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Help your clients with Georgia Film Tax Credits

So many of Georgia's mature industries, from construction to technology, are participating in the State's growing film and television industry. Yallywood is growing and creating jobs and an economic impact at a rate that has surprised almost everyone. But while everyone from carpenters to electricians are finding opportunities to benefit from new production projects, professional service firms have been slow to react to the growing need for specialized advice related to the tax credit. Attorneys can help their clients by educating them on how the growth of this industry can benefit them directly through state income tax savings!

The continued growth of this burgeoning industry depends heavily on the Georgia Entertainment Industry Investment Act. The Act created a direct tax benefit for production companies creating content in the state. The tax credit program is pretty simple. For every qualified dollar that companies spend producing qualified projects in the state of Georgia, the state awards a 30% transferrable tax credit against Georgia income tax. The projects are qualified by the Georgia Department of Economic Development. Once the project has been completed, the tax credits generated by the production can be sold to other Georgia taxpayers, including individuals and corporations.

Attorneys with clients who pay income tax in the state of Georgia have an opportunity to help. As the industry grows, the need for buyers grows, and there is a clear incentive for your clients to participate. Every dollar of credit purchased by your clients will cost between 88 and 92 cents, providing between an 8 and 12 percent savings on the state tax bill. While there will be a capital gain on the savings, the tax benefit is still clear. Additionally, this is now a mature state tax credit program, with clear guidelines for mitigating risk. These include:

- Ensuring that your credits have been vetted by either the Georgia Department of Revenue or a qualified CPA.
- Only purchasing tax credits from experienced brokers who can provide the results of due diligence performed by the Georgia Department of Revenue or a qualified CPA.
- Ensuring that you are working with a tax professional who understands how to report your tax credits properly to the Department of Revenue.

There are also many other ways attorneys can help Producers. Many film production companies are in need of legal advice for a myriad of issues ranging from entity creation to contracts. While there are some experienced film and television focused attorneys in the state, the demand for new professionals increases with every new project. Consider diversifying your firm's specialties to include film and television!

WHT CPAs specializes in serving film and television production companies. We can help consult with you to ensure you have the best information for your clients who wish to purchase Georgia film tax credits.

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