

IMRS Monthly Overview – [October 2015](#)

The IMRS Monthly Overview contains an update of issues opened and closed each month.

We Wanted You to Know

[Data Thefts and Protecting Client Tax Information](#)

In case you missed the broadcast, the webinar is now available on the [IRS video portal](#).

Webinar Description:

- Understand the dangers of data theft for tax professionals and clients
- Increase awareness of legal requirements and best practices to better protect taxpayer information
- Outline new steps tax professionals should take if they suffer a loss of taxpayer data and
- Provide a first-hand account of the ramifications of data loss from a practitioner who experienced a theft

[Tax Relief for Victims of Oct. 2015 Severe Storms, Tornadoes, Straight-line Winds and Flooding in Texas](#)

Follow-ups from prior meetings:

Balance due notices for 1041 returns

Issue: Practitioners report that clients are receiving notices of balances due for e-filed Forms 1041 when a timely payment was made by check.

Response: We are aware of this issue and believe it has been resolved. For any outstanding accounts taxpayers or practitioners may write to the IRS to state that their payment was timely made and include a copy of the cancelled check and a copy of the postal tracking record. This correspondence should be mailed, along with a copy of the IRS notice received, to the address on the notice.

Status: Closed

Use of Form 4868 as a payment voucher

Issue: Practitioners reported their clients received a letter from IRS stating the IRS disallowed a 2014 Form 4868 because IRS received it late. However, the practitioner timely filed the extension electronically while the payment was mailed with a paper copy of Form 4868, per the form's instructions.

Response: The Form 4868 instructions for the 2015 tax year were revised to include the following information:

Note: If you *e-file* Form 4868 and mail a check or money order to the IRS for payment, use a completed paper Form 4868 as a voucher. *Please note with your payment that your extension request was originally filed electronically.*

Status: Closed

New Issues:

Request for Signature for e-Filed Return

Issue: Practitioner timely filed Forms 1120 electronically for 2103 and 2014 using the practitioner PIN method of signing the return. The client just received a notice requesting a signature for both 2013 and 2014.

Discussion: No one else had heard this issue but recommended including a copy of the signed Form 8879 with the signed response to the notice.

Action: Practitioner will fax a copy of the notice to Sherry so she can research the issue.

Status: Open

e-Services Phishing Scam

Issue: Practitioner wanted to know if the e-mail he received was part of a phishing scam.

Response: There is an email is being issued to tax preparers asking them to update their e-Services information. The links provided in the email to access e-Services appear to be a phishing scam to capture e-Services usernames and passwords. *This* email WAS NOT generated by e-Services. If you receive an e-mail like this, do not click on the links or take any other action.

The IRS *does* send out emails to alert e-Services users that their passwords are about to expire, if an email address is provided. If you think you may need to change your password, go to IRS.gov and navigate to the e-Services page rather than clicking on a link in an email.

Status: Closed

Odd looking Letter 2030

Issue: Practitioner's client received Letter 2030. The practitioner was suspicious of the notice because the unreported income was printed with what looked like a dot matrix printer.

Response: This is a valid notice. The notice is similar to the CP2000 but [Letter 2030](#) is sent to the taxpayer to propose a change to income tax liability because of income that is not identified or does not appear to be fully reported on a *business* tax return.

Per IRM [4.119.4.18.2 Letter 2030 Preparation](#), when issuing these letters, they include a computer printout of the income information reported to us (IRPTRW) that appears to be missing. It isn't incorporated in the standard letter like you are used to seeing on the CP 2000.

Status: Closed

Decedent Final Return

Issue: A final form 1040 was filed for decedent by court-appointed personal representative. The court appointment was attached to the return per instructions to Form 1310 and the instructions to Form 1040. Later, the personal representative received a Letter 12C saying "To claim a refund for a deceased taxpayer, you must

complete Form 1310, Statement of Person Claiming Refund Due a Deceased Taxpayer, and send it to us with the following information:

- If you're a court-appointed representative, check box "B" on Form 1310 and send us a current court certificate showing your appointment as personal representative.
- Submit a copy of the death certificate or proof of death

Discussion: Practitioners on the call said that unless the return is signed by the surviving spouse they attach Form 1310 along with the copy of the court certificate and haven't had any problems. Unfortunately the return must be filed on paper because the court certificate cannot be efiled.

Action: The procedures in the instructions say the Form 1310 is not required on an original filed return. Per IRM [3.13.122.11](#) Decedent Returns, letter 12C should only be issued if some of the information is missing: Date of Death (DOD) and Form 1310, Statement of Person Claiming Refund Due a Deceased Taxpayer or a court certificate. We will continue to pursue the issue.

Status: Open.

e-filing the Decedent Final Return

Issue: Because the court certificate showing the appointment of a personal representative cannot be efiled, unless the return is signed by a surviving spouse the decedent's final return cannot be filed.

Response: We have elevated this issue.

Status: Open.

Non-Streamlined Installment Agreements

Issue: Practitioner called ACS, entered the client's TIN and reached a customer service representative. The CSR had to transfer him to the non-streamlined IA unit.

Response: As reported earlier this year, changes were made to the routing so that as long as the taxpayer or practitioner provides us with the SSN the calls should route to an agent that can assist them without the need for an additional transfer.

Action: Please provide us the specifics of any instances where this did not happen:

- Phone number you called
- Taxpayer Identification Number you entered
- Date and approximate time you called

Please do not email taxpayer identifying information. You can fax the information to Sherry Saucerman's attention at 877-477-8562.

Status: Open.