

Important Reminder for BSA E-Filers on SAR Validation Implementation

On December 12, 2009, FinCEN will implement the second phase of the BSA E-Filing SAR Acknowledgements and Validation process. Phase I was implemented in September 2009; and provided BSA E-Filers with an acknowledgement of receipt for a submitted Suspicious Activity Report (SAR). Phase II applies data quality checks and will provide filers with information on the quality of their submissions for electronically filed SARs of all types: Suspicious Activity Report by Depository Institutions (SAR-DI), Suspicious Activity Report by the Securities and Futures Industries (SAR-SF), Suspicious Activity Report by Casinos and Card Clubs (SAR-C), and Suspicious Activity Report by Money Services Businesses (SAR-MSB). The [BSA Electronic Filing Requirements](#) have been revised to include the SAR Acknowledgement file record formats and SAR Validation error codes.

The BSA E-Filing system offers filers a self-enrollment feature to allow financial institutions to register to receive SAR Acknowledgement files when they are ready to begin using the [error feedback](#) provided. There is no enrollment deadline at this time; however, FinCEN strongly encourages filers to enroll to receive this critical feedback.

Please direct questions about the SAR Batch Validation process to the BSA E-Filing Help Desk at 1-888-827-2778 (option 6) or via email at BSAEFilingHelp@notes.tcs.treas.gov. The Help Desk is available Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. ET. The BSA E-Filing homepage is located at <http://bsaefiling.fincen.treas.gov>.

[UPDATE: As of July 31, 2010, the toll free number for the BSA E-Filing Service Desk is 1-866-346-9478 (Option 1). The email address is now BSAEFilingHelp@fincen.gov.]