



ENROLLED AGENT FOR TAX PREPARATION & AUDIT REPRESENTATION  
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## **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

Before we know it, another year is upon us. And with it brings the reminder that Uncle Sam is standing by to hear from us. As you prepare for our appointment, I've outlined some items for your information and consideration.

**Check Out the Website.** If you haven't already, please take a look at our website: [www.starrcochran.com](http://www.starrcochran.com). Under the *Tax Practice* tab you will find valuable information including, articles, the Tax Data Sheet, a map to the office, and links to the IRS and Arizona Department of Revenue.

**Tax Data Sheet.** Changes in our lives can often impact our tax returns. Please take a few moments to review these questions and items. You may discover a potential tax-saving item.

**Change of Mileage Rate Mid-Year.** Please note that the mileage rates changed on 7-1-11 for medical and business purposes.

**List of Deductions.** If you choose *not* to use the Tax Data Sheet, please bring a list of your deductions.

**Contributions to 529 College Savings Plans.** From now through 2012 you may subtract amounts you contribute to 529 college savings plans during the taxable year on your Arizona return. The limits for this deduction are: \$750 for single taxpayers and \$1500 for taxpayers filing a joint return.

**Energy Credits.** These credits are still available, however, at lower levels and the lifetime limits of \$500, and \$200 for windows will apply.

**IRS Never Sends Emails.** A word of caution. There have been a number of emails going out that look like they are from the IRS. They are not. They are an attempt to retrieve your personal information and should be forwarded immediately to: [phishing@irs.gov](mailto:phishing@irs.gov).

**Payment Due at Time Services Rendered.** Please be prepared to pay your invoice at the time your tax return is completed. Electronically filed returns will be transmitted only after payment is received.

**Child Care.** We continue to appreciate your making child care arrangements for our appointment. The uninterrupted time enables us to better focus on completing your returns accurately and efficiently.

**Office Hours.** From February 1<sup>st</sup> through April 17<sup>th</sup> our office hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

We look forward to seeing you in the next few months. In the meantime if you have any questions, please give us a call.