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Slides: Dealing with the IRS Collection Division: An Update on IRS Collection Procedures [FNa]

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# Dealing with the IRS Collection Division: An Update on IRS Collection Procedures

Closely Held Businesses Committee

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Field Collection Operations'

**Employment Tax** 

**Compliance Efforts** 

**FY 2015 Field Collection Operations** 

Image 1 within document in PDF format.

#### **IRS Revenue Collection - 2014**

Image 2 within document in PDF format.

Chart 3. Survival rates of establishments, by year started and number of years since starting, 1994-2010

Image 3 within document in PDF format.

# Early Intervention Initiatives Federal Tax Deposit Alert System

- FTD Alert X Coded Pilot
- Tests whether accelerating the timing of alerts increases impact and identifies which taxpayers benefit most from alerts
  - Implementation: April, 2015
- EFTPS Early Alerts
- Modifies the FTD payment platform to create a near real-time system to identify variances in FTDs that will enable/expand treatment streams
  - Implementation: 2016

# **Early Intervention Initiatives Benefits**

- Expand early intervention program, educate taxpayers and modify taxpayer behavior to enhance compliance
- Improve collection case selection and assignment
- Enable data-driven decisions regarding taxpayer contacts

# **Beyond Early Intervention for Compliant Employers**

- Notice and demand for payment
- Pay in full
- Investigate Ability to Pay/Financial Statements and Trust Fund Penalty Interview
- In-Business Installment agreements
- Offers in Compromise
- Currently Not Collectible
- Levy of bank accounts, receivables

- Seizure of property
- Disqualified Employment Tax Levy (DETL)
- Trust Fund Recovery Penalty (IRC 6672)
- Suits for Injunctive Relief
- Criminal Referrals

### **Outsourcing Payroll**

Many employers outsource some or all of their payroll and related tax duties to third-party payroll service providers.

- Third-party payer services include:
  - Withholding Social Security, Medicare and income tax from wages
  - Timely submitting federal tax deposits
  - Preparation and timely filing of payroll tax returns
  - Preparation and timely filing of information returns

### **Risks of Using Third-Party Payers**

In rare instances use of a third-party payer can expose a business to risk of:

- · Payroll tax fraud
- Late or unfiled tax returns
- Underreported tax liabilities
- Late or undeposited tax payments
- Limited notification if a problem arises

# **Initiatives to Mitigate Risks of Using Third-Party Payers**

- Dual Notice Initiative Risks associated with address changes
- Electronic Federal Tax Payment System enhancements
  - -Inquiry PINs
  - -Email confirmation of scheduled payments
- Creation of Form 14157, Return Preparer Complaint
  - -Used by taxpayers to report suspected fraudulent activity and abusive tax schemes

- Federal Tax Deposit Alerts
  - -Early intervention initiatives
- Trust Fund Recovery Penalty IRC § 6672

#### **Current Status of Collection**

- Currently 13,371,000 accounts are in the Collection Division inventory
- 106.4% increase since 2005



Image 4 within document in PDF format.

#### The FAST Act

- Signed into law on 12/4/15
- Requires IRS to utilize Private Debt Collectors
- Passports suspended or denied if owe "seriously delinquent taxes" (defined as more than \$50,000)
- Exceptions: I/A, OIC, CDP or Inn. Spouse
- No exception for CNC

#### Offers-in-Compromise

- New Form 656
- \$186 application fee
- New Allowable Expenses (numbers fell!)
- Ability to full pay (IRM 5.8.5.2) vs. Advocate's Collectability Curve

# Low-Income Certification (Individuals and Sole Proprietors Only)

Do you qualify for Low-Income Certification? You qualify if your gross monthly household income is less than or equal to the amount shown in the chart below based on your family size and where you live, If you qualify, you are not required to submit any payments during the consideration of your offer. Businesses other than sole proprietors or disregarded single member LLCs taxed as a sole proprietor do not qualify for the low income waiver.

# Check this box if your household's gross monthly income is equal to or less than the monthly income shown in the table below.

Size of family unit	48 contiguous states and D.C.	Hawaii	Alaska
1	\$2,475	\$2,848	\$3,092

2	\$3,338	\$3,840	\$4,171
3	S4.200	\$4,831	\$5,250
4	\$5,063	\$5,823	\$6,329
5	\$5,925	\$6,815	\$7,408
6	\$6,788	\$7,806	\$8,438
7	\$7,652	\$8,798	\$9,567
8	\$8,519	\$9,794	\$10,650
For each additional person, add	\$867	\$996	\$1,083

### **Orders of Restitution**

- Recent development
- IRS will assess as a civil tax liability
- IRS has no authority to compromise

#### **Questions?**



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