Inspection or Disclosure Limitations

Unauthorized inspection or disclosure, printing, or publishing of any Federal return or return information, or any information therefrom, may be punishable by fine or imprisonment and in the case of Federal officers or employees, dismissal from office or employment. See section 7213 and 7213A of the Internal Revenue Code and 18 U.S.C. section 1905. In addition, Code section 7431 provides for civil damages for unauthorized inspection or disclosure of such information.

Disposition Instructions

Copies of Tax Returns, Related Documents, Abstracts, and Transcripts:

1. Copies provided, together with any additional copies made by the requester, must be returned to the furnishing IRS office unless specific arrangements have been made for their retention in accordance with Code section 6103(p)(4).

2. Retained copies, other than those that are made part of an official hearing or trial record, must be destroyed after they have served their purpose by shredding, burning, or other process that will render the copies unintelligible.

Magnetic Tapes

Tapes should be degaussed after they have served their purpose.

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service
Notice 129 (Rev. 12-97)
Catalog Number 45546L

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