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# Employment Tax Updates

# Employers

 Those required to file Form 941, Employer's Quarterly Tax Return, or Form 944 Employer's Annual Tax Return

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• 30.7 million returns filed in 2007

#### **Abusive Transactions**

- Zero Wages
- Worker Misclassification
- False information returns
- Abusive Form 843 Refund Claims
- Return Preparer Fraud
- Cash transactions

## Failure to File Employment Tax Returns

- Variety of reasons for non-filing
- Corrosive to tax system

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 SBSE Employment Tax dedicates significant resources to address

Internal and external data used

## **1120-S Officer's Compensation**

- Little or no compensation reported and significant distributable income
- Performance of services by officer/ shareholder is key
- Employment taxes reduced
- Fairness issue
- Compliance efforts

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#### National Tip Reporting Compliance Strategy

- Enterprise-Wide
- A variety of Tip Agreements
- Employee examinations
- Employer Only assessments per Fior D'Italia
- Gaming update

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#### Trust Fund Recovery Penalty

- Key Collection tool
- Coordination at local level

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100% of Trust Fund Tax due

## Guidance

- Tool Rental (Rev. Rul. 2005-52) (CCA 200745018)
- Disregarded Entities (Treas. Reg. §301.7701-2)

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• Frivolous Filers (IRC Sec. 6702)

Return Preparer Penalties (Notice 2008-13)

# **Fringe Benefits**

- Automobiles and other property
- Gift cards
- Travel and entertainment
- Cash payments
- Payment of personal expenses

## Form Changes

- Form 4137 (Social Security and Medicare Tax on Unreported Tip Income)
- Form 8919 (Uncollected Social Security and Medicare Tax on Wages)
- Form 941X (Adjusted Employment Tax Returns)
- Form 941 (Employer's Quarterly Federal Tax Return)
  - Form 940 (Employer's Annual Federal Unemployment (FUTA) Tax Return)

## **Employment Tax Cases**

Peno Trucking Incorporated

- Juan Ramirez
- Payroll Plus
- Columbine Health Care Systems
- JD Associates
- CSX
- University of Pittsburgh

# More Information on IRS.gov

Small Business Tax Workshop DVD

- Small Business Resource Guide CD-ROM
- Tax Talk Today
- E-News for Tax Professionals
- E-News for Small Businesses
- IRS Phone Forums