Form 1098-C).
- Copies of closing statements regarding the sale or purchase of real property.
- Legal papers for adoption, divorce, or separation involving custody of your dependent children.
- Any tax notices sent to you by the IRS or other taxing authority.
- A copy of your income tax return from last year, if not prepared by this office.

IRS regulations require paid tax preparers who expect to prepare and file 11 or more federal individual, nonresident alien, or trust tax returns to file them electronically. To comply with this requirement your return will be electronically filed this year. The benefits of e-filing include a

secure way to file tax returns and it provides proof of acceptance that the IRS has accepted your return for processing. Contact this office if you prefer your return be filed on paper.

Like all providers of personal financial services, tax professionals are required by law to inform clients of their policies regarding privacy of client information. Our firm continues to adhere to professional standards of confidentiality that are even more stringent than those required by law. We have always protected the security and privacy of your personal and financial information.

### **Types of Nonpublic Personal Information We Collect**

The only nonpublic personal information we collect is provided to us by you or obtained with your authorization.

### **Parties to Whom We Disclose Information**

We do not disclose any nonpublic personal information obtained in the course of our practice except as required or permitted by law. Permitted disclosures may include providing information to our employees, or, in limited situations, to unrelated third parties who need that information to assist us in serving you. In all situations, we stress the confidential nature of the information being shared.

### **Protecting the Confidentiality and Security of Clients' Information**

We retain records relating to our professional services to better serve your professional needs and, in some cases, to comply with professional guidelines. In order to protect your nonpublic personal information, we maintain physical, electronic, and procedural safeguards that comply with our professional standards.

The IRS does not send out unsolicited emails requesting detailed personal information. Such authentic-looking emails are called "phishing" emails and responding may expose you to identity theft. If you receive such an email from the IRS, send a copy of the email to [phishing@irs.gov](mailto:phishing@irs.gov). Please do not respond to the email unless the email request you send to the IRS has been verified as legitimate. You may also contact our office regarding any correspondence, written or electronic, that you receive from the IRS.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you.

Sincerely,

Nicholson, Michaud & Company

Any accounting, business or tax advice contained in this communication, including attachments and enclosures, is not intended as a thorough, in-depth analysis of specific issues, nor a substitute for a formal opinion, nor is it sufficient to avoid tax-related penalties.

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Dear :

This letter is to confirm and specify the terms of our engagement with you and to clarify the nature and extent of the services we will provide. In order to ensure an understanding of our mutual responsibilities, we ask all clients for whom returns are prepared to confirm the following arrangements.

We will prepare your 2018 federal and state income tax returns from information which you will furnish to us. We will not audit or otherwise verify the data you submit, although it may be necessary to ask you for clarification of some of the information. We will furnish you with questionnaires and worksheets to guide you in gathering the necessary information. Your use of such forms will assist in keeping the fee to a minimum.

You are responsible for determining your tax filing obligations with any state or local tax authorities, including, but not limited to income, franchise, sales, use, property or unclaimed property taxes. You agree that we have no responsibility to research these obligations or to inform you of them. If upon review of the information you have provided to us, along with information that comes to our attention, we believe you may have additional filing obligations, we will notify you of this responsibility.

You are responsible for complying with the tax filing requirements of any other country. You acknowledge and agree that we have no responsibility to raise these issues with you and that foreign filing obligations are not within the scope of this engagement.

It is your responsibility to provide all the information required for the preparation of complete and accurate returns. You should retain all the documents, cancelled checks and other data that form the basis of income and deductions. These may be necessary to prove the accuracy and completeness of the returns to a taxing authority. You have the final responsibility for the income tax returns and, therefore, you should review them carefully before you sign them.

Our work in connection with the preparation of your income tax returns does not include any procedures designed to discover defalcations and/or irregularities, should any exist. We will render such accounting and bookkeeping assistance as determined to be necessary for preparation of the income tax returns.

To best serve you, we are requesting you get your tax information to us as soon as possible to allow adequate time to address and complete your return. It may become necessary to apply for an extension of the filing deadline if there are unresolved tax issues or delays in processing, or if we do not receive all of the necessary information from you on a timely basis. Applying for an extension of time to file may extend the time available for a government agency to undertake an audit of your return or may extend the statute of limitations to file a legal action. All taxes owed are due by the original filing due date. Additionally, extensions may affect your liability for penalties and interest or compliance with governmental or other deadlines.

The law provides various penalties that may be imposed when taxpayers understate their tax liability. If you would like information on the amount or the circumstances of these penalties, please contact us.

Your returns may be selected for review by the taxing authorities. Any proposed adjustments by the examining agent are subject to certain rights of appeal. In the event of such government tax examination, we will be available upon request to represent you and will render additional invoices for the time and expenses incurred.

Our fee for these services will be based upon the amount of time required at standard billing rates plus out-of-pocket expenses. All invoices are due and payable upon presentation. Any account not paid within 30 days will accrue interest at the rate of 18% per annum.

If the foregoing fairly sets forth your understanding, please sign the enclosed copy of this letter in the space indicated and return it to our office. However, if there are other tax returns you expect us to prepare, please inform us by noting so at the end of the return copy of this letter.

We want to express our appreciation for this opportunity to work with you.

Sincerely,

Nicholson, Michaud & Company

Accepted By: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Questions

Please check the appropriate box and include all necessary details and documentation.

	Yes	No
<b>Personal Information</b>		
Did your marital status change during the year?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If yes, explain: _____		
Did your address change from last year?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Can you be claimed as a dependent by another taxpayer?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did you change any bank accounts, or did routing transit numbers (RTN) and/or bank account number change for existing bank accounts that have been used to direct deposit (or direct debit) funds from (or to) the IRS or other taxing authority during the tax year?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did you receive an Identity Protection PIN (IP PIN) from the IRS or have you been a victim of identity theft? If yes, attach the IRS letter.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did you reside in or operate a business in a Federally declared disaster area? The Federally declared disaster areas include victims of hurricanes, tropical storms, floods, as well as wildfires.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Dependent Information</b>		
Were there any changes in dependents from the prior year?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If yes, explain: _____		
Do you have any children under age 19 or a full-time student under age 24 with unearned income in excess of \$2,100?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have dependents who must file a tax return?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did you provide over half the support for any other person(s) other than your dependent children during the year?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did you pay for child care while you worked, looked for work, or while a full-time student?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did you pay any expenses related to the adoption of a child during the year?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If you are divorced or separated with child(ren), do you have a divorce decree or other form of separation agreement which establishes custodial responsibilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did any dependents receive an Identity Protection PIN (IP PIN) from the IRS or have they been a victim of identity theft? If yes, attach the IRS letter.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Purchases, Sales and Debt Information</b>		
Did you start a new business or purchase rental property during the year?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did you sell, exchange, or purchase any assets used in your trade or business?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did you acquire a new or additional interest in a partnership or S corporation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did you sell, exchange, or purchase any real estate during the year?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did you purchase or sell a principal residence during the year?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did you foreclose or abandon a principal residence or real property during the year?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did you acquire or dispose of any stock during the year?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did you take out a home equity loan this year?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did you refinance a principal residence or second home this year?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did you sell an existing business, rental, or other property this year?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did you lend money with the understanding of repayment and this year it became totally uncollectable?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did you have any debts canceled or forgiven this year, such as a home mortgage or student loan(s)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did you purchase a qualified plug-in electric drive vehicle or qualified fuel cell vehicle this year?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Income Information

- Did you have any foreign income or pay any foreign taxes during the year, directly or indirectly, such as from investment accounts, partnerships or a foreign employer?
- Did you receive any income from property sold prior to this year?
- Did you receive any unemployment benefits during the year?
- Did you receive any disability income during the year?
- Did you receive tip income not reported to your employer this year?
- Did any of your life insurance policies mature, or did you surrender any policies?
- Did you receive any awards, prizes, hobby income, gambling or lottery winnings?
- Do you expect a large fluctuation in income, deductions, or withholding next year?
- Did you have any sales or other exchanges of virtual currencies, or used virtual currencies to pay for goods or services, or you are holding virtual currencies as an investment?

## Retirement Information

- Are you an active participant in a pension or retirement plan?
- Did you receive any Social Security benefits during the year?
- Did you make any withdrawals from an IRA, Roth, myRA, Keogh, SIMPLE, SEP, 401(k), or other qualified retirement plan?
- If yes, were any withdrawals due to a Federally declared disaster?
- Did you receive any lump-sum payments from a pension, profit sharing or 401(k) plan?
- Did you make any contributions to an IRA, Roth, myRA, Keogh, SIMPLE, SEP, 401(k), or other qualified retirement plan?

## Education Information

- Did you, your spouse, or your dependents attend a post-secondary school during the year, or plan to attend one in the coming year?
- Did you have any educational expenses during the year on behalf of yourself, your spouse, or a dependent? If yes, attach any Form(s) 1098-T and receipts for qualified tuition and related expenses
- Did anyone in your family receive a scholarship of any kind during the year?
- If yes, were any of the scholarship funds used for expenses other than tuition, such as room and board?
- Did you make any withdrawals from an education savings or 529 Plan account?
- If yes, were any of these withdrawals rolled over into a ABLE (Achieving a Better Life Experience) account?
- Did you make any contributions to an education savings or 529 Plan account?
- Did you pay any student loan interest this year?
- Did you cash any Series EE or I U.S. Savings bonds issued after 1989?
- Would you like a worksheet to aid in the completion of a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) with the U.S. Department of Education?

## Health Care Information

- Did you have qualifying health care coverage, such as employer-sponsored coverage or government-sponsored coverage (i.e. Medicare/Medicaid) for your family? "Your family" for health care coverage refers to you, your spouse if filing jointly, and anyone you can claim as a dependent. If yes, attach any Form(s) 1095-B and/or 1095-C you received.
- Did anyone in your family qualify for an exemption from the health care coverage mandate? Examples of exemptions include (but are not limited to) certain non-citizens, members of a health care sharing ministry, members of Federally-recognized Indian tribes, and exemptions requested from the Marketplace. If yes, attach the Exemption Certificate Number (ECN) or type of exemption.
- Did you enroll for lower cost Marketplace Coverage through [healthcare.gov](http://healthcare.gov) under the Affordable Care Act? If yes, attach any Form(s) 1095-A you received.
- Did you enroll for lower cost Marketplace Coverage through [healthcare.gov](http://healthcare.gov) under

- the Affordable Care Act and share a policy with anyone who is not included in your family?
- Did you make any contributions to a Health savings account (HSA) or Archer MSA?
- Did you receive any distributions from a Health savings account (HSA), Archer MSA, or Medicare Advantage MSA this year?
- Did you pay long-term care premiums for yourself or your family?
- Did you make any contributions to an ABLE (Achieving a Better Life Experience) account? If yes, attach any Form(s) 5498-QA you received.
- Did you receive any withdrawals from an ABLE (Achieving a Better Life Experience) account? If yes, attach any Form(s) 1099-QA you received.
- If you are a business owner, did you pay health insurance premiums for your employees this year?
- Did you receive any Health Coverage Tax Credit (HCTC) advance payments? If yes, attach any Form(s) 1099-H you received.

### Itemized Deduction Information

- Did you incur a casualty or theft loss or any condemnation awards during the year?
- If yes, did the loss occur in a Federally declared disaster area?
- Did you pay out-of-pocket medical expenses (Co-pays, prescription drugs, etc.)?
- Did you make any cash or noncash charitable contributions (clothes, furniture, etc.)?
- If yes, please provide evidence such as a receipt from the donee organization, a canceled check, or record of payment, to substantiate all contributions made.
- Did you donate a vehicle or boat during the year? If yes, attach Form 1098-C or other written acknowledgment from the donee organization.
- Did you pay real estate taxes for your primary home and/or second home?
- Did you pay any mortgage interest on an existing home loan? If yes, attach any Form(s) 1098 you received.
- Did you incur interest expenses associated with any investment accounts you held?
- Did you make any major purchases during the year (cars, boats, etc.)?
- Did you make any out-of-state purchases (by telephone, internet, mail, or in person) for which the seller did not collect state sales or use tax?

### Miscellaneous Information

- Did you make gifts of more than \$15,000 to any individual?
- Did you utilize an area of your home for business purposes?
- Did you engage in any bartering transactions?
- Did you retire or change jobs this year?
- Did you incur moving costs because of a permanent change of station as a member of the Armed Forces on active duty?
- Did you pay any individual as a household employee during the year?
- Did you make energy efficient improvements to your main home this year?
- Did you receive a distribution from, or were you a grantor or transferor for a foreign trust?
- Did you have a financial interest in or signature authority over a financial account such as a bank account, securities account, or brokerage account, located in a foreign country?
- Do you have any foreign financial accounts, foreign financial assets, or hold interest in a foreign entity?
- Did you receive correspondence from the State or the IRS?
- If yes, explain: \_\_\_\_\_
- Do you have previous years of tax returns that are either unfiled or filed with unpaid balances due?
- Do you want to designate \$3 to the Presidential Election Campaign Fund? If you check yes, it will not change your tax or reduce your refund.
- Did you receive cash payments in excess of \$10,000 from a transaction in the ordinary course of business?
- If yes, have you filed form 8300?

**WAYS TO RECEIVE YOUR TAX RETURN**

We are working towards a paperless office. Copies of completed returns are stored electronically and your backup is scanned, stored electronically and the paper documents returned to you. Your tax return will be filed electronically unless you specifically state that you would like to opt out of this method. This year we are offering two ways to receive your file copy of your 2018 return - please check your preferred option:

1 - Electronic copy: We will email you a secure copy of your return via ShareFile. ShareFile is a secured file sharing and storage system in the Cloud.

**OR**

2 - Paper copy: The way you have received your copy in the past.

In either case, your return will be filed electronically after we have received your signed Form 8879 authorizing us to do so. Or, you will receive a paper copy to file, provided that you have signed the e-filing opt-out form that will be provided with your completed tax return. We will retain a permanent copy of your tax return in electronic format for future reference.

Please indicate below which method you would like (**choose only 1**):

1 - Electronic copy \_\_\_\_\_

Email address to be used \_\_\_\_\_

2 - Traditional paper copy \_\_\_\_\_



**IRS regulations require paid tax preparers who expect to prepare a certain amount of federal individual tax returns to file them electronically. To comply with this requirement your return will be electronically filed this year if it qualifies for electronic filing under IRS rules. Taxpayers may choose to file a paper return instead of filing electronically.**

Mark if you want to file a paper return even if you qualify for electronic filing

\_\_\_\_ [1]

Receive email notification(s) when your electronic file is accepted by the taxing agency (Blank = None, 1 = Return, 2 = Return & Extension)

\_\_\_\_ [2]

If 1 or 2, please provide email address on Organizer Form ID: Info

Mark if you are filing a balance due return electronically and you want to pay the amount due by debiting your financial institution account

\_\_\_\_ [9]

The IRS requires a Personal Identification Number (PIN) be used in signing returns that are electronically filed.

Each taxpayer and spouse, if applicable, must provide a 5 digit self-selected PIN of your choice other than all zeroes.

Taxpayer self-selected Personal Identification Number (PIN)

\_\_\_\_ [7]

Spouse self-selected Personal Identification Number (PIN)

\_\_\_\_ [8]

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**NOTES/QUESTIONS:**

### Notes to Preparer

Submit questions and provide additional information to your tax return preparer here.

Taxpayer name(s)

Social security number

\*\*\*-\*\*-0000