#### WEBINAR SERIES

Affordable Care Act Compliance Reminders for Brokers and Their Clients June 22, 2022



#### PrestigePEO

# Today's Presenters



### Tim Kelly

Director of Sales & Business Development PrestigePEO

Tim is responsible for the support, management, and training of the PrestigePEO sales team. He specializes in developing and expanding PrestigePEO's broker channel, managing third-party underwriters, and providing expertise in medical benefits renewal negotiation.



#### **Malcolm Slee**

Principal Groom Law Group

Malcolm advises clients on issues under ERISA, the Internal Revenue Code, and related laws and regulations as they relate to qualified retirement and welfare plans.



### Today's Agenda

- About PrestigePEO
- ACA Client Support
- Top 10 Questions Brokers Ask

- Employer Mandate (Code § 4980H) Refresher and What's Changed
- ACA Reporting (Code § 6056) Refresher
- IRS Enforcement of these Requirements

#### **Webinar Forum**

All participants are muted.

Please type questions in the side navigation panel and we will try to address most questions during today's session. Today's presentation will be posted on our Broker page **PrestigePEO.com/for-brokers** 









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**CPEO** 

PRESTIGE

MPLOYER



NAPEO Member

National Association of Professional Employer Organizations



**PrestigePEO** 

### About PrestigePEO

- Celebrating over 23 years in business
- Founded by brokers and employee benefits experts
- Dedicated broker channel partner
- Local presence, national reach, expanding into new markets
- Prestige consistently has a client retention rate of 95%
- Prestige is among the top 1% of PEOs that holds all three of the highest industry accreditations:
  - IRS Certified Professional Employer Organization (CPEO)
  - Employer Service Assurance Corporation (ESAC)
  - WC Risk Management
- NAPEO (National Association of Professional Employer Organizations) member since 1998 including chairman and board positions. The leading association for PEOs.
- PrestigePEO is endorsed by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA).



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\*Cert stats updated Nov 2021

# PrestigePEO ACA Client Support

- Reporting PrestigePEO provides 1095-c forms to all eligible employees
  - Clients with PrestigePEO for a full year
- Tracking hours worked by employees to determine if clients are considered applicable large employers under ACA
- General guidance on ACA and applicability



# Top 10 Questions Brokers Ask



Who am I dealing with?



Do you accept BORs?



How do you help me win new business?



How are my clients taken care of?



How do you help my brokerage become more profitable?



How do you help my client?



How is your client retention?



What happens with client referrals?



What are my commissions?



How does our partnership work?



# GROM LAW GROUP

*Employers must offer medical coverage that meets certain standards ("minimum essential coverage") to full-time employees and their dependent children up to age 26.* 

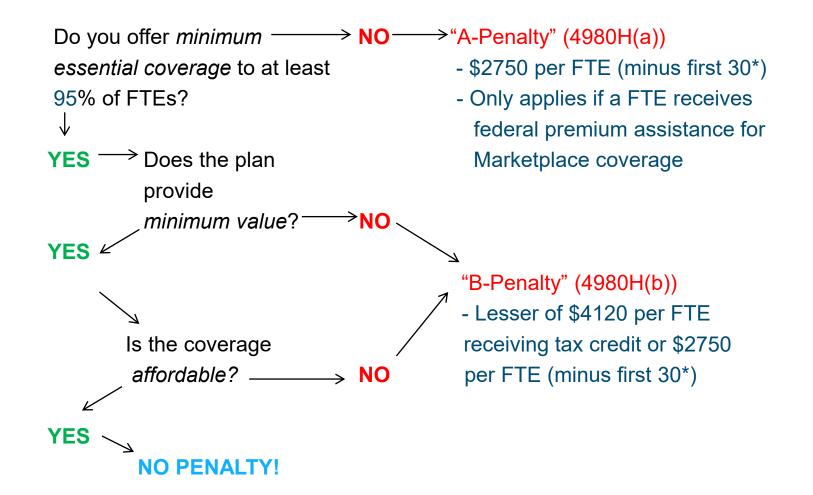
#### **Crucial concepts:**

- Coverage is "affordable" if employee contributions for self-only coverage are less than 9.61% (for 2022) of the employee's household income.
- IRS created three safe harbors that employers can use to assess affordability:
  - Employee's W-2 wages
  - Employee's monthly wages (hourly rate x 130 hours per month), OR
  - Federal Poverty Level for a single individual
- A plan must pay **60% of the costs** of covered health services to be considered as providing "minimum value."



### **Employer** Mandate

### GROOM LAW GROUP





### "A-Penalty" Example - General

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- Acme Co. has 125 FTEs in each calendar month of 2022
- Acme Co. opted not to offer any employer-sponsored health coverage in 2022
- Acme Co. receives a Section 1411 Certification for 2022 with respect to at least one of its FTEs
- Acme's A Penalty for 2022= **\$261,250** 
  - \$2,750
     (adjusted annual penalty amount for 2022)

     x 95
     (125 FTEs minus 30-employee offset) = \$261,250



### "B-Penalty" Example

### GROOM LAW GROUP

#### Facts

- In 2022, Acme offered coverage to 98% of its FTEs... but didn't offer coverage to Frank, an FTE for all of 2022
- Frank purchased individual coverage through an Exchange and received a premium tax credit for 5 months in 2022
- Acme Co. receives a Section 1411 Certification for 2022 with respect to at least one of its FTEs (Frank)

#### Acme's B Penalty for 2022= \$1,716.67

- \$343.33 (i.e., adjusted 2022 monthly penalty amount)
- <u>x 5</u> (i.e., number of months in FTE received a PTC) \$1,716.67



## 6056 Reporting Basics

### GROOM LAW GROUP

- Employer mandate reporting
  - Provide the IRS and FTEs with information about an employer's compliance with the employer mandate, minimum value, and affordability
  - Must report for any employee who was FT for at least 1 month in the year
- File with the IRS (generally due March 31 if filing electronically)
  - One Form 1094-C (transmittal)
  - One Form 1095-C for each full-time employee
- Furnish to FTEs one Form 1095-C (generally due 30 days following January 31)



### Form 1094-C Reporting– Could Indicate "A Penalty"



							150519
	ALE Membe	r Information—I					Page
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24	Jan						
25	Feb						
26	Mar						
27	Apr						
28	Мау						
29	June						
30	July						
31	Aug						
32	Sept						
33	Oct						
34	Nov						
35	Dec						



### Form 1095-C Reporting-Could Indicate "B Penalty"

### GROOM LAW GROUP

600337

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### IRS Employer Mandate Assessment Process- GROOM LAW GROUP Letter 226J

- Letter 226J is <u>not</u> a formal notice and demand for payment
- The following information is contained in the Letter 226J:
  - A table itemizing the proposed payments by month and indicating whether the liability is for failing to offer any coverage to the appropriate percentage of full-time employees or for failing to offer affordable coverage to certain full-time employees
  - An explanation of the table
  - An employer response form (Form 14764)
  - List of the full-time employees who triggered the employer's assessment (Form 14765)
  - A description of next steps to be taken by the employer including responding to the Letter 226J within 30 days of date of letter
  - A description of actions the IRS will take if the employer does not comply with the directions in the letter
  - The name and contact information of the IRS agent whom the employer should contact with any questions



### IRS Employer Mandate Assessment Process- GROOM LAW GROUP Letter 226J

- If the employer **disagrees** with the assessment, the following options are open:
  - Employers can respond by letter before a formal assessment is made and before the IRS makes a notice and demand for payment
  - The IRS will respond to an employer's letter with a Letter 227.
    - Letter 227 is a series of five different letters that acknowledges the employer's response to the Letter 226J and describes further action to be taken by the employer
  - If the employer continues to disagree with the assessment after receiving Letter 227, the employer may request a pre-assessment conference
  - If the employer fails to respond on time, the IRS will assess the proposed amount and will issued a notice and demand for payment (using Notice CP 220J)



### IRS Reporting Penalty Assessment Process GROOM LAW GROUP

- Penalties can apply for failure to file, failure to furnish, missing a deadline, failure to include all the required information on a return, or including incorrect information on a return
- Presumptive penalty amount is \$280 per return. Cumulative penalties are capped at \$3,426,000 per year
- Note that "double" penalties can apply (e.g., if a return furnished to an employee and filed with the IRS contains incorrect information, the penalty may be \$560, because technically two violations- one for furnishing, one for filing)
- Penalties may be reduced if failures are corrected within a certain time period



### IRS Reporting Penalty Assessment Process GROOM LAW GROUP

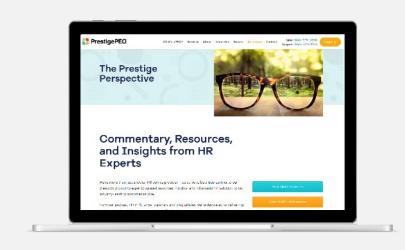
- Previously, there were two potential bases for requesting an abatement of penalties- "reasonable cause" and "good faith."
- To show "reasonable cause," must show either:
  - significant mitigating factors with respect to the failure, or
  - failure arose from events beyond the filer's control
- Also must demonstrate that filer acted in a responsible manner, which generally means that it exercised reasonable care and undertook significant steps to avoid or mitigate the failure.
  - Failure should be corrected as promptly as possible
- Up through the 2020 filing year, the IRS provided penalty relief if the filer could show "good faith" efforts for ACA reporting compliance
- This could apply if a form contained inaccurate or incomplete information
- However, IRS has confirmed that "good faith" relief no longer applies after the 2020 filing year
- We are seeing a noticeable increase in IRS penalty assessments relating to ACA reporting requirements



# Questions / Comments / Discussion?



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