



ENROLLMENT PROFILE

How did you hear about us? _____

Date: _____

Agency Name: _____

Corporate Name: _____

Agency Address:

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Mailing Address:

Street/P.O. Box _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone #: _____ Fax #: _____

Owner Agent Name: _____

Owner Agent Email: _____

Individual/Sole Proprietorship Corporation Partnership LLC

FEIN #: _____ Social Security #: _____

Email for Policy Delivery: _____

Email for Invoice Delivery: _____

Email for Other Document Delivery: _____

Email for Marketing Information: _____



Marketing/Sales Manager Name: _____

Marketing/Sales Manager Email: _____

Internal Accounting Contact Name: _____

Internal Accounting Contact Email: _____

How is the organization licensed? (Choose all that apply)

Agent Broker Excess & Surplus Lines Other: _____

Are you fully licensed in all the states in which you are submitting business?

Yes No

Commission Income Breakdown:

____ % Retail ____ % Wholesale Brokerage ____ % MGA (Binding Authority) ____ % Other

Premium Volume (approximate for current year): \$ _____

____ % Commercial Lines

____ % Personal Lines

____ % Other: _____

Breakdown of Organization's Staff (number):

____ Principals/Owners

____ Producers (Salespeople)

____ Other Licensed Employees

____ Other Employees

____ Total Staff

Do you maintain Employee Dishonesty Coverage for all Officers and Employees?

Yes No

Do you maintain Errors & Omissions Coverage?

Yes No

Have you or any officer, director, or member of your organization ever had an insurance license suspended or terminated for any reason, or ever been subject to any disciplinary action?

Yes No If yes, please explain: _____

Is there any pending or threatened litigation or judgements within the past five years exceeding \$10,000 against the broker or any principals of the organization?

Yes No If yes, please explain: _____



Southeast Region

AUTHORIZATION FOR DIRECT DEPOSIT

Agency Code: _____

Agency Name: _____

Accounting Contact: _____ Phone: (____) _____

Email: _____ (For Deposit Notification/Commission Statement)

It is at your discretion to attach a voided check/deposit slip as we do not require it for processing.

Financial Institution: _____

Name on Account: _____

Account #: _____ Checking Savings

Transit/Routing (ABA) Number: _____ (Must be 9 digits)
(First number on the bottom of check)

“Agency” hereby authorizes Bridge Specialty Group, (hereinafter referred to as "Bridge Specialty"), to initiate credit entries into the indicated account with the Financial Institution noted above. This authority is to remain in full force until Bridge Specialty has received written notification from “Agency” of its termination or change in such time and such manner as to afford Bridge Specialty and the Financial Institution a reasonable opportunity to act on it. In the event that Bridge Specialty deposits funds erroneously into “Agency” account, “Agency” authorizes Bridge Specialty to debit “Agency” account for an amount not to exceed the original amount of the credit. Bridge Specialty reserves the right to terminate this agreement at any time. It is understood that this agreement is for payment of commissions.

Authorized Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____ Title: _____

Email the completed form to jlumbert@bridgespecialty.com

Bridge Specialty Group-SE Region
970 Lake Carillon Drive, Suite 200
St Petersburg, FL 33716
866-417-4855
www.bridgespecialty.com

Date Verified: _____ Number Called: _____ Verified With: _____ Signature: _____



WEB USER FORM

Date: _____

Agency Name: _____

Agency Address:

Street City State Zip

Phone #: _____ Fax #: _____

| First | Last | Email |
|-------|------|-------|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

I understand that it is my responsibility to notify Braishfield of any addition, change, or deletion of users.

Name: _____

Email: _____

Title: _____

Authorized Signature: _____



PRODUCER AGREEMENT

THIS PRODUCER AGREEMENT (this “Agreement”), dated as of _____, 20____, is made and entered into by and between Braishfield Associates, a division of Hull & Company, LLC, a Florida corporation (“Broker”) and _____, a _____ corporation (“Producer”). Broker conducts its insurance operations through separate business units. As used in this Agreement, the term “Broker” shall refer to these business units and any other entities that may be affiliated through common ownership and/or managed by Broker as agent for maintaining producer relationships.

Background

Producer desires to place contracts of insurance through companies represented by Broker (those companies referred to herein as “Insurer” or “Insurers”) and utilizing the underwriting facilities, knowledge, and services of Broker. Broker is willing to offer facilities to Producer for the placement of insurance by admitted and/or non-admitted Insurers. In consideration of the mutual promises contained in this Agreement, it is agreed as follows.

1. Authority. Producer has authority, pursuant to the terms of this Agreement, to submit accounts or risks to Broker for the purpose of placement and procurement of insurance coverage with Insurers and utilizing the underwriting facilities, knowledge, and services of Broker. This Agreement, and the relationship between the parties and their officers and employees, is not intended, and shall not be construed, to create a partnership, joint venture or employment relationship between Producer and Broker. Producer is for all purposes an independent contractor. Producer will act in accordance with any Insurer’s policies and administrative guidelines that are known or should be known to the Producer including, but not limited to, the Insurer’s practices regarding the issuance of certificates and other evidence of insurance. Broker, in its sole discretion, shall judge whether to accept, reject or submit to Insurer for acceptance any applications of insurance for risks submitted by Producer and shall incur no liability for failure to place any such risk. Nothing in this Agreement shall place Broker under any obligation to accept any proposal or new business or the renewal of existing business put to it by the Producer, Producer agrees to the following express limitations of authority:

(a) *Binding Authority.* Producer has no authority to bind Broker or any of its principals, or commit to issue binders or policies of insurance on behalf of Broker or to make any representation not strictly in accordance with the policies and contracts placed pursuant to the terms of this Agreement. Producer shall not make, alter, or vary any terms of coverage, or modify the terms of payment of any premium or deposit, or incur any liability for Broker.

(b) *Co-Brokering.* Producer shall not act as an underwriter, re-broker or co-broker (double broker) for any application submitted or policy placed or procured pursuant to this Agreement without the express written consent of Broker.

(c) *Certificates and Evidence of Insurance.* Producer has no authority to issue or communicate certificates of insurance or evidence of insurance relating to insurance placed pursuant to this Agreement. If Producer provides copies of certificates or evidence of insurance to Broker, it is understood that Broker will not review, analyze or otherwise comment on the accuracy, completeness or propriety of any certificate and will not have any responsibility to provide copies of such certificates or evidence of insurance to Insurers unless required by the respective Insurer’s contract with Broker. Producer is solely responsible for the accuracy and completeness of any certificate or evidence of insurance Producer issues.

2. Producer's Representations and Warranties. As a material inducement for Broker to enter into this Agreement, Producer represents and warrants the following:

(a) *Licensing.* Producer is properly licensed to transact business as an agent or broker in accordance with the insurance laws, rules and regulations of each state in which Producer transacts business. Producer will maintain such license or licenses in good standing for the duration of this Agreement and will furnish proof of such licensing upon request by Broker. Producer will notify Broker of any suspension, cancellation or disciplinary action with respect to its license(s) within ten (10) days of any such action.

(b) *Insurance Coverage.* As a condition precedent and an ongoing obligation throughout the term of this Agreement, Producer shall, prior to or contemporaneously with the execution of this Agreement, provide the Broker with certificates of insurance demonstrating the existence of the following insurance coverage for services performed pursuant to this Agreement, from an insurance carrier acceptable to the Broker and having an A.M. Best Rating of A- or greater: (i) Errors and omissions for the services performed pursuant to this Agreement in an amount of at least \$1,000,000 per claim and \$1,000,000 in the aggregate, and a deductible or self-insured retention no greater than \$25,000; (ii) Blanket employee dishonesty bond covering all employees of Producer in an amount of at least \$100,000 per claim and \$100,000 in the aggregate. At renewal of such policies, Producer shall provide the Broker with updated certificates of insurance. Producer shall immediately notify the Broker in the event of: (A) Any claim or claims which materially impact the amount of coverage available to another claimant under any such policy; (B) Any increase in the deductible or self-insured retention of any required policy; or (C) Any cancellation, non-renewal, or reduction of insurance coverage in any required policy. Producer shall be solely responsible to pay any and all deductibles or self-insured retentions which its errors and omissions and/or employee dishonesty carrier may apply.

(c) *Insurance Applications.* Any and all information provided in connection with any application for insurance subject to this Agreement shall be true and complete, to the best of Producer's knowledge. Producer further represents and warrants that, to the best of Producer's knowledge, such applications shall contain no material misrepresentations of any kind. Producer shall ensure that all material facts of which Producer is aware are accurately described and completely disclosed to Broker. Further, it is the duty of the Producer to notify Broker, promptly after Producer becomes aware, of any material change(s) that may affect the risk during the policy period and at any subsequent renewal.

(d) *Producer Information.* All information in the attached Producer Application is true and correct. The Producer shall give Broker prompt notice of any change in information.

(e) *Excess and Surplus Lines Placement.* Producer shall not place an order with Broker for any excess or surplus lines insurance unless Producer shall have first complied with any applicable state laws requiring the Producer to attempt to procure such insurance from insurers authorized to do business in the state of residence of the proposed insured. The party responsible for the payment of surplus lines taxes shall be responsible for full compliance with all relevant surplus lines laws of the pertinent state, including, but not limited to, the collection and payment of surplus lines taxes, filing of affidavits, and providing the appropriate statutory and/or regulatory disclosure legends on all documents.

3. Commissions and Premiums.

(a) *Commissions.* Broker shall allow Producer, as commission, a percentage of the premium written at a rate agreed upon by Broker and Producer from time to time.

(b) *Premium and Accounts.* Producer shall accept the format of Broker's billings, which may take the form of binders, invoices, statements or similar communications. The net balance due as shown on such billings shall be paid by the billing due date, irrespective of whether a policy has been delivered to Producer by such date. Producer guarantees the full payment due Broker of all premiums including deposit, earned, extension and adjustable premiums, fees, plus applicable state and local taxes, less commission, on every insurance contract bound or written for Producer pursuant to this Agreement, whether or not collected by the Producer. The net balance will be due and payable as indicated on such billings and may vary based upon the credit terms of the issuing Insurer. The omission of any item(s) from a monthly statement or separate invoice

shall not: (1) affect the Producer's responsibility to account for and pay all amounts due; (2) prejudice the rights of Broker to collect all amounts due from Producer; or (3) extend the time within which Producer must make payment. *Producer's obligation to make payment to Broker is not contingent upon the issuance of the policy.* Any credit extended to the insured or others shall be at the sole risk and responsibility of the Producer unless otherwise agreed in writing by Broker. Attempts by Broker to collect premiums (including audit premium discussed below) from insured shall not relieve Producer of liability to Broker except to the extent of amounts actually collected by Broker from insured, less the expense of such collection. In the event Broker shall have to bring any action or proceeding to enforce collection of any amount due under the terms of this Agreement, Producer agrees to pay all costs incident thereto, including reasonable attorney's fees, incurred by reason of such action or proceeding.

(c) *Adjustable Premiums.* Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein set forth, in situations where premiums for a policy or policies which have been issued cannot be fully determined in advance and where an adjustment or determination is made by an audit, retrospective rating or by interim reports, such amounts are fully earned and due at the invoice date as evidenced by a Broker or Insurer invoice.

(d) *Collection of Audit Premium.* Producer will make all reasonable efforts to collect amounts due. Producer will be relieved of responsibility for audit premium, so adjusted or determined, if Producer notifies Broker in writing twenty (20) days after said invoice date, stating that Producer has made diligent efforts and is unable to collect such premiums and *provided the Insurer releases Broker from liability for such premium.* A copy of the Producer's invoice to the insured, as well as copies of correspondence pertaining to the collection, must be sent with this notification. Failure to give Broker timely notice shall constitute Producer's acceptance of responsibility for payment of such premiums. If commission applies to these adjustments, none will be allowed for Producer on premiums collected directly by Broker or Insurer under this provision. If, after a period of sixty (60) days from the date liability was assumed by the Insurer, Broker has not received payment due for the applicable coverage, Broker may, at its option, collect from the insured the premium due. In the event Broker collects the premium or any part thereof from the insured, Producer shall not be entitled to any commission on the premium so collected.

(e) *Refunds of Premiums & Premium Tax.* In the event of cancellation or modification of an insurance contract for whatever reason that results in an obligation to refund all or part of the premium and/or premium tax, Broker's sole obligation shall be to remit the required premium or premium tax directly to Producer rather than to insured, to any premium finance company or to any other person or entity. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no amount of premium tax shall be returnable until recovered by Broker and the amount to be returned shall in no event exceed the amount recovered.

(f) *Unearned Commissions.* Producer shall be liable to Broker and shall pay return commission at the same rate as originally allowed to Producer for all return premium adjustments or cancellations, including return premium on cancellations ordered or made by the Insurer or finance company. Such return commission shall be paid to Broker by the due date indicated on the billing document. If a return premium becomes due under any contract of insurance and Broker has been issued a credit, or payment has been rendered, for such premium by Broker's Insurer, Broker will pay to Producer such return premium less the unearned portion of any commission previously retained by the Producer.

(g) *Financed Premiums.* Unless state law requires otherwise, Broker reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to remit unearned premiums on finance policies that are cancelled, less Producer's unearned commission, directly to the premium finance company for the account of the insured, or, in appropriate circumstances, to Producer or directly to the insured. The ultimate liability of Broker for payment to a finance company, Producer or insured shall never exceed the amount of return premium less unearned commission developed. Producer agrees to hold Broker harmless from any responsibility for payment to or from finance company and further agrees that financing arrangements do not diminish the responsibility for timely payment of premium by the Producer.

4. Premium Funds Held in Trust. Producer shall hold premium funds in a fiduciary account for business generated under this Agreement to the extent required by the applicable law of each state in which Producer conducts business. Provided Producer is in compliance with all terms of this Agreement and applicable law, Producer may retain any interest earned on said premium funds while so held by the Producer.

5. Claims. Producer shall comply with the terms of any policy placed pursuant to this Agreement with respect to notification of claims. Producer shall promptly notify the Insurer, and where appropriate the Broker, of any claims, suits or notices of loss (or circumstances which might reasonably be expected to result in a claim, suit or notice of loss) and shall cooperate fully with Insurer and/or Broker to facilitate the investigation and adjustment of any claim when and as requested.

6. Cancellation of Insurance. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Agreement, but subject to applicable legal requirements and insurance contract provisions, Broker shall have the right to cancel any binder, policy or contract of insurance issued. Broker will not recognize flat cancellations unless (a) written evidence of coverage prior to the inception date of the contract for insurance is provided; and (b) such credit has been granted Broker by its Insurer. Earned premium shall be computed and charged on every binder, policy or contract cancelled after the inception date in accordance with the cancellation provision of the applicable contract and/or rules of the Insurer. If Producer does not make timely payment of any sums due Broker, then Broker may, without limitation of other remedies, initiate with Insurer to cancel the binder, policy or contract for non-payment. If coverage is bound by Broker, all additional fees charged by Broker for the entire policy term shall be fully earned upon binding. Producer hereby acknowledges that Broker and its Insurers are under no duty to reinstate a policy if the policy is cancelled. Producer shall not accept from any insured the late payment of premiums with prior knowledge, whether actual or constructive, that the policy for which the late premiums have been collected has been cancelled.

7. Advertising. Producer shall not cause any advertisement referring to or using the name of Broker or Insurer, or issue or cause to have issued any letter, circular, pamphlet, or other publication or statement so referring, without the express written consent of Broker. In the event Broker suffers a loss or expense arising out of any unauthorized advertisement, publication or statement of the Producer, the Producer shall be liable for and hereby agrees to indemnify Broker and hold Broker harmless from all resulting damages, fines, penalties and costs.

8. Confidentiality. The parties to this Agreement hereby represent and acknowledge to each other that in the course of the performance of their respective obligations, they will each make available to the other party certain information pertaining to each party's business and operations ("Information"). Each party hereby agrees that as a condition to being provided the Information, that neither party will use any Information except in connection with the performance of duties hereunder. The recipient shall (a) protect the disclosing party's Information using a standard of care at least equal to that which it uses to safeguard its own confidential information and in no event less than a reasonable standard of care; (b) use the disclosing party's Information only to the extent necessary to perform its obligations pursuant to this Agreement; and (c) disseminate Information to its representatives and agents only on a "need to know" basis, provided that all persons to whom Information is disseminated shall be notified of its confidential nature. Recipient will notify disclosing party immediately upon any loss or unauthorized disclosure of Information. Recipient is liable for breach of this provision by any of its representatives or agents. The limits on use and disclosure will not apply to any Information which (a) at the time of disclosure is generally available to the public or (b) which becomes generally available other than through a breach of this obligation of confidentiality.

9. Inspection of Records. During the term of this Agreement, and for a period of three (3) years following termination for any reason, Broker or Insurer shall have the right to audit and inspect Producer's books and records concerning the business to which this Agreement applies. Such right of audit and inspection shall be during normal business hours upon reasonable notice to Producer. The costs of such audit and inspection, including the costs of making copies of relevant records, shall be borne by Broker.

10. Ownership of Accounts. In the event of termination, so long as Producer has promptly accounted for and paid all premiums or return commissions for which it may be liable, the Producer's records and use and control of expiration, shall remain the property of Producer; otherwise, use of records and control of expirations shall be vested promptly and exclusively in Broker.

11. Termination of Agreement. This Agreement may be terminated at any time by either party giving written notice to the other. This Agreement will also terminate: (a) automatically, if any public authority cancels or declines to renew the Producer's license or certificate of authority; or (b) automatically at Broker's option, on the effective date of the sale, transfer, or merger of Producer's business with the provision Broker may, upon review, appoint the successors as a Producer. All representations and obligations of the Producer herein shall survive the termination of this Agreement.

After the date of termination of this Agreement, Producer shall complete the collection and accounting to Broker for all premiums, commissions and other transactions unaccounted for on the date of termination or arising thereafter in respect of outstanding policies of insurance, including but not limited to, return premium and return commissions. Outstanding policies will be permitted to run to expiration.

12. Indemnification and Hold Harmless.

(a) *Producer Indemnification.* The Producer agrees to defend and indemnify the Broker, its parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, successors and assigns, and the shareholders, directors, officers, agents and employees of any of them (collectively the “**Broker Indemnitees**”), against and in respect of any and all claims (not including covered claims made under any policy properly issued in accordance with this Agreement), demands, actions, proceedings, liability, losses, damages, judgements, costs and expenses, including, without limitation, attorney’s fees, disbursements, court costs, and punitive, exemplary, or compensatory damages, suffered, made or instituted against or incurred by the Broker Indemnitees, or any of them, and which directly or indirectly arise out of or relate to (i) negligence of the Producer or its employees or representatives, in discharging their obligations to the Broker or to policyholders, (ii) failure by the Producer or its employees or representatives to comply with any applicable information privacy laws, and/or (iii) any failure by the Producer or its employees or representatives to perform their obligations under or relating to this Agreement.

(b) *Broker Indemnification.* The Broker agrees to defend and indemnify the Producer, its parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, successors and assigns, and the shareholders, directors, officers, agents and employees of any of them (collectively the “**Producer Indemnitees**”), against and in respect of any and all claims (not including covered claims made under any policy properly issued in accordance with this Agreement), demands, actions, proceedings, liability, losses, damages, suffered, made or instituted against or incurred by the Producer Indemnitees, or any of them, and which arise solely out of or solely relate to (i) negligence of the Broker, or its employees or representatives, in discharging its obligations to the Producer or to policyholders; or (ii) any failure by the Broker, or its employees or representatives, to comply with any applicable information privacy laws; (iii) and failure by the Broker, or its employees or representatives to perform its obligations under this Agreement. Producer understands that Broker assumes no responsibility for any policy with regard to the adequacy, amount or form of coverage and agrees to indemnify and hold Broker harmless from any claim asserted against Broker in following the instructions of the Producer. Broker is not an insurer and does not guarantee the financial condition of the Insurer with whom it may place risks. Broker shall have no liability for non-payment of claims due to the insolvency of an Insurer, or otherwise, under contracts of insurance placed by Broker.

(c) *Sub-Producer.* The Producer shall be fully responsible for the conduct and performance of any sub-producers of Producer, and shall defend, indemnify and hold the Broker harmless against any loss, claim, expense, damages, fines, penalties, or attorney’s fees arising out of any act on the part of its sub-producers, including the failure to maintain appropriate licenses or certificates. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to allow Producer to appoint or contract with sub-producers except as authorized by Broker in writing.

13. Miscellaneous.

(a) *Waiver of Default.* Failure of Broker to enforce any provision of this Agreement or to terminate it because of a breach shall not be deemed to be a waiver of such provisions or of any breach committed by Producer. No breach of any provision of this Agreement can be waived unless done so in writing, executed by the waiving party. The waiver of any one breach shall not be deemed to be a waiver of any other breach of the same or any other provision of this Agreement.

(b) *Severability.* If any clause or provision of this Agreement shall be adjudged invalid or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction or by operation of any applicable law, it shall not affect the validity or any other clause or provision, which shall remain in full force and effect. Each of the provisions of the Agreement shall be enforceable independently of any other provision, unless expressed otherwise herein.

(c) *Assignment.* This Agreement and the obligations hereunder may not be assigned by Producer without the prior written consent of Broker.

(d) *Governing Law.* This Agreement shall be deemed to have been made and performed in Orange County, Florida and shall be governed by, and construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Florida.

(e) *Entire Agreement.* This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between Broker and Producer and supersedes and replaces any previous agreements between Broker and Producer. No oral promises or representations shall be binding, nor shall this Agreement be modified, except by agreement in writing and executed by Broker. This Agreement shall apply to current policies already placed through Broker and in force at the date hereof and all future policies which may be placed by Broker for Producer.

14. Execution and Acceptance of Agreement. Producer acknowledges that it is familiar with the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977 (FCPA) (15 U.S.C. § 78dd-1, et seq.) and the U.K. Bribery Act and that Producer and all of Producer's agents, representatives and employees who will be transacting business in relation to this Agreement are doing so in compliance with the FCPA and the U.K. Bribery Act. Producer further represents that it has established procedures to ensure ongoing compliance with the FCPA and the U.K. Bribery Act and that such procedures will be provided to Broker upon request.

Producer acknowledges that a breach of any of the terms, conditions, or provisions of this Agreement by the Producer may give rise to a cause of action by Broker against the Producer and/or may result in the termination of this Agreement, all in the sole discretion of Broker. Each individual who executes this Agreement in a representative capacity represents and warrants that he or she has the full right and power to execute this Agreement and to bind the entity or individuals on whose behalf he or she so signs. If this Producer is an individual, the individual must sign; if the Producer is a partnership, one of the partners must sign; if the Producer is a corporation, an authorized officer must sign and indicate the title of such authorized officer. The parties hereto agree this Agreement shall not become effective until accepted by Broker.

Remainder of page intentionally left blank – signature page follows.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement as of the date herein signed.

Owner Agent

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Title: _____

(Must be Owner, Partner or Authorized Officer)

Date: _____

Agreement Accepted and Effected by Broker. (For Braishfield Use Only)

Signature: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification

**Give Form to the
 requester. Do not
 send to the IRS.**

▶ Go to www.irs.gov/FormW9 for instructions and the latest information.

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| Print or type. See Specific Instructions on page 3. | 1 Name (as shown on your income tax return). Name is required on this line; do not leave this line blank. | |
| | 2 Business name/disregarded entity name, if different from above | |
| | 3 Check appropriate box for federal tax classification of the person whose name is entered on line 1. Check only one of the following seven boxes. | 4 Exemptions (codes apply only to certain entities, not individuals; see instructions on page 3): |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual/sole proprietor or single-member LLC <input type="checkbox"/> C Corporation <input type="checkbox"/> S Corporation <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Trust/estate | Exempt payee code (if any) _____ |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Limited liability company. Enter the tax classification (C=C corporation, S=S corporation, P=Partnership) ▶ _____ Note: Check the appropriate box in the line above for the tax classification of the single-member owner. Do not check LLC if the LLC is classified as a single-member LLC that is disregarded from the owner unless the owner of the LLC is another LLC that is not disregarded from the owner for U.S. federal tax purposes. Otherwise, a single-member LLC that is disregarded from the owner should check the appropriate box for the tax classification of its owner. | Exemption from FATCA reporting code (if any) _____ |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (see instructions) ▶ _____ | <small>(Applies to accounts maintained outside the U.S.)</small> |
| | 5 Address (number, street, and apt. or suite no.) See instructions. | Requester's name and address (optional) |
| 6 City, state, and ZIP code | | |
| 7 List account number(s) here (optional) | | |

Part I Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)

Enter your TIN in the appropriate box. The TIN provided must match the name given on line 1 to avoid backup withholding. For individuals, this is generally your social security number (SSN). However, for a resident alien, sole proprietor, or disregarded entity, see the instructions for Part I, later. For other entities, it is your employer identification number (EIN). If you do not have a number, see *How to get a TIN*, later.

Note: If the account is in more than one name, see the instructions for line 1. Also see *What Name and Number To Give the Requester* for guidelines on whose number to enter.

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Social security number | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| or | | | | | | | | | |
| Employer identification number | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |

Part II Certification

Under penalties of perjury, I certify that:

1. The number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me); and
2. I am not subject to backup withholding because: (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding; and
3. I am a U.S. citizen or other U.S. person (defined below); and
4. The FATCA code(s) entered on this form (if any) indicating that I am exempt from FATCA reporting is correct.

Certification instructions. You must cross out item 2 above if you have been notified by the IRS that you are currently subject to backup withholding because you have failed to report all interest and dividends on your tax return. For real estate transactions, item 2 does not apply. For mortgage interest paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, contributions to an individual retirement arrangement (IRA), and generally, payments other than interest and dividends, you are not required to sign the certification, but you must provide your correct TIN. See the instructions for Part II, later.

| | | |
|------------------|----------------------------|--------|
| Sign Here | Signature of U.S. person ▶ | Date ▶ |
|------------------|----------------------------|--------|

General Instructions

Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted.

Future developments. For the latest information about developments related to Form W-9 and its instructions, such as legislation enacted after they were published, go to www.irs.gov/FormW9.

Purpose of Form

An individual or entity (Form W-9 requester) who is required to file an information return with the IRS must obtain your correct taxpayer identification number (TIN) which may be your social security number (SSN), individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN), adoption taxpayer identification number (ATIN), or employer identification number (EIN), to report on an information return the amount paid to you, or other amount reportable on an information return. Examples of information returns include, but are not limited to, the following.

- Form 1099-INT (interest earned or paid)

- Form 1099-DIV (dividends, including those from stocks or mutual funds)
- Form 1099-MISC (various types of income, prizes, awards, or gross proceeds)
- Form 1099-B (stock or mutual fund sales and certain other transactions by brokers)
- Form 1099-S (proceeds from real estate transactions)
- Form 1099-K (merchant card and third party network transactions)
- Form 1098 (home mortgage interest), 1098-E (student loan interest), 1098-T (tuition)
- Form 1099-C (canceled debt)
- Form 1099-A (acquisition or abandonment of secured property)

Use Form W-9 only if you are a U.S. person (including a resident alien), to provide your correct TIN.

If you do not return Form W-9 to the requester with a TIN, you might be subject to backup withholding. See What is backup withholding, later.

By signing the filled-out form, you:

1. Certify that the TIN you are giving is correct (or you are waiting for a number to be issued),
2. Certify that you are not subject to backup withholding, or
3. Claim exemption from backup withholding if you are a U.S. exempt payee. If applicable, you are also certifying that as a U.S. person, your allocable share of any partnership income from a U.S. trade or business is not subject to the withholding tax on foreign partners' share of effectively connected income, and
4. Certify that FATCA code(s) entered on this form (if any) indicating that you are exempt from the FATCA reporting, is correct. See *What is FATCA reporting*, later, for further information.

Note: If you are a U.S. person and a requester gives you a form other than Form W-9 to request your TIN, you must use the requester's form if it is substantially similar to this Form W-9.

Definition of a U.S. person. For federal tax purposes, you are considered a U.S. person if you are:

- An individual who is a U.S. citizen or U.S. resident alien;
- A partnership, corporation, company, or association created or organized in the United States or under the laws of the United States;
- An estate (other than a foreign estate); or
- A domestic trust (as defined in Regulations section 301.7701-7).

Special rules for partnerships. Partnerships that conduct a trade or business in the United States are generally required to pay a withholding tax under section 1446 on any foreign partners' share of effectively connected taxable income from such business. Further, in certain cases where a Form W-9 has not been received, the rules under section 1446 require a partnership to presume that a partner is a foreign person, and pay the section 1446 withholding tax. Therefore, if you are a U.S. person that is a partner in a partnership conducting a trade or business in the United States, provide Form W-9 to the partnership to establish your U.S. status and avoid section 1446 withholding on your share of partnership income.

In the cases below, the following person must give Form W-9 to the partnership for purposes of establishing its U.S. status and avoiding withholding on its allocable share of net income from the partnership conducting a trade or business in the United States.

- In the case of a disregarded entity with a U.S. owner, the U.S. owner of the disregarded entity and not the entity;
- In the case of a grantor trust with a U.S. grantor or other U.S. owner, generally, the U.S. grantor or other U.S. owner of the grantor trust and not the trust; and
- In the case of a U.S. trust (other than a grantor trust), the U.S. trust (other than a grantor trust) and not the beneficiaries of the trust.

Foreign person. If you are a foreign person or the U.S. branch of a foreign bank that has elected to be treated as a U.S. person, do not use Form W-9. Instead, use the appropriate Form W-8 or Form 8233 (see Pub. 515, *Withholding of Tax on Nonresident Aliens and Foreign Entities*).

Nonresident alien who becomes a resident alien. Generally, only a nonresident alien individual may use the terms of a tax treaty to reduce or eliminate U.S. tax on certain types of income. However, most tax treaties contain a provision known as a "saving clause." Exceptions specified in the saving clause may permit an exemption from tax to continue for certain types of income even after the payee has otherwise become a U.S. resident alien for tax purposes.

If you are a U.S. resident alien who is relying on an exception contained in the saving clause of a tax treaty to claim an exemption from U.S. tax on certain types of income, you must attach a statement to Form W-9 that specifies the following five items.

1. The treaty country. Generally, this must be the same treaty under which you claimed exemption from tax as a nonresident alien.
2. The treaty article addressing the income.
3. The article number (or location) in the tax treaty that contains the saving clause and its exceptions.
4. The type and amount of income that qualifies for the exemption from tax.
5. Sufficient facts to justify the exemption from tax under the terms of the treaty article.

Example. Article 20 of the U.S.-China income tax treaty allows an exemption from tax for scholarship income received by a Chinese student temporarily present in the United States. Under U.S. law, this student will become a resident alien for tax purposes if his or her stay in the United States exceeds 5 calendar years. However, paragraph 2 of the first Protocol to the U.S.-China treaty (dated April 30, 1984) allows the provisions of Article 20 to continue to apply even after the Chinese student becomes a resident alien of the United States. A Chinese student who qualifies for this exception (under paragraph 2 of the first protocol) and is relying on this exception to claim an exemption from tax on his or her scholarship or fellowship income would attach to Form W-9 a statement that includes the information described above to support that exemption.

If you are a nonresident alien or a foreign entity, give the requester the appropriate completed Form W-8 or Form 8233.

Backup Withholding

What is backup withholding? Persons making certain payments to you must under certain conditions withhold and pay to the IRS 24% of such payments. This is called "backup withholding." Payments that may be subject to backup withholding include interest, tax-exempt interest, dividends, broker and barter exchange transactions, rents, royalties, nonemployee pay, payments made in settlement of payment card and third party network transactions, and certain payments from fishing boat operators. Real estate transactions are not subject to backup withholding.

You will not be subject to backup withholding on payments you receive if you give the requester your correct TIN, make the proper certifications, and report all your taxable interest and dividends on your tax return.

Payments you receive will be subject to backup withholding if:

1. You do not furnish your TIN to the requester,
2. You do not certify your TIN when required (see the instructions for Part II for details),
3. The IRS tells the requester that you furnished an incorrect TIN,
4. The IRS tells you that you are subject to backup withholding because you did not report all your interest and dividends on your tax return (for reportable interest and dividends only), or
5. You do not certify to the requester that you are not subject to backup withholding under 4 above (for reportable interest and dividend accounts opened after 1983 only).

Certain payees and payments are exempt from backup withholding. See *Exempt payee code*, later, and the separate Instructions for the Requester of Form W-9 for more information.

Also see *Special rules for partnerships*, earlier.

What is FATCA Reporting?

The Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) requires a participating foreign financial institution to report all United States account holders that are specified United States persons. Certain payees are exempt from FATCA reporting. See *Exemption from FATCA reporting code*, later, and the Instructions for the Requester of Form W-9 for more information.

Updating Your Information

You must provide updated information to any person to whom you claimed to be an exempt payee if you are no longer an exempt payee and anticipate receiving reportable payments in the future from this person. For example, you may need to provide updated information if you are a C corporation that elects to be an S corporation, or if you no longer are tax exempt. In addition, you must furnish a new Form W-9 if the name or TIN changes for the account; for example, if the grantor of a grantor trust dies.

Penalties

Failure to furnish TIN. If you fail to furnish your correct TIN to a requester, you are subject to a penalty of \$50 for each such failure unless your failure is due to reasonable cause and not to willful neglect.

Civil penalty for false information with respect to withholding. If you make a false statement with no reasonable basis that results in no backup withholding, you are subject to a \$500 penalty.

Criminal penalty for falsifying information. Willfully falsifying certifications or affirmations may subject you to criminal penalties including fines and/or imprisonment.

Misuse of TINs. If the requester discloses or uses TINs in violation of federal law, the requester may be subject to civil and criminal penalties.

Specific Instructions

Line 1

You must enter one of the following on this line; **do not** leave this line blank. The name should match the name on your tax return.

If this Form W-9 is for a joint account (other than an account maintained by a foreign financial institution (FFI)), list first, and then circle, the name of the person or entity whose number you entered in Part I of Form W-9. If you are providing Form W-9 to an FFI to document a joint account, each holder of the account that is a U.S. person must provide a Form W-9.

a. **Individual.** Generally, enter the name shown on your tax return. If you have changed your last name without informing the Social Security Administration (SSA) of the name change, enter your first name, the last name as shown on your social security card, and your new last name.

Note: ITIN applicant: Enter your individual name as it was entered on your Form W-7 application, line 1a. This should also be the same as the name you entered on the Form 1040/1040A/1040EZ you filed with your application.

b. **Sole proprietor or single-member LLC.** Enter your individual name as shown on your 1040/1040A/1040EZ on line 1. You may enter your business, trade, or “doing business as” (DBA) name on line 2.

c. **Partnership, LLC that is not a single-member LLC, C corporation, or S corporation.** Enter the entity’s name as shown on the entity’s tax return on line 1 and any business, trade, or DBA name on line 2.

d. **Other entities.** Enter your name as shown on required U.S. federal tax documents on line 1. This name should match the name shown on the charter or other legal document creating the entity. You may enter any business, trade, or DBA name on line 2.

e. **Disregarded entity.** For U.S. federal tax purposes, an entity that is disregarded as an entity separate from its owner is treated as a “disregarded entity.” See Regulations section 301.7701-2(c)(2)(iii). Enter the owner’s name on line 1. The name of the entity entered on line 1 should never be a disregarded entity. The name on line 1 should be the name shown on the income tax return on which the income should be reported. For example, if a foreign LLC that is treated as a disregarded entity for U.S. federal tax purposes has a single owner that is a U.S. person, the U.S. owner’s name is required to be provided on line 1. If the direct owner of the entity is also a disregarded entity, enter the first owner that is not disregarded for federal tax purposes. Enter the disregarded entity’s name on line 2, “Business name/disregarded entity name.” If the owner of the disregarded entity is a foreign person, the owner must complete an appropriate Form W-8 instead of a Form W-9. This is the case even if the foreign person has a U.S. TIN.

Line 2

If you have a business name, trade name, DBA name, or disregarded entity name, you may enter it on line 2.

Line 3

Check the appropriate box on line 3 for the U.S. federal tax classification of the person whose name is entered on line 1. Check only one box on line 3.

| IF the entity/person on line 1 is a(n) . . . | THEN check the box for . . . |
|--|---|
| • Corporation | Corporation |
| • Individual • Sole proprietorship, or • Single-member limited liability company (LLC) owned by an individual and disregarded for U.S. federal tax purposes. | Individual/sole proprietor or single-member LLC |
| • LLC treated as a partnership for U.S. federal tax purposes, • LLC that has filed Form 8832 or 2553 to be taxed as a corporation, or • LLC that is disregarded as an entity separate from its owner but the owner is another LLC that is not disregarded for U.S. federal tax purposes. | Limited liability company and enter the appropriate tax classification. (P= Partnership; C= C corporation; or S= S corporation) |
| • Partnership | Partnership |
| • Trust/estate | Trust/estate |

Line 4, Exemptions

If you are exempt from backup withholding and/or FATCA reporting, enter in the appropriate space on line 4 any code(s) that may apply to you.

Exempt payee code.

- Generally, individuals (including sole proprietors) are not exempt from backup withholding.
- Except as provided below, corporations are exempt from backup withholding for certain payments, including interest and dividends.
- Corporations are not exempt from backup withholding for payments made in settlement of payment card or third party network transactions.
- Corporations are not exempt from backup withholding with respect to attorneys’ fees or gross proceeds paid to attorneys, and corporations that provide medical or health care services are not exempt with respect to payments reportable on Form 1099-MISC.

The following codes identify payees that are exempt from backup withholding. Enter the appropriate code in the space in line 4.

- 1—An organization exempt from tax under section 501(a), any IRA, or a custodial account under section 403(b)(7) if the account satisfies the requirements of section 401(f)(2)
- 2—The United States or any of its agencies or instrumentalities
- 3—A state, the District of Columbia, a U.S. commonwealth or possession, or any of their political subdivisions or instrumentalities
- 4—A foreign government or any of its political subdivisions, agencies, or instrumentalities
- 5—A corporation
- 6—A dealer in securities or commodities required to register in the United States, the District of Columbia, or a U.S. commonwealth or possession
- 7—A futures commission merchant registered with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission
- 8—A real estate investment trust
- 9—An entity registered at all times during the tax year under the Investment Company Act of 1940
- 10—A common trust fund operated by a bank under section 584(a)
- 11—A financial institution
- 12—A middleman known in the investment community as a nominee or custodian
- 13—A trust exempt from tax under section 664 or described in section 4947

The following chart shows types of payments that may be exempt from backup withholding. The chart applies to the exempt payees listed above, 1 through 13.

| IF the payment is for . . . | THEN the payment is exempt for . . . |
|--|---|
| Interest and dividend payments | All exempt payees except for 7 |
| Broker transactions | Exempt payees 1 through 4 and 6 through 11 and all C corporations. S corporations must not enter an exempt payee code because they are exempt only for sales of noncovered securities acquired prior to 2012. |
| Barter exchange transactions and patronage dividends | Exempt payees 1 through 4 |
| Payments over \$600 required to be reported and direct sales over \$5,000 ¹ | Generally, exempt payees 1 through 5 ² |
| Payments made in settlement of payment card or third party network transactions | Exempt payees 1 through 4 |

¹ See Form 1099-MISC, Miscellaneous Income, and its instructions.

² However, the following payments made to a corporation and reportable on Form 1099-MISC are not exempt from backup withholding: medical and health care payments, attorneys' fees, gross proceeds paid to an attorney reportable under section 6045(f), and payments for services paid by a federal executive agency.

Exemption from FATCA reporting code. The following codes identify payees that are exempt from reporting under FATCA. These codes apply to persons submitting this form for accounts maintained outside of the United States by certain foreign financial institutions. Therefore, if you are only submitting this form for an account you hold in the United States, you may leave this field blank. Consult with the person requesting this form if you are uncertain if the financial institution is subject to these requirements. A requester may indicate that a code is not required by providing you with a Form W-9 with "Not Applicable" (or any similar indication) written or printed on the line for a FATCA exemption code.

A—An organization exempt from tax under section 501(a) or any individual retirement plan as defined in section 7701(a)(37)

B—The United States or any of its agencies or instrumentalities

C—A state, the District of Columbia, a U.S. commonwealth or possession, or any of their political subdivisions or instrumentalities

D—A corporation the stock of which is regularly traded on one or more established securities markets, as described in Regulations section 1.1472-1(c)(1)(i)

E—A corporation that is a member of the same expanded affiliated group as a corporation described in Regulations section 1.1472-1(c)(1)(i)

F—A dealer in securities, commodities, or derivative financial instruments (including notional principal contracts, futures, forwards, and options) that is registered as such under the laws of the United States or any state

G—A real estate investment trust

H—A regulated investment company as defined in section 851 or an entity registered at all times during the tax year under the Investment Company Act of 1940

I—A common trust fund as defined in section 584(a)

J—A bank as defined in section 581

K—A broker

L—A trust exempt from tax under section 664 or described in section 4947(a)(1)

M—A tax exempt trust under a section 403(b) plan or section 457(g) plan

Note: You may wish to consult with the financial institution requesting this form to determine whether the FATCA code and/or exempt payee code should be completed.

Line 5

Enter your address (number, street, and apartment or suite number). This is where the requester of this Form W-9 will mail your information returns. If this address differs from the one the requester already has on file, write NEW at the top. If a new address is provided, there is still a chance the old address will be used until the payor changes your address in their records.

Line 6

Enter your city, state, and ZIP code.

Part I. Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)

Enter your TIN in the appropriate box. If you are a resident alien and you do not have and are not eligible to get an SSN, your TIN is your IRS individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN). Enter it in the social security number box. If you do not have an ITIN, see *How to get a TIN* below.

If you are a sole proprietor and you have an EIN, you may enter either your SSN or EIN.

If you are a single-member LLC that is disregarded as an entity separate from its owner, enter the owner's SSN (or EIN, if the owner has one). Do not enter the disregarded entity's EIN. If the LLC is classified as a corporation or partnership, enter the entity's EIN.

Note: See *What Name and Number To Give the Requester*, later, for further clarification of name and TIN combinations.

How to get a TIN. If you do not have a TIN, apply for one immediately. To apply for an SSN, get Form SS-5, Application for a Social Security Card, from your local SSA office or get this form online at www.SSA.gov. You may also get this form by calling 1-800-772-1213. Use Form W-7, Application for IRS Individual Taxpayer Identification Number, to apply for an ITIN, or Form SS-4, Application for Employer Identification Number, to apply for an EIN. You can apply for an EIN online by accessing the IRS website at www.irs.gov/Businesses and clicking on Employer Identification Number (EIN) under Starting a Business. Go to www.irs.gov/Forms to view, download, or print Form W-7 and/or Form SS-4. Or, you can go to www.irs.gov/OrderForms to place an order and have Form W-7 and/or SS-4 mailed to you within 10 business days.

If you are asked to complete Form W-9 but do not have a TIN, apply for a TIN and write "Applied For" in the space for the TIN, sign and date the form, and give it to the requester. For interest and dividend payments, and certain payments made with respect to readily tradable instruments, generally you will have 60 days to get a TIN and give it to the requester before you are subject to backup withholding on payments. The 60-day rule does not apply to other types of payments. You will be subject to backup withholding on all such payments until you provide your TIN to the requester.

Note: Entering "Applied For" means that you have already applied for a TIN or that you intend to apply for one soon.

Caution: A disregarded U.S. entity that has a foreign owner must use the appropriate Form W-8.

Part II. Certification

To establish to the withholding agent that you are a U.S. person, or resident alien, sign Form W-9. You may be requested to sign by the withholding agent even if item 1, 4, or 5 below indicates otherwise.

For a joint account, only the person whose TIN is shown in Part I should sign (when required). In the case of a disregarded entity, the person identified on line 1 must sign. Exempt payees, see *Exempt payee code*, earlier.

Signature requirements. Complete the certification as indicated in items 1 through 5 below.

1. Interest, dividend, and barter exchange accounts opened before 1984 and broker accounts considered active during 1983.

You must give your correct TIN, but you do not have to sign the certification.

2. Interest, dividend, broker, and barter exchange accounts opened after 1983 and broker accounts considered inactive during 1983.

You must sign the certification or backup withholding will apply. If you are subject to backup withholding and you are merely providing your correct TIN to the requester, you must cross out item 2 in the certification before signing the form.

3. Real estate transactions.

You must sign the certification. You may cross out item 2 of the certification.

4. Other payments. You must give your correct TIN, but you do not have to sign the certification unless you have been notified that you have previously given an incorrect TIN. "Other payments" include payments made in the course of the requester's trade or business for rents, royalties, goods (other than bills for merchandise), medical and health care services (including payments to corporations), payments to a nonemployee for services, payments made in settlement of payment card and third party network transactions, payments to certain fishing boat crew members and fishermen, and gross proceeds paid to attorneys (including payments to corporations).

5. Mortgage interest paid by you, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, qualified tuition program payments (under section 529), ABLE accounts (under section 529A), IRA, Coverdell ESA, Archer MSA or HSA contributions or distributions, and pension distributions. You must give your correct TIN, but you do not have to sign the certification.

What Name and Number To Give the Requester

| For this type of account: | Give name and SSN of: |
|--|---|
| 1. Individual | The individual |
| 2. Two or more individuals (joint account) other than an account maintained by an FFI | The actual owner of the account or, if combined funds, the first individual on the account ¹ |
| 3. Two or more U.S. persons (joint account maintained by an FFI) | Each holder of the account |
| 4. Custodial account of a minor (Uniform Gift to Minors Act) | The minor ² |
| 5. a. The usual revocable savings trust (grantor is also trustee) | The grantor-trustee ¹ |
| b. So-called trust account that is not a legal or valid trust under state law | The actual owner ¹ |
| 6. Sole proprietorship or disregarded entity owned by an individual | The owner ³ |
| 7. Grantor trust filing under Optional Form 1099 Filing Method 1 (see Regulations section 1.671-4(b)(2)(i)(A)) | The grantor* |
| For this type of account: | Give name and EIN of: |
| 8. Disregarded entity not owned by an individual | The owner |
| 9. A valid trust, estate, or pension trust | Legal entity ⁴ |
| 10. Corporation or LLC electing corporate status on Form 8832 or Form 2553 | The corporation |
| 11. Association, club, religious, charitable, educational, or other tax-exempt organization | The organization |
| 12. Partnership or multi-member LLC | The partnership |
| 13. A broker or registered nominee | The broker or nominee |

| For this type of account: | Give name and EIN of: |
|---|-----------------------|
| 14. Account with the Department of Agriculture in the name of a public entity (such as a state or local government, school district, or prison) that receives agricultural program payments | The public entity |
| 15. Grantor trust filing under the Form 1041 Filing Method or the Optional Form 1099 Filing Method 2 (see Regulations section 1.671-4(b)(2)(i)(B)) | The trust |

¹ List first and circle the name of the person whose number you furnish. If only one person on a joint account has an SSN, that person's number must be furnished.

² Circle the minor's name and furnish the minor's SSN.

³ You must show your individual name and you may also enter your business or DBA name on the "Business name/disregarded entity" name line. You may use either your SSN or EIN (if you have one), but the IRS encourages you to use your SSN.

⁴ List first and circle the name of the trust, estate, or pension trust. (Do not furnish the TIN of the personal representative or trustee unless the legal entity itself is not designated in the account title.) Also see *Special rules for partnerships*, earlier.

*Note: The grantor also must provide a Form W-9 to trustee of trust.

Note: If no name is circled when more than one name is listed, the number will be considered to be that of the first name listed.

Secure Your Tax Records From Identity Theft

Identity theft occurs when someone uses your personal information such as your name, SSN, or other identifying information, without your permission, to commit fraud or other crimes. An identity thief may use your SSN to get a job or may file a tax return using your SSN to receive a refund.

To reduce your risk:

- Protect your SSN,
- Ensure your employer is protecting your SSN, and
- Be careful when choosing a tax preparer.

If your tax records are affected by identity theft and you receive a notice from the IRS, respond right away to the name and phone number printed on the IRS notice or letter.

If your tax records are not currently affected by identity theft but you think you are at risk due to a lost or stolen purse or wallet, questionable credit card activity or credit report, contact the IRS Identity Theft Hotline at 1-800-908-4490 or submit Form 14039.

For more information, see Pub. 5027, Identity Theft Information for Taxpayers.

Victims of identity theft who are experiencing economic harm or a systemic problem, or are seeking help in resolving tax problems that have not been resolved through normal channels, may be eligible for Taxpayer Advocate Service (TAS) assistance. You can reach TAS by calling the TAS toll-free case intake line at 1-877-777-4778 or TTY/TDD 1-800-829-4059.

Protect yourself from suspicious emails or phishing schemes.

Phishing is the creation and use of email and websites designed to mimic legitimate business emails and websites. The most common act is sending an email to a user falsely claiming to be an established legitimate enterprise in an attempt to scam the user into surrendering private information that will be used for identity theft.

The IRS does not initiate contacts with taxpayers via emails. Also, the IRS does not request personal detailed information through email or ask taxpayers for the PIN numbers, passwords, or similar secret access information for their credit card, bank, or other financial accounts.

If you receive an unsolicited email claiming to be from the IRS, forward this message to phishing@irs.gov. You may also report misuse of the IRS name, logo, or other IRS property to the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA) at 1-800-366-4484. You can forward suspicious emails to the Federal Trade Commission at spam@uce.gov or report them at www.ftc.gov/complaint. You can contact the FTC at www.ftc.gov/idtheft or 877-IDTHEFT (877-438-4338). If you have been the victim of identity theft, see www.IdentityTheft.gov and Pub. 5027.

Visit www.irs.gov/IdentityTheft to learn more about identity theft and how to reduce your risk.

Privacy Act Notice

Section 6109 of the Internal Revenue Code requires you to provide your correct TIN to persons (including federal agencies) who are required to file information returns with the IRS to report interest, dividends, or certain other income paid to you; mortgage interest you paid; the acquisition or abandonment of secured property; the cancellation of debt; or contributions you made to an IRA, Archer MSA, or HSA. The person collecting this form uses the information on the form to file information returns with the IRS, reporting the above information. Routine uses of this information include giving it to the Department of Justice for civil and criminal litigation and to cities, states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. commonwealths and possessions for use in administering their laws. The information also may be disclosed to other countries under a treaty, to federal and state agencies to enforce civil and criminal laws, or to federal law enforcement and intelligence agencies to combat terrorism. You must provide your TIN whether or not you are required to file a tax return. Under section 3406, payers must generally withhold a percentage of taxable interest, dividend, and certain other payments to a payee who does not give a TIN to the payer. Certain penalties may also apply for providing false or fraudulent information.