

GOMES, DaCRUZ & TRACY, P.C.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

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MEMBERS:
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
MA SOCIETY OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

MARIA F. GOMES, MBA, CPA
MARK A. GERMAIN, CPA, CITP
DAVID J. MANTONI, CPA

January 10, 2025

Dear Client,

Once again, welcome back and we are looking forward to a healthy and prosperous 2025!

There are not many tax law changes in 2024, but the government sure made it an interesting year. Inflation seems to have been controlled and interest rates started to come down slightly. But the country has much more work to do before we are out of the clear. With most of the tax cuts introduced in 2017 set to expire this year, I am sure we are in for a significant change in the tax laws next filing season. But for now, we will do the best with what we have.

2024 was full of changes for us! After five years in our Wilbraham location, we merged back with our Ludlow office. We are now greeting our clients in our first-floor location at 103 Winsor Street in Ludlow. We continue to maintain offices on the third floor, but for your convenience, please check in and pick up returns on the first floor. Lisa Cordero and Donna Boucher will continue to greet you as you enter the office.

While we have had some turnover in our tax preparers during 2024, we continue to strive to improve client relationships and our delivery of services. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact one of our team members. Mark, David and Linda continue to lead and grow the firm and Maria and Elaine continue to provide their expertise on a limited basis. Kristin is heading up the administrative team and continues to support the front and back office. She has been working closely with our four interns to ensure a smooth start to the season.

The remainder of the staff include Dorothy, Michaela and Tom who are returning and Samantha, Eric, Avanti and Stephen who have joined during 2024. While our team grows you may be talking with one of these professionals but be assured that they are working closely with us. We continue to enhance our process and team with the proper tools and experience as our commitment to providing the best product and service to you.

Tax season office hours are 8am - 5pm Monday through Friday and 9am - 4pm Saturday. Returns are prepared on a first-in, first-out basis. Please submit your information as early as possible to ensure that it is in the queue and will be completed in time. The IRS has announced that they will most likely be accepting e-filed returns by the week of January 27, 2025.

Attached you will find our annual engagement letter for your personal income tax filing along with the 2024 tax questionnaire. Please take the time to review these documents and sign and return them to our office.

We continue to push our paperless features and are encouraging clients to deliver and accept electronic copies of documents instead of paper. If the portal copy of your return is sufficient and you do not require a paper copy, please let us know on the attached checklist.

The filing deadline for individual tax returns is Tuesday, April 15, 2025, this year. There are no holidays to extend the due dates in Massachusetts. To meet this filing deadline, the information needed to complete your return should be received by us **no later than March 15, 2025**.

Returns received after this date will be extended. If an extension of the time is required, any tax that may be due with the return must be paid with the extension.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gomes, Dacruz & Tracy, P.C." in a cursive style.

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January 10, 2025

Dear Client,

This letter is to confirm and specify the terms of our engagement with you for the year ended December 31, 2024, and to clarify the nature and extent of the tax services we will provide. To ensure an understanding of our mutual responsibilities, we ask that all clients for whom returns are to be prepared confirm the following arrangements.

We will prepare your individual federal and state income tax returns for the calendar year 2024. We are under no duty to review the information you provide to determine whether you may have a filing obligation with another state other than your state of residence or state of employment. If we become aware of any other filing requirement, we will tell you of the obligation and may prepare the appropriate returns at your request.

It is your responsibility to provide complete and accurate information required for the preparation of complete and accurate returns. You should retain all the documents, canceled 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 return and, therefore, you should review them carefully before you sign them.**

We have provided you with a questionnaire requesting specific information. Completing this form will assist us in making sure you are well served for a reasonable fee. You represent that the information you are supplying to us is accurate and complete to the best of your knowledge and that you have disclosed to us all relevant facts affecting the returns. This will include the ownership of or signature authority over any foreign bank accounts and the ownership of any other foreign financial assets. We will not verify the information you give us. However, we may ask for additional clarification on some information.

You should also know that IRS audit procedures will almost always include questions on crypto currency, bartering transactions and on deductions that require strict documentation such as travel, entertainment, and expenses for business usage of autos. In preparing your returns, we rely on your representations that we have been informed of all crypto currency, bartering transactions, and that you understand and have complied with the documentation requirements for your expenses and deductions. If you have any questions about these issues, please contact our office.

If, during our work, we discover information that affects prior-year tax returns, we will make you aware of the facts. However, we cannot be responsible for identifying all items that may affect prior-year returns. If you become aware of such information during the year, please contact us to discuss the best resolution of the issue. We will be happy to prepare appropriate amended returns as a separate engagement.

Our work in connection with the preparation of the tax returns does not include any procedures designed to discover defalcations or other irregularities, should any exist. The returns will be prepared solely from information provided to us without verification by us.

In no case will we disclose your tax return information to any location outside the United States, to another tax return preparer outside of our firm, or to any other third party for any purpose without first receiving your consent.

The Internal Revenue Code and regulations impose preparation and disclosure standards with non-compliance penalties on both the preparer of the tax return and the taxpayer. To avoid exposure to these penalties, it may be necessary in some cases to make certain disclosures to you and/or in the tax return concerning positions taken on the return that don't meet these standards. Accordingly, we will discuss tax positions that may increase the risk of exposure to penalties and any recommended disclosures with you before completing the preparation of the return. If we conclude that we are obligated to disclose a position and you refuse to permit the disclosure, we reserve the right to withdraw from the engagement and you agree to compensate us for our services to the date of withdrawal. Our engagement with you will terminate upon our withdrawal.

You have final responsibility for the accuracy of your tax returns. We will provide you with a copy of your electronic tax returns and accompanying schedules and statements for review prior to filing with the IRS, state and local tax authorities, as applicable. You agree to review and examine them carefully for accuracy and completeness.

You will be required to verify and sign a completed Form 8879, *IRS e-file Signature Authorization*, and any similar state and local equivalent authorization form before your returns can be filed electronically.

The IRS permits you to authorize us to discuss, on a limited basis, aspects of your return for one year after the return's due date. Your consent to such a discussion is evidenced by checking a box on the return. Unless you tell us otherwise, we will check that box authorizing the IRS to discuss your return with us.

It is our policy to keep records related to this engagement for **seven years**. However, we do not keep any of your original records, so we will return those to you upon the completion of the engagement. When records are returned to you, it is your responsibility to retain and protect records for possible future use, including potential examination by governmental or regulatory agencies.

By signing this engagement letter, you acknowledge and agree that upon expiration of the seven-year period, we are free to destroy our records related to this engagement.

The returns may be selected for review by taxing authorities. In the event of an audit, you may be requested to produce documents, records, or other evidence to substantiate the items of income and deduction shown on a tax return. Any proposed adjustments by the examining agent are subject to certain rights of appeal. In the event of a tax examination, we will be available, upon request, to represent you. However, such additional services are not included in the fees for the preparation of the tax returns.

Our fees for this engagement are not contingent on the results of our services. Rather, our fees for this engagement, including tax planning, are based on time required, complexity of the return, plus any out-of-pocket expenses, at our standard hourly rates. Our fees are payable and due upon presentation of your tax filings.

Our services will conclude upon the earlier of (1) the filing and acceptance of your 2024 tax return (2) written notification by either party that the engagement is terminated or (3) one year from the execution of this agreement.

You authorize the use of e-mail and other electronic methods to transmit and receive information, including confidential information. You acknowledge that e-mail travels over the public internet which is not a secure means of communication. Information transmitted via electronic methods could be compromised through no fault of Gomes, DaCruz & Tracy, P.C. We will utilize reasonable methods and precautions to protect the privacy and confidentiality of transmitted information. **Please be aware that we offer secure and convenient portal access for our clients. If you have not yet accessed your portal, please call the office for instructions.**

We have the right to withdraw from this engagement, at our discretion, if you do not provide us with any information we request in a timely manner, refuse to cooperate with our reasonable requests or misrepresent any facts. Our withdrawal will release us from any obligation to complete your return and will constitute completion of our engagement. You agree to compensate us for our time and out-of-pocket expenses through the date of our withdrawal.

If the services and terms outlined above are in accordance with your understanding, please sign on the next page designated for your signature (signed by both taxpayer and spouse if joint return) and return the original of this executed letter along with the enclosed questionnaire to this office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gomes, DaCruz & Tracy, P.C." in a cursive script.

GOMES, DACRUZ & TRACY, P.C.

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN WITH THE QUESTIONNAIRE CONTINUED ON THE BACK

ACCEPTED AND AGREED:

Taxpayer

SIGNATURE

CELL / HOME (Circle one)

PRINT NAME

E-MAIL

Spouse

SIGNATURE

CELL / HOME (Circle one)

PRINT NAME

E-MAIL

1040 Questions For 2024

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

Personal Information

- | | Yes | No |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Do you want a paper copy of your tax return? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Did you retire or change jobs this year? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Did you have a change in marital status during the year? Please explain. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Did your address change last year? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Do you want direct deposit? Please enclose a voided check. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Did you receive an Identity Protection PIN to use on your tax filing? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| May the IRS discuss your tax return with your preparer? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Were you notified or audited by the IRS or state taxing agency? Provide details. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Are you an owner or control 25% of a company registered with a secretary of state?
If yes, you may have a BOI reporting requirement if you have not already filed. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Dependents

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Do you have any new dependents in 2024? If so, please provide their SSN and DOB. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Do you have children under age 18 or full-time students under age 23 with investment or pass-through income in excess of \$2,600? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Did you provide over one half of the support for any other person other than your dependent children during the year? (parent or other) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Did you pay for childcare while you worked or looked for work? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Did you and your dependents have health care coverage for the full year? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

- CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE -

1040 Questions For 2024, continued

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

	Yes	No
Income Information		
Did you start or sell an existing business, rental, or other property this year?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did you have any debts canceled or forgiven this year?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did you have any foreign income or pay any foreign taxes during the year?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did you have any awards, prizes, gambling or lottery winnings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did you buy or sell virtual currency during the year? If so, provide details.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did you make any withdrawals from an IRA, 401K, or other qualified retirement plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did you receive any Social Security, disability, or unemployment income this year?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dates unemployed (if applicable): _____		
Do you expect a large fluctuation in income, deductions or withholding next year?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Deduction Information

Did you refinance or take out a home equity loan this year?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did you make any energy efficient home improvements to your main home this year?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did you purchase a qualified plug-in electric drive or fuel cell vehicle this year?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did you pay out-of-pocket medical expenses?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did you pay any tuition or student loan interest this year?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have evidence to substantiate charitable contributions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did you make any contributions to or distributions from a 529 plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did you make contributions to a Health Savings Account (HSA) this year?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Miscellaneous Information

Did you make gifts of more than \$18,000 to any individual?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did you pay any individual as a household employee during the year?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did you have subsidized health coverage during the year? Please provide form 1095-A.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did you make any out-of-state purchases (by telephone, internet, mail, in person) that the seller did not collect state sales or use tax?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did you have any interest in or signature authority over a bank, securities, or other financial account in a foreign country? Did the balance exceed \$10,000?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Business Use of Personal Automobile (if not provided with your business return)

Do you have business use for your personal automobile?

Total miles _____ (business and personal)

Business miles _____ (do not include commuting to and from work)

Estimated Taxes Paid:

Due Date	Date Paid	Federal	State
April 15, 2024			
June 17, 2024			
September 16, 2024			
January 15, 2025			
Other			