From:
To: Gillespie, Kira
Cc: USPardon Attorney;

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Formal Comment :: Notice and Comment - Draft Remission Application Form

Date: Wednesday, August 28, 2024 11:56:56 AM

Blessings Deputy Pardon Attorney Gillespie:

Thank you for sending the draft of the application for Remission of Financial Penalties. The proposed application shows me that the Office of the Pardon Attorney has listened to the LOHM's concerns about the remission process and is creating a separate process, post-conviction, that will allow former white collar offenders the ablility to get a second chance with their lives.

I have reviewed the application for Remission of Financial Penalties.

The main area of concern begins on page 12, when the applicant is asked to provide financial information. While I understand the need for this information, there are some concerns with an applicant providing this information:

- a. The main concern is this information being used against the applicant to increase their current restitution and/or to seize assets to offset the financial restitution/fines. One of the main concerns of the ladies in my group is that white collar offenders are not given the opportunity to build their lives back. By disclosing assets that they may have accumulated after being released, there is the fear that the government may try to seize said assets. There needs to be some assurances stated that this information will not be disclosed to the Federal Litigation Unit and is being used solely by the Office of the Pardon Attorney to the purposes of determining if a remission should be granted. Also, the applicant has served his/her time for this conviction and that should be a consideration when looking at the application.
- b. On page 12 Paragraph F Section b I would eliminate the need to ask for the assets of any person other than the applicant. This goes back to my initial concern stated above that the government will try to seize assets belonging to someone that was not involved in the applicant's case.
- c. Eliminate the next section asking for all assets transferred over \$500. Depending on how long someone has been off of probation/supervised release, this could be very cumbersome to obtain this information and again has no bearing on whether or not a person's remission should be granted.



Again, I want to thank you, US Pardon Attorney Oyer and the entire Office for listening and providing a solution for submitting a remission application. I look forward to your response.

Many blessings & many thanks,

Dr. Topeka K. Sam

Founder & Chief Executive Officer

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