

IMRS Monthly Overview – [August 2015](#)

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

We Wanted You to Know

[Modernized e-File \(MeF\) - Transition of 94x Online Signature PIN](#)

The Internal Revenue Service communicated through several channels since September 2014 that the Electronic Management System (EMS) also known as Legacy will be permanently retired in December 2015. September 15, 2015 Form 94x Online PIN Registration closed for end-of-year cutover and migration activities. January 2016 (specific date to be announced) Form 94x Online PIN Registration re-opens. Other options are available for filing 94x Employment Returns electronically through MeF during this period. Follow the link above for more information.

[Webinar: Affordable Care Act - Employer Shared Responsibility - October 29, 2015](#)

To register visit the [Webinar Registration](#) website.

If you have questions send an email to sl.southwest@irs.gov, Subject: Employer Shared Responsibility Webinar

Certificates of completion are being offered.

This Webinar is sponsored By IRS Stakeholder Liaison - Southwest Area

Follow-ups from prior meetings:

[Pervasive Telephone Scam](#)

Issue: We continue to receive reports of taxpayers being targeted by telephone scam artists claiming to be with the IRS.

Response: Please advise your clients that instances should be reported to the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA) via their website at www.tigta.gov. Use TIGTA's "[IRS Impersonation Scam Reporting](#)" web page to report the incident.



The Big **RED** Button

Status: Closed

[Letter 4281 – Is this a valid letter from the IRS?](#)

Issue: Practitioner reported that several of their clients received letters purporting to be from the IRS referencing an incident number. They wanted to know if the letters were legitimate.

Response: The IRS announced in May that criminals used taxpayer-specific data acquired from non-IRS sources to gain unauthorized access to information through IRS' "Get Transcript" application. In August, the IRS began mailing letters to about 220,000 taxpayers where there were instances of possible or potential access to "Get Transcript" taxpayer account information. A wide variety of actions to protect taxpayers are being taken beyond the mailings, including offering taxpayers free credit protection as well as Identity Protection PINs. The IRS takes the security of taxpayer data extremely seriously, and we are working to continue to strengthen security for "Get Transcript," including by enhancing taxpayer-identity authentication protocols. See [Additional IRS Statement on the "Get Transcript" Incident](#) for more information.

Status: Closed

New Issues:

Columbus Day Maintenance

Issue: Will the IRS be shutting down e-file and e-Services over the Columbus Day weekend?

Action: Following concerns from the tax professional community, the IRS has modified its Columbus Day power outage to minimize the impact of this critical maintenance period as much as possible. This year, the Columbus Day weekend maintenance period will not affect the Modernized e-File operation, a change from previous years. The maintenance requirements, however, will affect the e-services secure mailbox operations between Sunday, October 11, 2015, from around 3:00 a.m. Eastern Time until Monday, October 12, 2015, at approximately 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time. Please note those times could vary, depending on normal maintenance issues. See [Columbus Day Annual Maintenance Period](#) for more information.

Status: Closed

OPM Data Breach

Issue: Why aren't taxpayers impacted by the OPM data breach being offered IP PINs?

Response: This issue has been raised. We will add your concerns to the issue. For more information on this event see the [Cybersecurity Resource Center](#) on OPM.gov.

Status: Open

Direct Pay and Employment Taxes

Issue: Are there any plans to expand Direct Pay so it will accept employment and unemployment tax payments (both current and past due)?

Response: Thank you for the suggestion. We will elevate it to the appropriate business unit.

Status: Open.

