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Subject: Technical Corrections to Section 409A Regulations

Major References: Section 409A Regulations Technical Corrections (RIN 1545-BE79)

Prior AALU Washington Reports: 07-38

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SEE THE CIRCULAR 230 DISCLAIMERS APPENDED TO THE CONCLUSION OF THIS WASHINGTON REPORT.

The Internal Revenue Service recently released the correcting amendments to the final regulations under section 409A of the Revenue Code. A few weeks ago the IRS had released correcting amendments to the preamble to those regulations.

On April 17, 2007 the IRS issued the final regulations under section 409A. (See our Bulletin No. 07-38.) The Service had indicated over the last few months that it intended to make technical modifications to those regulations to further clarify their original meaning and intent. Those clarifications were recently issued.

In a procedure that is highly unusual, the IRS clarifications were actually issued in two stages even though the Revenue Service drafted the technical corrections as a unit. The first part was issued several weeks ago, but (as stated above) only applied to the preamble of the regulations. Recently the government published the second part -- the technical corrections to the regulations' text itself.

Those corrections are intended to clarify the rules without modifying the original intent. One of the regulations' principal drafters (the Treasury Department's Dan Hogans) was recently quoted as saying that the technical corrections are "clarifications of what was intended to begin with."

The IRS does not intend to republish separately the section 409A regulations in their entirety (i.e., with the corrections). As a consequence, any practitioner dealing with issues under section 409A will have to refer to the regulations as issued on April 17, 2007, as to well as the separate technical corrections in

order to be certain he is utilizing a fully corrected version of the regulations. This will be true at least until such time as the regulations are republished, inclusive of these corrections, by a private publisher.

Any AALU member who wishes to obtain a copy of the technical corrections may do so through the following means: (1) use hyperlink above next to "Major References," (2) log onto the AALU website at <u>www.aalu.org</u> and enter the *Member Portal* and select *Current Washington Report* for linkage to source material or (3) email Erik Ruselowski at <u>ruselowski@aalu.org</u> and include a reference to this *Washington Report*.

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