Supporting Statement

Form 4029

Application for Exemption from Social Security and Medicare Taxes and Waiver of Benefits

1545-0064

1. CIRCUMSTANCES NECESSITATING COLLECTION OF INFORMATION

Sections 1402(g) and 3127 of the Internal Revenue Code and section 1.1402(h) of the Income Tax Regulations allow members of recognized religious groups to be exempt from payment of social security and Medicare taxes.

2. USE OF DATA

The information is used by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and the Social Security Administration (SSA) to verify that the applicant is eligible for the exemption.

3. USE OF IMPROVED INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TO REDUCE BURDEN

We have no plans to offer electronic filing because of low filing volume compared to cost of electronic enabling.

4. EFFORTS TO IDENTIFY DUPLICATION

We have attempted to eliminate duplication within the agency wherever possible.

5. METHODS TO MINIMIZE BURDEN ON SMALL BUSINESSES OR OTHER SMALL ENTITIES

There are no small entities affected by this collection.

6. <u>CONSEQUENCES OF LESS FREQUENT COLLECTION ON FEDERAL PROGRAMS</u> OR POLICY ACTIVITIES

Members of recognized religious groups to be exempt from payment of social security and Medicare taxes are to file form

4029 so that the IRS and SSA can verify that the applicant is eligible for the exemption. It is a one-time election and is effective on the first day of the first quarter after the

quarter in which Form 4029 is filed. The frequency of collection is determined by the taxpayer and when they want to apply for the exemption. If the agency did not collect the information there would be no way to establish eligibility

and

less frequent collection would not give the agency sufficient time to make the determination for the next quarter.

7. SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRING DATA COLLECTION TO BE INCONSISTENT WITH GUIDELINES IN 5 CFR 1320.5(d)(2)

There are no special circumstances requiring data collection to be inconsistent with Guidelines in 5 CFR 1320.5(d)(2).

8. <u>CONSULTATION WITH INDIVIDUALS OUTSIDE OF THE AGENCY ON AVAILABILITY OF DATA, FREQUENCY OF COLLECTION, CLARITY OF INSTRUCTIONS AND FORMS, AND DATA ELEMENTS</u>

Periodic meetings are held between IRS personnel and representatives of the American Bar Association, Society of Public Accountants, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and professional groups to discuss tax law and tax forms. During these meetings, there is an opportunity for those attending to make comments regarding Form 4029.

In response to the **Federal Register Notice** dated February 4, 2015 (80 FR 6178), we received no comments during the comment period regarding Form 4029.

9. <u>EXPLANATION OF DECISION TO PROVIDE ANY PAYMENT OR GIFT TO</u> RESPONDENTS

No payment or gift has been provided to any respondents.

10. ASSURANCE OF CONFIDENTIALITY OF RESPONSES

Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential as required by 26 USC 6103.

11. JUSTIFICATION OF SENSITIVE QUESTIONS

A privacy impact assessment (PIA) has been conducted for information collected under this request as part of the "Business Master File (BMF)" system and "Individual Master File" (IMF) system. Privacy Act System of Records notice (SORN) have been issued for these systems under IRS 24.046-Customer Account Data Engine Business Master File, 24.030 CADE Individual Master File, and 34.037 IRS Audit Trail and Security Records System. The Internal Revenue Service PIA's

can be found at www.irs.gov/uac/Privacy-Impact-Assessments-PIA

Title 26 USC 6109 requires inclusion of identifying numbers in returns, statements, or other documents for securing proper identification of persons required to make such returns, statements, or documents and is the authority for social security numbers (SSNs) in IRS systems.

12. ESTIMATED BURDEN OF INFORMATION COLLECTION

Form	Number of Responses	Time per Response	Total Hours	
4029				3,754
			1.01	3,792

The following regulations impose no additional burden. Please continue to assign OMB number 1545-0064 to these regulations.

1.1402(h)-1 31.6053-1

Estimates of annualized cost to respondents for the hour burdens shown above are not available at this time.

13. ESTIMATED TOTAL ANNUAL COST BURDEN TO RESPONDENTS

There are no start-up costs associated with this collection.

14. ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The primary cost to the government consists of the cost of printing this form. We estimate that the cost of printing the form is \$213.

15. REASONS FOR CHANGE IN BURDEN

This submission is being made for renewal purposes.

16. PLANS FOR TABULATION, STATISTICAL ANALYSIS AND PUBLICATION

There are no plans for tabulation, statistical analysis and publication.

17. <u>REASONS WHY DISPLAYING THE OMB EXPIRATION DATE IS</u> INAPPROPRIATE

See below.

18. EXCEPTION TO THE CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

There are no exceptions to the certification statement.

Note: The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information in this submission:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

OMB Expiration

We believe the public interest will be better served by not printing an expiration date on the form(s) in this package.

Printing the expiration date on the form will result in increased costs because of the need to replace inventories that become obsolete by passage of the expiration date each time OMB approval is renewed. Without printing the expiration date, supplies of the form could continue to be used.

The time period during which the current edition of the form(s) in this package will continue to be usable cannot be predicted. It could easily span several cycles of review and OMB clearance renewal. In addition, usage fluctuates unpredictably. This makes it necessary to maintain a substantial inventory of forms in the supply line at all times. This includes supplies owned by both the Government and the public. Reprinting of the form cannot be reliably scheduled to coincide with an OMB

approval expiration date. This form may be privately printed by users at their own expense. Some businesses print complex and expensive marginally punched continuous versions, at their expense, for use in their computers. The form may be printed by commercial printers and stocked for sale. In such cases, printing the expiration date on the form could result in extra costs to the users.

Not printing the expiration date on the form(s) will also avoid confusion among taxpayers who may have identical forms with different expiration dates in their possession.

For the above reasons we request authorization to omit printing the expiration date on the form(s) in this package.

We are requesting OMB approval for continued use of the prior version of the form(s) in this clearance package, so that late filers will have the previous versions available to them in future years.

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