

SUPPORTING STATEMENT
OMB# 1545-1504
(IRS Form 911)

4192. CIRCUMSTANCES NECESSITATING COLLECTION OF INFORMATION

Form 911, Request for Taxpayer Advocate Service Assistance (and Application for Taxpayer Assistance Order), is used by taxpayers (or representative) to apply for relief from a significant hardship which may have already occurred or is about to occur if the IRS takes or fails to take certain actions.

As part of the Technical and Miscellaneous Revenue Act of 1988 (TAMRA), the "Omnibus Taxpayer Bill of Rights" amended subchapter A of chapter 80 of the 1986 Code by adding Section 7811 "Taxpayer Assistance Orders" to provide that the Taxpayer Ombudsman (Taxpayer Advocate) and Taxpayer Advocate Service may issue Taxpayer Assistance Orders to stop or change IRS actions that cause significant hardship to taxpayers. IRS Form 911 is the form taxpayers use when applying for a Taxpayer Assistance Order.

4193. USE OF DATA

Based on the information provided on Form 911, the IRS Taxpayer Advocate Service will decide whether the taxpayer is suffering or about to suffer a significant hardship. If there is a significant hardship, the Taxpayer Advocate Service decides whether the IRS action should be changed.

4194. USE OF IMPROVED INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TO REDUCE BURDEN

Form 911 cannot be filed electronically, since its relatively low volume does not justify the cost electronic enabling.

4195. 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 methods to minimize burden on small businesses or

other small entities.

6. CONSEQUENCES OF LESS FREQUENT COLLECTION ON FEDERAL PROGRAMS OR POLICY ACTIVITIES

Consequences of less frequent collection on federal programs or policy activities could result in taxpayers reporting an increase of significant hardships in order to change or prevent and IRS action.

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. CONSULTATION WITH INDIVIDUALS OUTSIDE OF THE AGENCY ON AVAILABILITY OF DATA, FREQUENCY OF COLLECTION, CLARITY OF INSTRUCTIONS AND FORMS, AND DATA ELEMENTS

Periodic meetings are held between IRS personnel and representatives of the American Bar Association, the National Society of Public Accountants, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and other professional groups to discuss tax law and tax forms. During these meetings, there is an opportunity for those attending to make comments regarding Form 911.

In response to the *Federal Register* notice dated July 27, 2015 (80 FR 44424), we received no comments during the comment period regarding Form 911.

9. EXPLANATION OF DECISION TO PROVIDE ANY PAYMENT OR GIFT TO 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 "Taxpayer Advocate Management Information System" and a Privacy Act System of Records notice (SORN) has been issued for these systems under IRS 00.003 - Taxpayer Advocate Service and Customer Feedback; IRS 34.037 - IRS Audit Trail and Security Records System. The Internal Revenue Service PIA's can be found at <https://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

The burden estimate is as follows:

	<u>Number of Responses</u>	<u>Time per Response</u>	<u>Total Hours</u>
Form 911	93,000	.50	46,500

13. ESTIMATED TOTAL ANNUAL COST BURDEN TO RESPONDENTS

There were no estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information to respondents.

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 \$5,000.

15. REASONS FOR CHANGE IN BURDEN

There is no change in the paperwork burden previously approved by OMB. We are making this submission to renew the OMB approval.

16. PLANS FOR TABULATION, STATISTICAL ANALYSIS AND PUBLICATION

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

17. REASONS WHY DISPLAYING THE OMB EXPIRATION DATE IS INAPPROPRIATE

See attachment.

18. EXCEPTIONS 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 DATE

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, 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.