

Estate Tax Update, December 2009

by Charles E. Falk

To no one's surprise, during the week of November 30th, 2009, the House of Representatives will take up and presumably act quickly to repeal the "no estate tax in 2010" provision of the Bush tax cuts and make permanent the 2009 rates and exemptions. Rather than engaging in a one year band aid, the House will make permanent the 2009 tax estate tax rate (top rate 45%) and the 2009 exemption of \$3.5 million per person and \$7 million per couple. This move was expected by the tax community since the havoc that would be caused by a one year aberration in the administration of the estate tax would be unthinkable.