

Tom Copeland Vita



Tom Copeland is a licensed attorney and business consultant for family child care providers. He has helped thousands of providers, trainers, and tax preparers understand complex business and tax issues since 1981 through live trainings, webinars, consulting, and writing. In 2004 he won the Advocate of the Year Award from the National Association for Family Child Care. In 1998 he won the Child Care Advocate of the Year award from the Minnesota Licensed Family Child Care Association. He has represented numerous providers in IRS audits and has won five US Tax Court cases.

Tom authored two proposals, adopted by the IRS that significantly reduced the record keeping requirements of child care providers. The first IRS regulation reduced the paperwork for providers who hire part-time employees. The second one allowed family child care providers to use a standard meal allowance rate to claim food expenses.

Tom conducts numerous workshops a year on business issues for family child care providers, tax preparers, and trainers. He has presented workshops for six years as part of the Minnesota Farm & Individual Income Tax Course sponsored by the University of Minnesota Extension Service and Internal Revenue Service.

He is the author of the following books:

Family Child Care Record Keeping Guide

The Family Child Care Tax Workbook and Organizer

Family Child Care Tax Companion

Family Child Care Money Management and Retirement Guide

Family Child Care Business Planning Guide

Family Child Care Marketing Guide: How to Build Enrollment and Promote Your Business as a Child Care Professional

Family Child Care Legal and Insurance Guide: How to Reduce the Risks of Running Your Business

Family Child Care Contracts and Policies: How to Be Businesslike in a Caring Profession

Family Child Care Audit Manual: Strategies for Protecting Yours Business in an IRS Audit

Tax journal articles:

"Family Child Care Tax Issues", 2002 National Income Tax Workbook, Land Grant University Tax Education Foundation

"The Unique Business of Family Child Care", EA Journal, Spring 96

"Market Your Tax Services to Family Child Care Providers", EA Journal, Jan/Feb 97

"How to Use Form 3115 to Deduct Previously Unclaimed Depreciation", Tax Practitioners Journal, Spring 1997

Tom graduated from Macalester College (BA) in 1972 and from William Mitchell College of Law (JD) in 1980.
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