

1SUPPORTING STATEMENT
TD 9178
OMB Number 1545-1850

1. CIRCUMSTANCES NECESSITATING COLLECTION OF INFORMATION

The final regulations replace the existing regulation that establishes the procedures to be followed by IRS officers and employees upon receipt of a request or demand for disclosure of IRS records or information. The purpose of the final regulations is to provide specific instructions and to clarify when more specific procedures take precedence. The final regulations extend the application of the regulation to former IRS officers and employees as well as to persons who are or were under contract to the IRS. The final regulations affect current and former IRS officers, employees and contractors, and persons who make requests or demands for disclosure.

In order to request that IRS disclose IRS records or information a person has to submit a written request to IRS. The collections of information are in §301.9000-5. This information is required to enable the IRS to provide authorizing officials with a better informed basis upon which to determine whether to grant, deny, or limit testimony or the disclosure of IRS records or information so as to conserve agency resources.

2. USE OF DATA

The data will be used to provide authorizing officials with a better informed basis upon which to determine whether to grant, deny, or limit testimony or the disclosure of IRS records or information so as to conserve agency resources.

3. USE OF IMPROVED INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TO REDUCE BURDEN

There are no plans to provide electronic filing because electronic filing is not appropriate for the collection of information in this submission.

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

The IRS has attempted to minimize burden on small entities affected by this collection. 26 CFR 301.9000-5(b) states that the requirement of a written statement may be waived by an authorizing official for good cause.

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

If the IRS did not collect this information, the IRS would not be able determine whether to grant, deny, or limit testimony or the disclosure of IRS records or information so as to conserve agency resources.

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

On July 9, 2003, a notice of proposed rulemaking (REG-140930-02), relating to the procedures for IRS officers and employees to follow upon receipt of a request or demand for disclosure of IRS records or information was published in the Federal Register (68 FR 40850). No comments were received from the public in response to the notice of proposed rulemaking. No public hearing was requested or held.

The proposed regulations are adopted as amended by these final regulations (TD 9178). These final regulations were published in the Federal register on February 14, 2005, (70 FR 7396).

In response to the Federal Register notice (81 FR 13878), dated March 15, 2016, we received no comments during the comment period regarding TD 9178.

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

No personally identifiable information (PII) is collected.

12. ESTIMATED BURDEN OF INFORMATION COLLECTION

In 301.9000-5(a), requires the IRS to determine whether to provide testimony and/or records or information in response to a request or demand in a non-IRS matter. Of the estimated 1,400 requests received annually, less than 500 of those requests are estimated to be received from small entities. Moreover, the burden associated with complying with the collection of information in these regulations is estimated to be only 1 hour per respondent. We estimate that approximately 1,400 individuals and businesses will make requests for IRS records or information per year. The burden related to each request is approximately one hour. Thus, the total estimated burden for this collection of information is 1,400 hours (1 hour X 1,400 requests = 1,400 hours).

Estimates of the annualized cost to respondents for the hour burdens shown 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

There are no known annualized costs to the federal government.

15. REASONS FOR CHANGE IN BURDEN

There is no change in the paperwork burden previously approved by OMB. This form is being submitted for renewal purposes only.

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

We believe that displaying the OMB expiration date is inappropriate because it could cause confusion by leading taxpayers to believe that the regulations sunset as of the expiration date. Taxpayers are not likely to be aware that the Service intends to request renewal of the OMB approval and obtain a new expiration date before the old one expires.

18. EXCEPTIONS TO THE CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

There are no exceptions to the certification statement for this collection.

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.