
Tax issues in divorce

Posted by jeremy - 2007/08/05 15:35

I am in the process of getting a divorce and I am very concerned about the tax issues. Mine was the sole salary in our household until May, at which time my wife took a part-time job paying \$7 an hour. It looks like I'm going to be taxed as single for 2007, with no account taken of the fact that my wife was enjoying the benefit of my salary through the first half of the year.

My question has to do with deducting alimony on my taxes. I have been paying alimony under an informal agreement with my wife since the beginning of June (right after I moved out of the house). In reading through IRS publications, it said that alimony can only be deducted if it is required under a divorce decree or "written separation agreement". Does anyone know if this "written separation agreement" has to be a court doent, or can it be anything the two of us write up? Can it stipulate that past payments were alimony? How have those of you who are already divorced handled this issue?

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Re:Tax issues in divorce

Posted by frustrateddad - 2007/08/28 14:26

I'm no tax adviser but any dough you give to her in the form of alimony I'd report to the IRS. She'd have to pay taxes on it.

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