Win New Clients Using Point-of-Sale Plan Design



Part of the American Retirement Association

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Speaking About

Tools

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Blah-Blah-Blah

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author of Thinking in Pictures

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Start with Why



How to do plan design

The usual method...

\$21,644.09 \$17,554.19	\$39,198.28 \$14,434.13	\$24,764.16	-\$3,120.06	(baseline)
\$34,307.00 \$34,598.78	\$68,905.78 \$25,693.27	\$43,212.51	-\$8,905.51	-\$4,552.25
\$17,531.25 \$8,905.06	\$26,436.31 \$9,665.02	\$16,771.29	\$759.96	\$2,121.15
\$35,827.19 \$17,756.97	\$53,584.16 \$19,886.37	\$33,697.78	\$2,129.40	\$6,828.60
\$45,778.69 \$22,425.38	\$68,204.06 \$25,427.32	\$42,776.75	\$3,001.94	\$6,040.65

- Ask for a census
- Run numbers
- Create spreadsheets
- Email spreadsheets
- Explain spreadsheets



Right and Wrong

WRONG

RIGHT

\$17,554.1 \$39,198.2 \$14,434.1 \$21,644.09 9 8 3 \$24,764.16-\$3,120.06 (baseline)

\$34,598.7 \$68,905.7 \$25,693.2 \$34,307.00 8 8 7 \$43,212.51 -\$8,905.51 -\$4,552.25

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\$22,425.3 \$68,204.0 \$25,427.3 \$45,778.69 8 6 2 \$42,776.75 \$3,001.94 \$6,040.65



What you will learn today



What you will learn today



Do You Understand the Words That Are Coming Out of My Mouth?





The Native Tongue of TPAs

Gobbledygook





5 Employee Example

- 5 employees x \$50k average = \$250k wages
- 5% = \$8k; 10% = \$15k; 15% = 23k
- Owner is 50, average employee age is 40
- Owner maxes out at \$270k comp and \$54k contributions
- 54k owner + 8k for employees = 62k cash flow
- Tax deduction at 40% (very conservative) = \$25k
- So: owner pays 37k net of tax, gets 54k in her account, and employees get 8k in their accounts



Putting it all together

- Factfinder questions
- Drawing it out simply for the client
- Knowledge base
 - Qualified plan basics
 - Tax basics
 - Business entity basics



Open-ended fact-finder questions

- Tell me about your organization
 - What you do, how you do it, what makes you special, rough size, history, culture, locations, profitability, nature of industry
- Tell me about your people
 - How you feel about them, wage range and dispersion, what they do, loyalty/turnover, key people, what matters
- Tell me about your plan
 - Type, contributions, participation, savings rates, how do you feel about the contributions you make, rough assets, participants with balances, how many are terms, vendors, how do you feel about them, any weird assets or provisions
- "Before we start, I wonder if you could just take a few moments to tell us a little bit about your organization and your people and where you are with your retirement plan?"



Ballpark Fact-Finding

- How many owners? Employees?
- Average age and wage of employees?
- Owner ages and incomes?
- If there were no rules, how much would you save and how much would you give your employees?
- What is the minimum contribution level you think you need to be competitive?



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5 employee example



5 employee example



5 employee example



5 employee example with baseline



Two Key Concepts

- Baseline
- Bottom line



Baseline

Law firm 25% to 6% match



Baseline

Anesthesia practice 100% to 6% match



Rolling out a design change

- Change from 100%-6% to 5% new comp
- Maxers lose
- Non-contributors gain
- How should the client communicate this?



Qualified plan stuff we need in our heads

- \$18,000 402(g) + \$6,000 catchup
- \$54,000 415(c)
- \$270,000 401(a)(17)
- 54-18 = \$36k employer contribution
- 36 / 270 = 13.333% pro rata contribution to allow owners to max out
- 13.3 / 3 = the 1/3 gateway = 4.45% (compare to 5%) gateway)
- 10.53% = contribution for employees in an integrated plan
- 7.5% DB/DC combo gateway
- More advanced (but necessary for DB/DC combo): 401(a)(26)



Qualified plan stuff we need in our heads

- \$18,000 + \$6,000
- \$54,000
- \$270,000



Crash course on non-discrimination and cross-testing

- 13.333%
- 10.53%
- 4.45% or 5% or 7.5%
- Age disparity

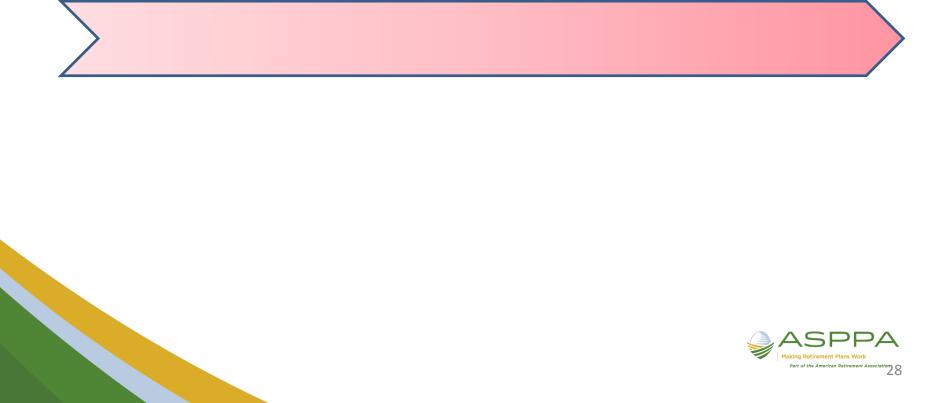


REMEMBER THE RANGE!



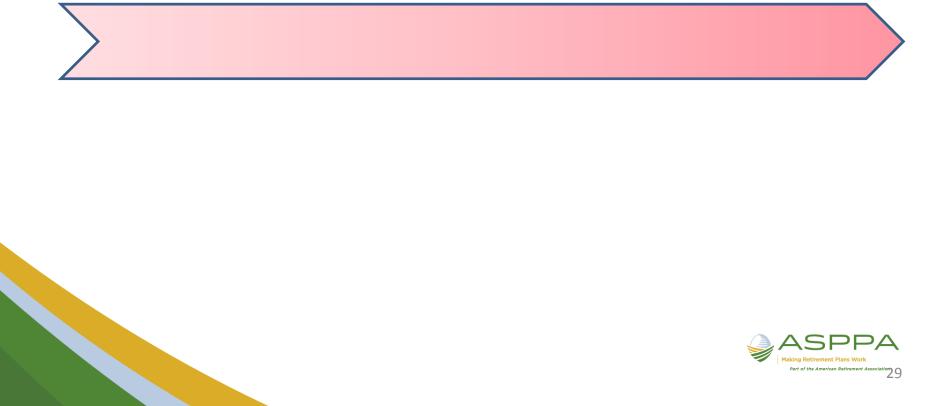
REMEMBER THE RANGE!

Owners age 45, employees age 42



Range

Owners age 30, employees age 50





What happens when some owners/HCEs get less



RANGE

Father/owner 55, son/owner 30





Set expectations: changing demographics



DB/DC Combo—How much could you contribute?

Age	Conservative Estimate
40	\$100,000
52	\$150,000
65	\$250,000



RANGE

DB/DC combo



Crash course on testing sequence

- The point: have you given the right amount of money to the right people?
- The sequence:
 - Coverage first (you must include the right people in the calculations)
 - Gateway minimum contribution for employees (4.45%, 5%, or 7.5%)
 - Nondiscrimination test
 - Safe harbor (pro rata or integrated)
 - Cross testing (general test under IRC Sec. 401(a)(4))
 - 4.45 to 10.53%



The 70% coverage rule

• Must cover 70% as many NHCEs as HCEs



The 70% coverage rule

• Must cover 70% as many NHCEs as HCEs



Tax stuff we need in our heads

- \$127,200 taxable wage base (TWB) for paying Social Security tax
- SS tax 6.2% for employee, but doubles to 12.4% for owners
- Medicare tax 1.45% for employees, 2.9% for owners (no upper limit)
- Federal tax brackets (especially top 3: 39.6%,
- State taxes
- Estimated client marginal income tax rate



Federal Income Tax Brackets

Bracket	Single	Married/Joint
10%	\$0 to \$9,325	\$0 to \$18,650
15%	\$9,325 to \$37,950	\$18,650 to \$75,900
25%	\$37,950 to \$91,900	\$75,900 to \$153,100
28%	\$91,900 to \$191,650	\$153,100 to \$233,350
33%	\$191,650 to \$416,700	\$233,350 to \$416,700
35%	\$416,700 to \$418,400	\$416,700 to \$470,700
39.6%	\$418,400+	\$470,700+



Effective vs. Marginal Tax Rates



Estimating marginal tax rates



Business Structure

- C-Corp
 - Double tax unless all income passed through as wages
 - Different classes of shares can pay different dividends
 - Flexible allocation of overhead
- S-Corp
 - Pass-through
 - No flexibility on dividends; one class of shares only
 - More difficult to allocate overhead flexibly
- Partnership/self-employed
 - "Circular" calculations
 - Highly flexible allocation of profits and overhead
- LLC
 - Taxable as either corporation or partnership



Putting it all together

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5 employee refresher



5 employees with lower owner comp

- 5 employees x \$40k = \$200k
- 1 owner at \$100k



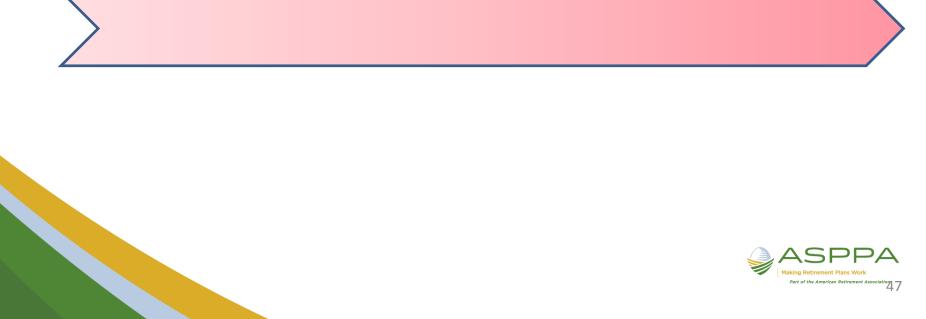
5 employees with lower owner comp

- 5 employees x \$40k = \$200k
- 1 owner at \$100k



10 employees

- 10 employees x \$50k = \$500k
- 1 owner at \$270k



100 employees, 15 owners

- 100 employees x \$40k = \$4M
- 15 owners x \$270k = \$4M



20 employees, 3 owners

- 20 employees x \$50k = \$1M
- 3 owners in various life stages: \$500K + \$250k + \$125k = \$875k
 - 60 year-old wants max savings
 - 50 year-old wants \$54k but no more
 - 35 year-old is not yet ready to fund more than \$18k/year



20 employees, 3 owners

- 20 employees x \$50k = \$1M
- 3 owners in various life stages: 60, 50, 35



20 employees, 3 owners: DB/DC

- 20 employees x \$50k = \$1M
- 3 owners in various life stages: 60, 50, 35



Fact-finding about the entity structure

- What type of entity are you? (C, S, LLC, P/sole)
 - If C: do you pass through all income (professional practices often do this)? If not: do you have retained earnings? In what form (i.e., cash vs. less liquid assets)?
 - If LLC: taxed as corporation or partnership? If corporation, C or S?



Who pays for it? The issue of allocation of overhead

- Method No. 1: Revenue Cost = Profit to be divided ("aggregated" overhead)
 - \$1M revenue \$100k pension cost = \$900k left to be divided, so each partner/owner gets a share based on ownership or partnership formula
- Method No. 2: Allocation formula
 - \$1M overhead, allocated among partners based on a formula in the partnership agreement—the basic idea being to have each partner pay the cost he or she actually generates
 - Often an "eat what you kill" formula



20 employees, 3 owners

- 20 employees x \$50k = \$1M
- 3 owners
 - 60 year-old
 - 50 year-old
 - 35 year-old



Quick Rules

- Ratio of employee:owner comp 3:2
- Ratio of employees:owners 10:1
- Implication: the "Wash Rule"
 - At 3:2 or 10:1, it's a wash
 - At better ratios, it's cheaper for the owners
 - But a wash is still good (because employees get free money that would otherwise have gone to Uncle Sam)



Quick Rule Examples

- 10:1 rule
 - 10 employees, 1 owner
 - 50 employees, 2 owners
- 3:2 rule
 - Owner makes 100k, five employees total 500k
 - Owner makes 250k, three employees total 500k



Million Dollar Payroll Scenarios





More fact-finding

- If you could save more in the plan, would you?
- Do owners have any family working here?
- Tell me about your culture



Moving from discretionary to SH match—counting the cost



Moving from SH match to nonelective



1/3 Gateway Range



Using the 1/3 gateway



Adding the owner's spouse



The auto-k pitch



Calculating the cost of adding autoenrollment



Plan design after tax reform?

- Roth deferrals
- Changes to cross-testing rules



Plan design after tax reform



What will employers do if faced with increased costs due to tax reform?

- Take it and move on
- Look for options, such as:
 - Cover fewer employees
 - Give employees less money (or none at all)
 - Terminate plans



Questions?



babycakes cupcake shoppe

The Coming Micro-Market Boom



SEP, SIMPLE, PDIRA, 401(k)/PS

- SEPs are like PS plans: \$54k, pro rata or integrated, ER contributions only; best for selfemployed or employers with few employees
- SIMPLEs are like mini-safe harbor 401(k)s
 - 2% nonelective, or
 - -3% match (3 of 5 years); 1% match (2 of 5 years)
- Payroll deduction IRAs ("PDIRA") is deferral only up to \$5,500



SIMPLE-IRA example

- 10 employees x \$35,000 = \$350,000
- Owner makes \$90,000



Larger SIMPLE example

- 80 employees x \$30,000
- 2 owners x \$270,000



Same case using 1/3 gateway

- 80 employees x \$40,000
- 2 owners x \$270,000



The Simplified SEP Calc for the Self-Employed

- Method 1: circular calc (earned income from self-employment)
- Method 2: 18.6% of profits



SEP vs. SIMPLE: 1 Employee



SEP vs. SIMPLE: 5 Employees

