

Internal Revenue Service

Department of the Treasury

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Washington, DC 20224

Person to Contact:

Telephone Number:

Refer Reply To:

CC:PSI:4-PLR-129328-02

Date:

SEPTEMBER 25, 2002

Re:

LEGEND:

Decedent =

Executor =

Date 1 =

Date 2 =

Date 3 =

Month =

Year =

Dear :

This letter is in response to your letter dated May 23, 2002, requesting an extension of time under § 301.9100-1 of the Procedure and Administration Regulations to make an alternate valuation election under § 2032(a) of the Internal Revenue Code.

The facts presented and the representations made are summarized as follows. Decedent died on Date 1. On Date 2, the executor (Executor) of Decedent's estate timely filed the United States Estate (and Generation-Skipping Transfer) Tax Return (Form 706). Executor had engaged a law firm experienced in the preparation of federal estate tax returns; however, the law firm failed to advise Executor of the availability of the election to value the assets includible in the gross estate as of an alternate date pursuant to § 2032(a).

In Month of Year, Executor became aware of the election under § 2032(a). On Date 3, Executor filed supplemental information pursuant to § 20.6081-1(c) on Form 706, on which Executor made the election under § 2032(a). It is represented that Date

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3 is not more than one year after the time prescribed by law (including extensions) for filing the estate tax return. It is represented that the value of the gross estate and the tax imposed by chapters 11 and 13 decreased as a result of making the election.

LAW AND ANALYSIS:

Section 2032(a) provides that the value of the gross estate may be determined, if the executor so elects, by valuing all the property included in the gross estate as follows:

- (1) In the case of property distributed, sold, exchanged, or otherwise disposed of, within six months after the decedent's death such property shall be valued as of the date of distribution, sale, exchange, or other disposition.
- (2) In the case of property not distributed, sold, exchanged, or otherwise disposed of, within six months after the decedent's death such property shall be valued as of the date six months after the decedent's death.
- (3) Any interest or estate which is affected by mere lapse of time shall be included at its value as of the time of death (instead of the later date) with adjustment for any difference in its value as of the later date not due to mere lapse of time.

Section 2032(c) provides that no election may be made under § 2032 with respect to an estate unless such election will decrease: (1) the value of the gross estate; and (2) the sum of the tax imposed by chapters 11 and 13 with respect to property includible in the decedent's gross estate (reduced by credits allowable against such taxes).

Section 2032(d)(1) provides that an election under § 2032 shall be made by the executor on the return of tax imposed by chapter 11. Such an election, once made, shall be irrevocable. Under § 2032(d)(2), no election may be made under § 2032 if such return is filed more than one year after the time prescribed by law (including extensions) for filing such return.

Under § 301.9100-1(c), the Commissioner may grant a reasonable extension of time 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. Sections 301.9100-1 through 301.9100-3 provide the standards the Commissioner will use to determine whether to grant an extension of time to make an election.

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Section 301.9100-2 provides automatic extensions of time for making certain elections. Section 301.9100-3 provides extensions of time for making elections that do not meet the requirements of § 301.9100-2.

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 the grant of relief will not prejudice the interests of the Government. Section 301.9100-3(a).

In this case, the standards of §§ 301.9100-1 and 301.9100-3 have been satisfied. Consequently, an extension of time to make the election under § 2032(a) is granted until Date 3, the date on which the supplemental estate tax return was filed.

Except as expressly provided herein, no opinion is expressed or implied concerning the tax consequences of any aspect of any transaction or item discussed or referenced in this letter. This ruling is directed only to the taxpayer(s) requesting it. Section 6110(k)(3) of the Code provides that it may not be used or cited as precedent.

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.

In accordance with the power of attorney on file with this office, a copy of this letter is being sent to the taxpayer.

Sincerely,

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

Enclosures
Copy for section 6110 purposes