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This is the beginning of the 2022 tax season! After last year (which is still going on) as well as the ongoing COVID situation, the tax season this year will surely look and be different than in years past. Here is what we would like you to know:

1. Strauss Tax Service is doing everything to keep you and us safe during this difficult time.
2. This includes for now in person meetings if you wish - with masks for all or zoom/phone conferences to explain your tax preparation and 2022 tax projections/Estimated taxes.
3. As you know I have sold my DG house and both Beth and I are working full time in my Chicago office. There is parking available – just let us know when you make your appointment if you wish to come downtown. We will have a temporary office in DG beginning in February 2022 to meet with clients if you wish.
4. Beth will pick up your tax documents and return your completed tax return and all supporting documentation to you. Then you and I can review them via Zoom or telephone. You can also scan or FEDEX your tax documents to us – and we return tax returns with all supporting documentation only securely by FEDEX- with tracking information.
5. Our office also includes new security measures taken by us for your identity protection, including computer security upgrades and documentation and a private cloud system as well as getting protection PINs from the IRS for those who request it (or those we think would be candidates for protection). This PIN number would go on your tax return we file and should protect you against identity theft at the IRS level only.
6. Tax Season will start sometime between the end of January and February 15th. That is when efileing is open. It is strongly recommended that you efile, since anything arriving at either the IRS or IL DOR in paper by snail mail can take not weeks but months to process given the COVID and work from home situation.
7. You will have to reconcile your third stimulus payment and any advance child credit payments on your 2021 tax return. Hopefully, you saved your amount in your check register or the letter the IRS

sent you with the check – or can find it online from your direct deposit in your bank. The IRS will also be sending out letters with these payments (Form 6475 for stimulus payment and Form 6419 for Advance child credit payments) in January 2022.

8. The IRS and IL are recommending that Estimated payments be made through their secure websites. You do not need an online account to pay - we will include instructions for you with your ES worksheets. Checks are still fine, but anything sent snail mail takes a lot longer to process and if you pay online, you get an acknowledgement by email. You can also set up an IRS online account – we can show you show.
9. The 2021 Check off listing is also being sent to you. Please make sure you have ALL documents, (including corrected 1099s) before you start to file. Since the IRS matches all 1099 documents, you could get a notice down the road if your information is not complete.