



Dear Client:

In 2017 more than 98 percent of the country was affected by data breaches — nearly 1,300 were recorded, including the massive Equifax breach. Now, criminals are using the stolen personal information to file fraudulent tax returns to get their hands on tax refunds totaling billions of dollars.

As our client, you know we've recommended for years that you wait to file your taxes until late March because of the possibility that you may receive revised or corrected 1099 forms on your taxable accounts, which would potentially cause you to file an amended return.

On the heels of such a record-setting year for data breaches, we recommend you file your taxes as soon as you have all the necessary tax-reporting documents to protect your personal information — and your tax refund if you're entitled to one. We believe the risk of someone filing a fraudulent tax return outweighs the possible inconvenience and cost of filing an amended return.

If your investment in the Edelman Managed Asset Program<sup>®</sup> (EMAP) is in a taxable account (e.g., an individual, joint, trust or transfer on death account), you should receive a Consolidated Form 1099 in late February. If you took a distribution from an IRA in 2017, please be aware that you will receive a Form 1099-R.

As always, we recommend you consult with your tax professional regarding your personal tax situation and filing requirements or if you have questions about when you should file your taxes. If you have any other questions or would like to discuss additional ways you can protect against identity theft, feel free to contact your advisor.

Regards!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edward Schweitzer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Edward Schweitzer  
Manager TAMP Division

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