

# THE EXPOSITION

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The Second Edition of *Estate Planning At The Movies® — Art of the Estate Tax Return* is current through June 30, 2014.

As you venture through the pages of this Second Edition *Estate Planning At The Movies® — Art of the Estate Tax Return*, you will notice that your journey follows the dramatic structure of any great movie. Upon completion of **The Previews**, you will enjoy **The Overture**, which is comprised of a **Mission Statement** as well as Chapters 1-7. The Overture chapters address strategic approaches to return preparation and advocacy, filing procedures, and practice tips, IRS return review practices, and audit and appeals insight, as well as a taste of the practical tips you will encounter throughout the remainder of the book. Chapter 7A, the only chapter on **Main Street**, provides an extensive and expanded tour of the deceased spousal unused exclusion amount — its benefits and potential consequences, as well as guidance for making elections in or out of portability. So why is the portability chapter the only one on Main Street? Similar to the distinction of the Wall Street economic elite versus the wider population, the vast majority of estate tax returns are filed for the purpose of making portability elections. Thus, Chapter 7A offers great relevancy to Main Street, USA. Chapter 8 commences **The Cast of Characters** in which each of Chapters 8-26 covers a schedule of Form 706. Chapter 27 provides guidance on paying estate tax. Chapters 38, 39, and 40 comprise **The Dénouement**, that is, the grand finalé, featuring three illustrated estate tax returns for deaths in 2013. The first return considers the death of the first spouse to die in a marriage in a community property state. The second return illustrates the death of an unmarried individual with complex affairs. The third return exemplifies a smaller estate wherein a portability election is made. Finally, in **The Ovation** you will find, in addition to a credit roll for professional contributors, a general index as well indices of cases and movies cited.

You may wonder, what about Chapters 28-37? These chapters, which feature illustrated estate tax returns for deaths in years preceding 2013 are available electronically through the author's Update Service. The annual Update Service for *Art of the Estate Tax Return* is available by subscription, providing on-going electronic updates and newsletters from Keith Schiller. The author's Update Service is separate and apart from any supplemental updates provided by Bloomberg BNA, however both may be used as compliments to one another and to this Second Edition of *Art of the Estate Tax Return* to keep you constantly abreast the latest estate tax information and practice tips.

To subscribe to the author's Update Service, visit [www.EstatePlanningAtTheMovies.com](http://www.EstatePlanningAtTheMovies.com) or contact the author directly. To learn about supplemental updates to this Second Edition, written by Keith Schiller and published by Bloomberg BNA, visit [www.bna.com/bna.books](http://www.bna.com/bna.books).

Each of the chapters that follow opens with a movie reference that sets the stage for the theme of the chapter. Each schedule of the estate tax return is presented and analyzed from the standpoints of practice tips, in-depth analysis of significant issues, and discussion of tax-savings actions for estates and taxpayers. In the writing of this book, the 2013 IRS forms and instructions provided the basis for discussion. All material is subject to the Notices on page PRE-21, *supra*. Now, sit back, relax, and enjoy the show.