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Dale A. Morgan,
Departmental Reports, Management Officer
[FR Doc. 90-26812 Filed 11-13-90; 8:45 am]
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Sunshine Act Meetings

Federal Register

Vol. 55, No. 220

Wednesday, November 14, 1990

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains notices of meetings published under the "Government in the Sunshine Act" (Pub. L. 94-409) 5 U.S.C. 552b(e)(3).

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

TIME AND DATE: Thursday, November 15, 1990, 10:00 a.m.

LOCATION: Room 556, Westwood Towers, 5401 Westbard Avenue, Bethesda, Maryland.

STATUS: Open to the Public.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: Waterbed Petition, CP 89-4

The Commission will consider a petition submitted by the Consumer Federation of America, the New York State Attorney General, and the American Academy of Pediatrics requesting a mandatory labeling standard for adult-size waterbeds.

For a Recorded Message Containing the Latest Agenda Information, Call: 301-492-5709

CONTACT PERSON FOR ADDITIONAL

INFORMATION: Sheldon D. Butts, Office of the Secretary, 5401 Westbard Ave., Bethesda, Md. 20207 301-492-6800.

Dated: November 8, 1990.

Sheldon D. Butts,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 90-26955 Filed 11-9-90; 1:49 pm]

BILLING CODE 6355-01-M

INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION

Commission Voting Conference

TIME AND DATE: 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, November 20, 1990.

PLACE: Hearing Room A, Interstate Commerce Commission, 12th & Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20423.

STATUS: The purpose of the conference is for the Commission to discuss among themselves, and to vote on, the agenda items. Although the conference is open for the public observation, no public participation is permitted.

MATTERS TO BE DISCUSSED:

Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 352), *CSX Transportation, Inc.—Abandonment—in Ben Hill and Irwin Counties, GA*
Ex Parte No. MC-198, *Transportation Claims and Prevention Council, Inc.—Petition to Institute Rulemaking on Contract Carriers*
Ex Parte No. MC-197, *Limitation of Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages on Buses*

Finance Docket No. 30965 (Sub-No. 1) and (Sub-No. 2), *Delaware & Hudson Railway Company—Lease and Trackage Rights Exemption—Springfield Terminal Railway Company*

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE

INFORMATION: A. Dennis Watson, Office of External Affairs, Telephone: (202) 275-7252, TDD: (202) 275-1721.

Sidney L. Strickland, Jr.,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 90-26975 Filed 11-13-90; 3:57 pm]

BILLING CODE 7035-01-M

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

DATE: Weeks of November 12, 19, 26, and December 3, 1990.

PLACE: Commissioners' Conference Room, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland.

STATUS: Open and Closed.

MATTERS TO BE DISCUSSED

Week of November 12

Friday, November 16

11:30 a.m.

Affirmation/Discussion and Vote (Public Meeting) (if needed)

Week of November 19—Tentative

Wednesday, November 21

11:30 a.m.

Affirmation/Discussion and Vote (Public Meeting) (if needed)

Week of November 26—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the Week of November 26

Week of December 3—Tentative

Friday, December 7

10:00 a.m.

Briefing on Level of Design Detail for Part 52 (Public Meeting)

11:30 a.m.

Affirmation/Discussion and Vote (Public Meeting) (if needed)

Note: Affirmation sessions are initially scheduled and announced to the public on a time-reserved basis. Supplementary notice is provided in accordance with the Sunshine Act as specific items are identified and added to the meeting agenda. If there is no specific subject listed for affirmation, this means that no item has as yet been identified as requiring any Commission vote on this date.

To Verify the Status of Meetings Call (Recording)—(301) 492-0290

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE

INFORMATION: William Hill (301) 492-1661.

Dated: November 8, 1990.

William M. Hill, Jr.,
Office of the Secretary.

[FR Doc. 90-26961 Filed 11-9-90; 2:09 pm]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-M

POSTAL SERVICE

Board of Governors, Vote to Close Meeting

At its meeting on November 5, 1990, the Board of Governors of the United States Postal Service voted unanimously to close to public observation its meeting scheduled for December 3, 1990, in New Orleans, Louisiana. The members will discuss possible strategies in collective bargaining negotiations.

The meeting is expected to be attended by the following persons: Governors Alvarado, Daniels, del Junco, Griesemer, Hall, Mackie, Nevin, Pace and Setrakian; Postmaster General Frank, Deputy Postmaster General Coughlin, Secretary to the Board Harris, and General Counsel Hughes.

The Board determined that pursuant to section 552b(c) (3) and (9) of title 5, United States Code, and § 7.3 (b) and (c) of title 39, Code of Federal Regulations, this portion of the meeting is exempt from the open meeting requirement of the Government in the Sunshine Act (5 U.S.C. 552b(b)) because it is likely to disclose information prepared for use in connection with the negotiation of collective bargaining agreements under chapter 12 of title 39, United States Code, which is specifically exempted from disclosure by section 410(c)(3) of title 39, United States Code.

In accordance with section 552b(f)(1) of title 5, United States Code, and § 7.6(a) of title 39, Code of Federal Regulations, the General Counsel of the United States Postal Service has certified that in his opinion the meeting may properly be closed to public observation pursuant to section 552b(c) (3) and (9) of title 5, United States Code; § 410(c)(3) of title 39 United States Code; and § 7.3(b), (c) and (i) of title 39, Code of Federal Regulations.

Requests for information about the meeting should be addressed to the Secretary of the Board, David F. Harris, at (202) 268-4800.

David F. Harris,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 90-26974 Filed 11-9-90; 3:57 pm]

BILLING CODE 7710-12-M

Wednesday
November 14, 1990

0025

Final Rule

Part II

Department of the Treasury

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms

27 CFR Parts 19, 24, et al.

Change in Responsibility for Enforced
Collection of Certain Alcohol, Tobacco,
and Firearms Taxes; Final Rule

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY**Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms**

27 CFR Parts 19, 24, 25, 70, 170, 179, 194, 197, 250, 270, 275, 285, 290, and 296

[T.D. ATF-301]

Change in Responsibility for Enforced Collection of Certain Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms Taxes

AGENCY: Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF), Department of the Treasury.

ACTION: Treasury decision, final rule.

SUMMARY: This Treasury decision will transfer from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to ATF the functions associated with enforced collection of delinquencies of the special (occupational) tax, the domestic excise tax on distilled spirits, wine, malt beverages, tobacco products, cigarette papers and tubes, and the firearms tax imposed by subtitle E of the Internal Revenue Code. Furthermore, certain procedural and administrative rules are being adopted from IRS regulations in 26 CFR 301 to ATF regulations in 27 CFR part 70. In addition, changes in part 70 are being made to reflect amendments made to 26 U.S.C. 6651 and 6656 by the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act, Public Law 101-239.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 1990.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jackie White, Coordinator, Tax Compliance Branch, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Ariel Rios Federal Building, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20226, (202) 586-7602.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On July 1, 1972, ATF was established by Treasury Department Order No. 120-01 (formerly Order No. 221). This Order transferred from IRS to the newly-formed Bureau the functions, powers and duties relating to alcohol, tobacco, firearms, and explosives laws. The Order specifically stated that "all existing activities relating to the collection, processing, depositing, or accounting for taxes * * * shall continue to be performed by the Commissioner of Internal Revenue to the extent not now performed by the Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Division until the Director shall otherwise provide with the approval of the Secretary." ATF assumed responsibility for the collection of taxes imposed by subtitle E of the Internal Revenue Code

in July, 1987, by means of T.D. ATF-251, and adopted provisions in 27 CFR part 70 similar to the portions of 26 CFR part 301 which concerned deposit and assessment of taxes. This final rule will transfer the remaining collection functions with respect to taxes administered by ATF. These functions include the use of liens and levies in enforcement of the taxes under ATF's jurisdiction. ATF is adopting regulations similar to those used by IRS in support of enforced collection.

In addition to adopting regulations on enforced collection activities, this final rule also recodifies additional regulations from 26 CFR relating to the examination, assessment, and collection functions. ATF has now determined that these additional regulations are applicable to its tax collection activities.

Existing sections in 27 CFR part 70 will be renumbered to allow insertion of new sections. These sections are redesignated by means of a table in paragraph 13. In some cases, existing sections of 27 CFR part 70 have been expanded to include material related to enforced collections, and amended to show new titles of responsible officials where appropriate. Each section in title 27 of the Code of Federal Regulations which refers to a section in 26 CFR part 301 which has been adopted in 27 CFR part 70 or to a section of 27 CFR part 70 which has been redesignated has been changed to reflect the new reference. References to the old section numbers within 27 CFR part 70 have been updated to show the new section numbers.

Administrative Procedure Act

Because this final rule is a rule of agency management that merely transfers existing requirements relating to enforced collection of taxes to ATF from the Internal Revenue Service, it is found to be unnecessary to issue this Treasury decision for notice and public procedure or subject to a delayed effective date pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(a)(2), (b)(3) and (d)(3).

Regulatory Flexibility Act

The provisions of the Regulatory Flexibility Act relating to a final regulatory flexibility analysis (5 U.S.C. 604) are not applicable to this final rule because a general notice of proposed rulemaking is not required under 5 U.S.C. 553 or any other law.

Executive Order 12291

Because this rule relates to agency organization, management and procedure, the provisions of Executive Order 12291 do not apply.

Paperwork Reduction Act

This final rule does not affect any recordkeeping or reporting requirements.

Drafting Information

The principal author of this document is Marjorie Dundas of the Wine and Beer Branch, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

List of Subjects

27 CFR Part 19

Administrative practice and procedure, Alcohol and alcoholic beverages, Authority delegations, Claims, Chemicals, Customs duties and inspection, Electronic fund transfers, Excise taxes, Exports, Gasohol, Imports, Labeling, Liquors, Packaging and containers, Puerto Rico, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Research, Security measures, Spices and flavorings, Surety bonds, Transportation, Virgin Islands, Warehouses, Wine.

27 CFR Part 24

Administrative practice and procedure, Authority delegations, Claims, Electronic fund transfers, Excise taxes, Exports, Food additives, Fruit juices, Labeling, Liquors, Packaging and containers, Reporting requirements, Research, Scientific equipment, Spices and flavorings, Surety bonds, Taxpaid wine bottling house, Transportation, Vinegar, Warehouses, Wine.

27 CFR Part 25

Administrative practice and procedure, Authority delegations, Beer, Claims, Electronic fund transfers, Excise taxes, Labeling, Packaging and containers, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Research, Surety bonds, Transportation.

27 CFR Part 70

Administrative practice and procedure, Alcohol and alcoholic beverages, Authority delegations, Claims, Excise taxes, Firearms and ammunition, Government employees, Law enforcement, Law enforcement officers, Penalties, Seizures and forfeitures, Surety bonds, Tobacco.

27 CFR Part 170

Alcohol and alcoholic beverages, Authority delegations, Claims, Customs duties and inspection, Disaster assistance, Excise taxes, Labeling, Liquors, Penalties, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Surety bonds, Wine.

27 CFR Part 179

Administrative practice and procedure, Arms and munitions, Authority delegation, Customs duties and inspection, Exports, Imports, Military personnel, Penalties, Reporting requirements, Research, Seizures and forfeitures, Transportation.

27 CFR Part 194

Alcohol and alcoholic beverages, Authority delegations, Beer, Claims, Excise taxes, Exports, Labeling, Liquors, Packaging and containers, Penalties, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Wine.

27 CFR Part 197

Alcohol and alcoholic beverages, Authority delegations, Claims, Drugs, Excise taxes, Foods, Spices and flavorings, Surety bonds, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

27 CFR Part 250

Administrative practice and procedure, Alcohol and alcoholic beverages, Authority delegations, Beer, Customs duties and inspection, Electronic fund transfers, Excise taxes, Liquors, Packaging and containers, Puerto Rico, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Surety bonds, Transportation, Virgin Islands, Warehouses, Wine.

27 CFR Part 270

Administrative practice and procedure, Authority delegations, Cigars and cigarettes, Claims, Electronic fund transfers, Excise taxes, Labeling, Packaging and containers, Penalties, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Seizures and forfeitures, Surety bonds.

27 CFR Part 275

Administrative practice and procedure, Authority delegations, Cigarette papers and tubes, Cigars and cigarettes, Claims, Customs duties and inspection, Electronic fund transfers, Excise taxes, Imports, Labeling, Packaging and containers, Penalties, Puerto Rico, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Seizures and forfeitures, Surety bonds, Virgin Islands, Warehouses.

27 CFR Part 285

Administrative practice and procedure, Authority delegations, Cigarette papers and tubes, Cigars and cigarettes, Claims, Excise taxes, Packaging and containers, Penalties, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Seizures and forfeitures, Surety bonds.

27 CFR Part 290

Administrative practice and procedure, Aircraft, Authority delegations, Cigarette papers and tubes, Cigars and cigarettes, Claims, Customs duties and inspection, Excise taxes, Exports, Foreign trade zones, Labeling, Packaging and containers, Penalties, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Surety bonds, Vessels, Warehouses.

27 CFR Part 296

Cigarette papers and tubes, Cigars and cigarettes, Claims, Disaster assistance, Excise taxes, Penalties, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Seizures and forfeitures, Surety bonds.

Issuance

Title 27 CFR chapter I is amended as follows:

PART 19—[AMENDED]

Par. 1. The authority citation for part 19 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 19 U.S.C. 81c, 1311; 26 U.S.C. 5001, 5002, 5004–5006, 5008, 5041, 5061, 5062, 5066, 5101, 5111–5113, 5171–5173, 5175, 5176, 5178–5181, 5201–5204, 5206, 5207, 5211–5215, 5221–5223, 5231, 5232, 5235, 5236, 5241–5243, 5271, 5273, 5301, 5311–5313, 5362, 5370, 5373, 5501–5505, 5551–5555, 5559, 5561, 5562, 5601, 5612, 5682, 6001, 6065, 6109, 6302, 6311, 6676, 7510, 7805; 31 U.S.C. 9301, 9303, 9303, 9304, 9306.

§ 19.52 [Amended]

Par. 2. Section 19.52(a) is amended by removing the reference to “§ 70.105” in the last sentence and replacing it with “§ 70.113”.

§ 19.519 [Amended]

Par. 3. Section 19.519 is amended by removing the two references to “§ 70.66” in the second and third sentences and replacing them with “§ 70.61”.

§ 19.520 [Amended]

Par. 4. Section 19.520 is amended by removing the reference to “26 CFR 301.6676–1” in the last sentence and replacing it with “§ 70.113 of this chapter”.

PART 24—[AMENDED]

Par. 5. The authority citation for part 24 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 552(a); 26 U.S.C. 5001, 5008, 5041, 5042, 5044, 5061, 5062, 5081, 5111–5113, 5121, 5122, 5142, 5143, 5173, 5206, 5214, 5215, 5351, 5353, 5354, 5356, 5357, 5361, 5362, 5364–5373, 5381–5388, 5391, 5392, 5511, 5551, 5552, 5661, 5662, 5684, 6065, 6091, 6109, 6301, 6302, 6311, 6651, 6676, 7011, 7302, 7342, 7502,

7503, 7606, 7805, 7851; 31 U.S.C. 9301, 9303, 9304, 9306.

§ 24.45 [Amended]

Par. 6. Section 24.45 is amended by removing the reference to “§ 70.105” in the last sentence and replacing it with “§ 70.113”.

§ 24.276 [Amended]

Par. 7. Section 24.276 is amended by removing the reference to “§ 70.66” in the last sentence and replacing it with “§ 70.61”.

PART 25—[AMENDED]

Par. 8. The authority citation for part 25 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 19 U.S.C. 81c, 1309; 26 U.S.C. 5002, 5051–5054, 5056, 5061, 5091, 5111, 5113, 5142, 5143, 5146, 5222, 5401–5417, 5551, 5552, 5555, 5556, 5671, 5673, 5684, 6011, 6061, 6065, 6091, 6109, 6151, 6301, 6302, 6311, 6313, 6402, 6651, 6656, 6676, 6806, 7011, 7342, 7606, 7805; 31 U.S.C. 9301, 9303–9308.

§ 25.121 [Amended]

Par. 9. Section 25.121 is amended by removing the reference to “§ 70.105” in the last sentence and replacing it with “§ 70.113”.

§ 25.168 [Amended]

Par. 10. Section 25.168 is amended by removing the reference to “26 CFR 301.6676–1” in the second sentence and replacing it with “§ 70.113 of this chapter”.

§ 25.173 [Amended]

Par. 11. Section 25.173(b) is amended by removing the reference to “§ 70.66” and replacing it with “§ 70.61 of this chapter”.

PART 70—[AMENDED]

Par. 12. The authority citation for part 70 is revised to read as follows:

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 301 and 552; 26 U.S.C. 5146, 5203, 5207, 5275, 5367, 5415, 5504, 5555, 5684(a), 5741, 5761(b), 5802, 6020, 6021, 6064, 6102, 6155, 6159, 6201, 6203, 6204, 6301, 6303, 6311, 6313, 6314, 6321, 6323, 6325, 6326, 6331–6343, 6401–6404, 6407, 6423, 6501–6503, 6511, 6513, 6514, 6532, 6601, 6602, 6611, 6621, 6622, 6651, 6653, 6656, 6657, 6658, 6665, 6671, 6672, 6701, 6723, 6801, 6862, 6863, 6901, 7011, 7101, 7102, 7121, 7122, 7207, 7209, 7214, 7304, 7401, 7403, 7406, 7423, 7424, 7425, 7426, 7429, 7430, 7432, 7502, 7503, 7505, 7506, 7513, 7601–7606, 7608–7610, 7622, 7623, 7653, 7805.

Par. 13. Part 70 is amended by redesignating the sections in the left-hand column below as the sections in the right-hand column:

Old section No.	New section No.
70.25	70.30
70.26	70.31
70.27	70.32
70.28	70.33
70.35	70.40
70.36	70.41
70.41	70.461
70.42	70.462
70.51	70.65
70.61	70.42
70.62	70.82
70.63	70.71
70.64	70.72
70.65	70.73
70.66	70.61
70.67	70.62
70.68	70.64
70.70	70.121
70.71	70.122
70.72	70.123
70.73	70.124
70.74	70.125
70.75	70.126
70.78	70.131
70.79	70.221
70.80	70.222
70.81	70.223
70.82	70.261
70.83	70.262
70.84	70.263
70.85	70.264
70.86	70.265
70.87	70.266
70.88	70.251
70.89	70.252
70.100	70.101
70.101	70.102
70.102	70.103
70.103	70.111
70.104	70.112
70.105	70.113
70.106	70.114
70.107	70.311
70.108	70.75
70.109	70.321
70.111	70.411
70.112	70.412
70.113	70.413
70.114	70.414
70.115	70.415
70.116	70.416
70.117	70.417
70.118	70.418
70.119	70.419
70.120	70.420
70.131	70.431
70.132	70.432
70.133	70.433
70.134	70.434
70.135	70.435
70.136	70.436
70.137	70.437
70.138	70.438
70.141	70.441
70.142	70.442
70.143	70.443
70.144	70.444
70.145	70.445
70.146	70.446
70.147	70.447
70.148	70.448
70.149	70.449
70.150	70.450
70.151(a)	70.482
70.151(b)	70.483
70.151(c)	70.484
70.152	70.471

Par. 13a. The table of contents for part 70 is revised to read as follows:

PART 70—PROCEDURE AND ADMINISTRATION

Subpart A—Scope

Sec.

70.1 General.

Subpart B—Definitions

70.11 Meaning of terms.

Subpart C—Discovery of Liability and Enforcement of Laws

Examination and Inspection

70.21 Canvass of regions for taxable persons and objects.

70.22 Examination of books and witnesses.

70.23 Service of summonses.

70.24 Enforcement of summonses.

70.25 Special procedures for third-party summonses.

70.26 Third-party recordkeepers.

70.27 Right to intervene; right to institute a proceeding to quash.

70.28 Summonses excepted from 26 U.S.C. 7609 procedures.

70.29 Suspension of statutes of limitation.

70.30 Time and place of examination.

70.31 Entry of premises for examination of taxable objects.

70.32 Examination of records and objects.

70.33 Authority of enforcement officers of the Bureau.

70.34 Listing by regional directors (compliance) of taxable objects owned by nonresidents of ATF regions.

General Powers and Duties

70.40 Authority to administer oaths and to certify.

70.41 Rewards for information relating to violations of tax laws administered by the Bureau.

70.42 Returns prepared or executed by regional directors (compliance) or by other ATF officers.

Subpart D—Procedural and Administrative Rules Relating To Collection of Excise and Special (Occupational) Taxes

Collection—General Provisions

70.51 Collection authority.

70.52 Signature presumed authentic.

Receipt of Payment

70.61 Payment by check or money order.

70.62 Fractional parts of a cent.

70.63 Computations on returns or other documents.

70.64 Receipt for taxes.

70.65 Use of commercial banks.

Assessment

70.71 Assessment authority.

70.72 Method of assessment.

70.73 Supplemental assessments.

70.74 Request for prompt assessment.

70.75 Jeopardy assessment of alcohol, tobacco and firearms taxes.

70.76 Stay of collection of jeopardy assessment; bond to stay collection.

70.77 Collection of jeopardy assessment; stay of sale of seized property pending court decision.

Sec.

Notice and Demand

70.81 Notice and demand for tax.

70.82 Payment on notice and demand.

Interest

70.90 Interest on underpayments.

70.91 Interest on erroneous refund recoverable by suit.

70.92 Interest on overpayments.

70.93 Interest rate.

70.94 Interest compounded daily.

Additions to the Tax, Additional Amounts, and Assessable Penalties

Additions to the Tax and Additional Amounts

70.95 Scope.

70.96 Failure to file tax return or to pay tax.

70.97 Failure to pay tax.

70.98 Penalty for underpayment of deposits.

70.99 Penalty for overstated deposit claims.

70.100 Penalty for fraudulently claiming drawback.

70.101 Bad checks.

70.102 Coordination with title 11.

70.103 Failure to pay tax.

Assessable Penalties

70.111 Rules for application of assessable penalties.

70.112 Failure to collect and pay over tax, or attempt to evade or defeat tax.

70.113 Penalty for failure to supply taxpayer identification number.

70.114 Penalties for aiding and abetting understatement of tax liability.

Abatements, Credits and Refunds

Procedure in General

70.121 Amounts treated as overpayments.

70.122 Authority to make credits or refunds.

70.123 Claims for credit or refund.

70.124 Payments in excess of amounts shown on return.

70.125 Abatements.

70.126 Date of allowance of refund or credit.

70.127 Overpayment of installment.

Rule of Special Application

70.131 Conditions to allowance.

Lien for Taxes

70.141 Lien for taxes.

70.142 Scope of definitions.

70.143 Definitions.

70.144 Special rules.

70.145 Purchasers, holders of security interests, mechanic's lienors, and judgment lien creditors.

70.146 45-day period for making disbursements.

70.147 Priority of interest and expenses.

70.148 Place for filing notice; form.

70.149 Refiling of notice of tax lien.

70.150 Release of lien or discharge of property.

70.151 Administrative appeal of liens.

Seizure of Property for Collection of Taxes

70.161 Levy and distraint.

70.162 Levy and distraint on salary and wages.

70.163 Surrender of property subject to levy.

- 70.164 Surrender of property subject to levy in the case of life insurance and endowment contracts.
- 70.165 Production of books.
- 70.166 Levy allowed on principal residence in case of jeopardy or certain approval.
- 70.167 Authority to release levy and return property.
- 70.168 Redemption of property.
- 70.169 Expense of levy and sale.
- 70.170 Application of proceeds of levy.

Disposition of Property

- 70.181 Disposition of seized property.
- 70.182 Disposition of personal property acquired by the United States.
- 70.183 Administration and disposition of real estate acquired by the United States.
- 70.184 Disposition of perishable goods.
- 70.185 Certificate of sale; deed of real property.
- 70.186 Legal effect of certificate of sale of personal property and deed of real property.
- 70.187 Records of sale.
- 70.188 Expense of levy and sale.

Judicial Proceedings

Civil Action by the United States

- 70.191 Authorization.
- 70.192 Action to enforce lien or to subject property to payment of tax.
- 70.193 Disposition of judgments and moneys recovered.

Proceedings by Taxpayers and Third Parties

- 70.201 Exhaustion of administrative remedies.
- 70.202 Intervention.
- 70.203 Discharge of liens; scope and application; judicial proceedings.
- 70.204 Discharge of liens; nonjudicial sales.
- 70.205 Discharge of liens; special rules.
- 70.206 Discharge of liens; redemption by United States.
- 70.207 Civil actions by persons other than taxpayers.
- 70.208 Review of jeopardy and termination assessment or levy procedures; information to taxpayer.
- 70.209 Review of jeopardy assessment procedures; administrative review.
- 70.210 Review of jeopardy assessment procedures; judicial action.
- 70.211 Damages for failure to release lien.
- 70.212 Damages for unauthorized collection actions.
- 70.213 Repayments to officers or employees.

Limitations

Limitations on Assessment and Collection

- 70.221 Period of limitations upon assessment.
- 70.222 Time return deemed filed for purposes of determining limitations.
- 70.223 Exceptions to general period of limitations on assessment and collection.
- 70.224 Collection after assessment.
- 70.225 Suspension of running of period of limitation; assets of taxpayer in control or custody of court.
- 70.226 Suspension of running of period of limitation; taxpayer outside of United States.

- 70.227 Suspension of running of period of limitation; wrongful seizure of property of third party.

Limitations on Liens

- 70.231 Protection for certain interests even though notice filed.
- 70.232 Protection for commercial transactions financing agreements.
- 70.233 Protection for real property construction or improvement financing agreements.
- 70.234 Protection for obligatory disbursement agreements.

Limitations on Levies

- 70.241 Property exempt from levy.
- 70.242 Wages, salary and other income.
- 70.243 Exempt amount.
- 70.244 Payroll period.
- 70.245 Computation of exempt amount and payment of amounts not exempt from levy to the Chief, Tax Processing Center.

Periods of Limitation in Judicial Proceedings

- 70.251 Periods of limitation on suits by taxpayers.
- 70.252 Periods of limitation on suits by the United States.
- 70.253 Periods of limitation on suits by persons other than taxpayers.

Limitations on Credit or Refund

- 70.261 Period of limitation on filing claim.
- 70.262 Limitations on allowance of credits and refunds.
- 70.263 Special rules applicable in case of extension of time by agreement.
- 70.264 Time return deemed filed and tax considered paid.
- 70.265 Credits or refunds after period of limitation.
- 70.266 Credit against barred liability.

Transferees

- 70.271 Procedure in the case of transferred assets.

Bonds

- 70.281 Form of bond and security required.
- 70.282 Single bond in lieu of multiple bonds.

Miscellaneous Provisions

- 70.301 Reproduction of returns and other documents.
- 70.302 Fees and costs for witnesses.
- 70.303 Rules and regulations.
- 70.304 Place for filing documents other than returns.
- 70.305 Timely mailing treated as timely filing.
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- 70.321 Registration of persons paying a special tax.

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- 70.417 Rulings.
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Provisions Relating to Tobacco Products, and Cigarette Papers and Tubes

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- 70.441 Applicable laws.
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- 70.461 Shipments to the United States.
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- 70.481 Agreements for payment of liability in installments.
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- 70.485 Closing agreements.

70.486 Managerial review.

70.487 Taxpayer Assistance Orders.

Par. 14. Section 70.1(c) is revised to read as follows:

§ 70.1 General.

(c) The preparing or executing of returns; deposits; payment on notice and demand; assessment; abatements, credits and refunds; limitations on assessment; limitations on credit or refund; periods of limitation in judicial proceedings; interest; additions to the tax, additional amounts, and assessable penalties; enforced collection activities; authority for establishment, alteration, and distribution of stamps, marks, or labels; jeopardy assessment of alcohol, tobacco and firearms taxes, and registration of persons paying a special tax.

Par. 15. Section 70.11 is amended by adding definitions for "Chief, Tax Processing Center", "Enforced collection", "Levy", "Lien", "Person", "Provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau", and "Seizure" and by revising the definition for "Regional director (compliance)" to read as follows:

§ 70.11 Meaning of terms.

Chief, Tax Processing Center. The ATF officer principally responsible for administering regulations in this part concerning special (occupational) tax, and also responsible for filing tax liens and issuing third-party levies, and for disbursing money due to taxpayers under the provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau.

Enforced collection. Collection of taxes when a taxpayer neglects or refuses to pay voluntarily. Includes such administrative measures as liens and levies.

Levy. The taking of property by seizure and sale or by collection of money due to the debtor, such as wages.

Lien. A charge upon real or personal property for the satisfaction of some debt or performance of an obligation.

Person. An individual, a trust, estate, partnership, association or other unincorporated organization, fiduciary, company, or corporation, or the District of Columbia, a State, or a political subdivision thereof (including a city, county, or other municipality).

Provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau. 26 U.S.C.

subtitle E (and subtitle F as it relates to subtitle E).

Regional director (compliance). The ATF regional official principally responsible for administering regulations in this part concerning commodity taxes imposed by the provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau, and for collecting tax by levy (other than third-party levy).

Seizure. The act of taking possession of property to satisfy a tax liability or by virtue of an execution.

Par. 16. Section 70.22(b) is amended by adding a reference to § 70.302 at the end of the paragraph, to read as follows:

§ 70.22 Examination of books and witnesses.

(b) *** See § 70.302 of this part for rules concerning payments to certain persons who are summoned to give information to the Bureau under 26 U.S.C. 7602 and this section.

Par. 17. The first sentence of § 70.23(b)(2) is revised to read as follows:

§ 70.23 Service of summonses.

(b) ***
(2) Chiefs, field operations, area supervisors, inspectors, regional audit managers and auditors, Compliance Operations; special agents, Internal Affairs; and all special agents, Law Enforcement. ***

Par. 18. Sections 70.25 through 70.29 are added to read as follows:

§ 70.25 Special procedures for third-party summonses.

(a) When the Bureau summons the records of persons defined by 26 U.S.C. 7609(a)(3) as "third-party recordkeepers", the person about whom information is being gathered must be notified in advance, except when:

(1) The summons is served on the person about whom information is being gathered, or any officer or employee of such person, or

(2) The summons is served to determine whether or not records of the business transactions or affairs of an identified person have been made or kept, or

(3) The summons does not identify the person with respect to whose liability the summons is issued (a "John Doe" summons issued under the provisions of 26 U.S.C. 7609(f)), or

(4) The Director petitions, and the court determines, on the basis of the facts and circumstances alleged, that

there is reasonable cause to believe the giving of notice may lead to attempts to conceal, destroy, or alter records relevant to the examination, to prevent the communication of information from other persons through intimidation, bribery, or collusion, or to flee to avoid prosecution, testifying or production of records.

(b) Within 3 days of the day on which the summons was served, the notice required by paragraph (a) of this section shall be served upon the person entitled to notice, or mailed by certified or registered mail to the last known address of such person, or, in the absence of a last known address, left with the person summoned. No examination of any records required to be produced under a summons as to which notice is required under paragraph (a) of this section may be made:

(1) Before the close of the 23rd day after the day notice with respect to the summons is given in the manner provided in this paragraph, or

(2) Where a proceeding under paragraph (c) of this section was begun within the 20-day period referred to in that paragraph and the requirements of paragraph (c) of this section have been met, except in accordance with an order of the court having jurisdiction of such proceeding or with the consent of the person beginning the proceeding to quash.

(c) If the person about whom information is being gathered has been given notice, that person has the right to institute, until and including the 20th day following the day such notice was served on or mailed, by certified or registered mail, to such notified person, a proceeding to quash the summons. During the time the validity of the summons is being litigated, the statutes of limitation are suspended under 26 U.S.C. 7609(e). Title 26 U.S.C. 7609 does not restrict the authority under 26 U.S.C. 7602 (or under any other provision of law) to examine records and witnesses without serving a summons and without giving notice of an examination.

(26 U.S.C. 7609)

§ 70.26 Third-party recordkeepers.

(a) **Definitions.**—(1) **Accountant.** A person is an "accountant" under 26 U.S.C. 7609(a)(3)(F) for purposes of determining whether that person is a third-party recordkeeper if the person is registered, licensed, or certified under State law as an accountant.

(2) **Attorney.** A person is an "attorney" under 26 U.S.C. 7609(a)(3)(E) for purposes of determining whether that person is a third-party recordkeeper

if the person is admitted to the bar of a State or the District of Columbia.

(3) *Credit cards*—(i) *Person extending credit through credit cards*. The term "person extending credit through credit cards or similar devices" under 26 U.S.C. 7609(a)(3)(C) generally includes any person who issues a credit card. It does not include a seller of goods or services that honors credit cards issued by other parties but does not extend credit on the basis of credit cards or similar devices issued by itself.

(iii) *Similar devices to credit cards*. An object is a "similar device" to a credit card under 26 U.S.C. 7609(a)(3)(C) only if it is physical in nature, such as a coupon book, a charge plate, or a letter of credit. Thus, a person who extends credit by requiring credit customers to sign sales slips without requiring use of physical objects issued by that person is not a third-party recordkeeper under 26 U.S.C. 7609(a)(3)(C).

(b) *When third-party recordkeeper status arises*. A person is a "third-party recordkeeper" with respect to a given set of records only if the person made or kept the records in the person's capacity as a third-party recordkeeper. Thus, for instance, an accountant is not a third-party recordkeeper (by reason of being an accountant) with respect to the accountant's records of a sale of property by the accountant to another person. Similarly, a credit card issuer is not a third-party recordkeeper (by reason of being a person extending credit through the use of credit cards or similar devices) with respect to:

(1) Records relating to noncredit card transactions, such as a cash sale by the issuer to a holder of the issuer's credit card; or

(2) Records relating to transactions involving the use of another issuer's credit card.

(c) *Duty of third-party recordkeeper*—

(1) *In General*. Upon receipt of a summons, the third-party recordkeeper ("recordkeeper") must begin to assemble the summoned records. The recordkeeper must be prepared to produce the summoned records on the date which the summons states the records are to be examined regardless of the institution or anticipated institution of a proceeding to quash or the recordkeeper's intervention (as allowed under 26 U.S.C. 7609(a)(3)(C)) into a proceeding to quash.

(2) *Disclosing recordkeepers not liable*—(i) *In general*. A recordkeeper, or an agent or employee thereof, who makes a disclosure of records as required by this section, in good faith reliance on the "Certificate of the Secretary" (as defined in paragraph (c)(2)(ii) of this section) or an order of a

court requiring production of records, will not be liable for such disclosure to any customer, or to any party with respect to whose tax liability the summons was issued, or to any other person.

(ii) *Certificate of the Secretary*. The Director may issue to the recordkeeper a "Certificate of the Secretary" stating both:

(A) That the 20-day period, within which a notified person may institute a proceeding to quash the summons has expired; and

(B) That no proceeding has been properly instituted within that period.

The Director may also issue a "Certificate of the Secretary" to the recordkeeper if the taxpayer, with respect to whose tax liability the summons was issued, expressly consents to the examination of the records summoned.

(3) *Reimbursement of costs*. Recordkeepers may be entitled to reimbursement of their costs of assembling and preparing to produce summoned records, to the extent allowed by 26 U.S.C. 7610, even if the summons ultimately is not enforced.

(26 U.S.C. 7609)

§ 70.27 Right to intervene; right to institute a proceeding to quash.

(a) *Notified person*. Under 26 U.S.C. 7609(a), the Bureau must give a notice of summons to any person, other than the person summoned, who is identified in the description of the books and records contained in the summons in order that such person may contest the right of the Bureau to examine the summoned records by instituting a proceeding to quash the summons. Thus, if the Bureau issues a summons to a bank requesting checking account records of more than one person all of whom are identified in the description of the records contained in the summons, then all such persons are notified persons entitled to notice under 26 U.S.C. 7609(a). Therefore, if the Bureau requests the records of a joint bank account of A and B, both of whom are named in the summons, then both A and B are notified persons entitled to notice under 26 U.S.C. 7609(a).

(b) *Right to institute a proceeding to quash*—(1) *In general*. Title 26 U.S.C. 7609(b) grants a notified person the right to institute a proceeding to quash the summons in the United States district court for the district within which the person summoned resides or is found. Jurisdiction of the court is based on 26 U.S.C. 7609(b). The act of filing a petition in district court does not in and of itself institute a proceeding to quash under 26 U.S.C. 7609(b)(2). Rather, the

filing of the petition must be coupled with notice as required by 26 U.S.C. 7609(b)(2)(B).

(2) *Elements of institution of a proceeding to quash*. In order to institute a proceeding to quash a summons, the notified person (or the notified person's agent, nominee, or other person acting under the direction or control of the notified person) must, not later than the 20th day following the day the notice of the summons was served on or mailed to such notified person:

(i) File a petition to quash in the name of the notified person in a district court having jurisdiction.

(ii) Notify the Bureau by sending a copy of that petition by registered or certified mail to the Bureau employee and office designated to receive the copy in the notice of summons that was given to the notified person, and

(iii) Notify the recordkeeper by sending to that recordkeeper by registered or certified mail a copy of the petition.

Failure to give timely notice to either the summoned party or the Bureau in the manner described in this paragraph means that the notified person has failed to institute a proceeding to quash and the district court has no jurisdiction to hear the proceeding. Thus, for example, if the notified person mails a copy of the petition to the summoned person but not to the designated Bureau employee and office, the notified person has failed to institute a proceeding to quash. Similarly, if the notified person mails a copy of such petition to the summoned person, but instead of sending a copy of the petition by registered or certified mail to the designated employee and office, the notified person gives the designated employee and office the petition by some other means, the notified person has failed to institute a proceeding to quash.

(3) *Failure to institute a proceeding to quash*. If the notified person fails to institute a proceeding to quash within 20 days following the day the notice was served on or mailed to such notified person, the Bureau may examine the summoned records following the 23rd day after notice of the summons was served on or mailed to the notified person (see 26 U.S.C. 7609(d)(1)).

(c) *Presumption no notice has been mailed*. Title 26 U.S.C. 7609(b)(2)(B) permits a notified person to institute a proceeding to quash by filing a petition in district court and notifying both the Bureau and the summoned person. Unless the notified person has notified both the Bureau and the summoned person in the appropriate manner, the

notified person has failed to institute a proceeding to quash. If the copy of the petition has not been delivered to the summoned person or the person and office designated to receive the notice on behalf of the Bureau within 3 days from the close of the 20-day period allowed to institute a proceeding to quash, it is presumed that the notification has not been timely mailed. (26 U.S.C. 7609)

§ 70.28 Summonses excepted from 26 U.S.C. 7609 procedures.

(a) *In aid of the collection of certain liabilities*—(1) *In general.* Title 26 U.S.C. 7609(c)(2)(B) contains an exception to the general notice requirement when a summons is issued to a third-party recordkeeper. That section excepts summonses issued in aid of the collection of the liability of any person against whom an assessment has been made or judgment rendered or the liability at law or in equity of any transferee of such a person.

(2) *Examples.* Examples of summonses referred to in paragraph (a)(1) of this section are:

(i) Summonses issued to determine the amount held in a bank in the name of a person against whom an assessment has been made or judgment rendered;

(ii) Summonses issued to enforce transferee liability for a tax which has been assessed.

(b) *Numbered account (or similar arrangement).* Under 26 U.S.C. 7609(c)(2), a summons issued solely to determine the identity of a person having a numbered account (or similar arrangement) with a bank or other institution is excepted from the requirements of 26 U.S.C. 7609. A "numbered account (or similar arrangement)" under 26 U.S.C. 7609(c)(2) is an account through which a person may authorize transactions solely through the use of a number, symbol, code name, or other device not involving the disclosure of the person's identity. A "person having a numbered account (or similar arrangement)" includes the person who opened the account and any person authorized to use the account or to receive records or statements concerning it.

(26 U.S.C. 7609)

§ 70.29 Suspension of statutes of limitations.

(a) *Suspension while a proceeding under 26 U.S.C. 7609(b) is pending.* Under 26 U.S.C. 7609(e)(1), the statutes of limitations of 26 U.S.C. 6501 and 6531 are suspended if a notified person with respect to whose liability a summons is issued, or the notified person's agent, nominee, or other person acting under

the direction or control of the notified person, takes any action as provided in 26 U.S.C. 7609(b).

(1) *Agent, nominee, etc.* A person is a notified person's agent, nominee, or other person acting under the direction or control of a notified person for purposes of 26 U.S.C. 7609(e) if the person with respect to whose liability the summons is issued has the ability in fact or at law to cause the agent, etc., to take the actions permitted under 26 U.S.C. 7609(b). Thus, in the case of a corporation, direction or control by the notified person may exist even though less than 50 percent of the voting power of the corporation is held by the notified person.

(2) *Period during which a proceeding, etc., is pending.* Under 26 U.S.C. 7609(e), the statute of limitations shall be suspended for the period during which a proceeding and any appeals regarding the enforcement of such summons is pending. This period begins on the date the petition to quash the summons is filed in district court. The period continues until all appeals are disposed of, or until the expiration of the period in which an appeal may be taken or a request for a rehearing may be made. Full compliance, partial compliance, and noncompliance have no effect on the suspension provisions. The periods of limitations which are suspended under 26 U.S.C. 7609(e) are those which apply to the taxable periods to which the summons relates.

(3) *Taking of action as provided in 26 U.S.C. 7609(b).* Title 26 U.S.C. 7609(b) allows intervention by a notified person as a matter of right upon compliance with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The phrase "takes any action as provided in subsection (b)", found in 26 U.S.C. 7609(e), includes any intervention whether or not 26 U.S.C. 7609(b) is specifically mentioned in the order of the court allowing intervention. The phrase also includes the fulfilling of only part of the requirements of 26 U.S.C. 7609(b)(2), relating to the right of a person to institute a proceeding to quash. Thus, for instance, if a notified person notifies a person who has been summoned by sending a copy of the petition by registered or certified mail but does not mail a copy of that notice to the appropriate person and office under 26 U.S.C. 7609(b)(2)(B), the notified person has taken an action under 26 U.S.C. 7609(e).

(b) *Suspension after 6 months of service of summons.* In the absence of the resolution of the third-party recordkeeper's response to the summons described in 26 U.S.C. 7609(c) or the summoned party's response to a summons described in 26 U.S.C. 7609(f)

the running of any period of limitations under 26 U.S.C. 6501 or under 26 U.S.C. 6531 with respect to any person with respect to whose liability the summons is issued (other than a person taking action as provided in 26 U.S.C. 7609(b)) shall be suspended for the period:

(1) Beginning on the date which is 6 months after the service of such summons, and

(2) Ending with the final resolution of such response.

(26 U.S.C. 7609)

Par. 19. Section 70.34 is added to read as follows:

§ 70.34 Listing by regional directors (compliance) of taxable objects owned by nonresidents of ATF regions.

Whenever there are in any ATF region any articles subject to tax, which are not owned or possessed by, or under the care or control of, any person within such region, and of which no list has been transmitted to the regional director (compliance), as required by law or by regulations prescribed pursuant to law, the regional director (compliance), or other authorized ATF officer or employee, shall enter the premises where such articles are situated, shall make such inspection of the articles as may be necessary, and shall make lists of the same according to the forms prescribed. Such list, being subscribed by the regional director (compliance) or other authorized ATF officer or employee, shall be sufficient lists of such articles for all purposes.

(26 U.S.C. 6021)

Par. 20. Section 70.42 is amended by revising paragraphs (a)(1), (b), and (c)(1) to read as follows:

§ 70.42 Returns prepared or executed by regional directors (compliance), the Chief, Tax Processing Center, or by other ATF officers.

(a) *Preparation of returns*—(1) *General.* If any person required by provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau or by the regulations prescribed thereunder to make a return fails to make such return, it may be prepared by the regional director (compliance), the Chief, Tax Processing Center, or other authorized ATF officer provided the person required to make the return consents to disclose all information necessary for the preparation of such return. The return upon being signed by the person required to make it shall be received by the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center, as the return of such person.

* * * * *

(b) *Execution of returns*—(1) *General*. If any person required by provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau or by the regulations prescribed thereunder to make a return fails to make a return at the time prescribed therefor, or makes, willfully or otherwise, a false or fraudulent return, the regional director (compliance), the Chief, Tax Processing Center, or other authorized ATF officer shall make such return from the officer's own knowledge and from such information as the officer can obtain through testimony or otherwise.

(2) *Status of returns*. Any return made in accordance with paragraph (b)(1) of this section and subscribed by the regional director (compliance), the Chief, Tax Processing Center, or other authorized ATF officer shall be prima facie good and sufficient for all legal purposes.

(c) *Cross references*. (1) For provisions that the return executed by a regional director (compliance), the Chief, Tax Processing Center, or other authorized ATF officer will not start the running of the period of limitations on assessment and collection, see 26 U.S.C. 6501(b)(3) and § 70.222(b) of this part.

Par. 21. The undesignated centerheading which reads "Possessions" is removed. Subpart D is removed and subpart E is redesignated as subpart D. The heading for newly redesignated subpart D and the undesignated centerheading which immediately follows are revised to read as follows:

Subpart D—Collection of Excise and Special (Occupational) Tax

Collection—General Provisions

Par. 22. Sections 70.51 and 70.52 are added under the undesignated centerheading "Collection—General Provisions", and an undesignated centerheading immediately following them is added to read as follows:

§ 70.51 Collection authority.

The taxes imposed by provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau shall be collected by regional directors (compliance), the Chief, Tax Processing Center, and other ATF officials designated by the Director of the Bureau.

(26 U.S.C. 6301)

§ 70.52 Signature presumed authentic.

An individual's name signed to a return, statement, or other document shall be prima facie evidence for all purposes that the return, statement or

other document was actually signed by that individual.

(26 U.S.C. 6064)

Receipt of Payment

Par. 23. Section 70.63 is added to read as follows:

§ 70.63 Computations on returns or other documents.

(a) *Amounts shown on forms*. To the extent permitted by any ATF form or instructions prescribed for use with respect to any ATF return, declaration, statement, or other document, or supporting schedules, any amount required to be reported in such form may be entered at the nearest whole dollar amount. The extent to which, and the conditions under which, such whole dollar amounts may be entered on any form will be set forth in the instructions issued with respect to such form. For the purpose of the computation to the nearest dollar, a fractional part of a dollar shall be disregarded unless it amounts to one-half dollar or more, in which case the amount (determined without regard to the fractional part of a dollar) shall be increased by \$1. The following illustrates the application of this paragraph:

Exact amount	To be reported as
\$18.49.....	\$18
\$18.50.....	19
\$18.51.....	19

(b) *Election not to use whole dollar amounts*—(1) *Method of election*. Where any ATF form, or the instructions issued with respect to such form, provide that whole dollar amounts shall be reported, any person making a return, declaration, statement, or other document on such form may elect not to use whole dollar amounts by reporting thereon all amounts in full, including cents.

(2) *Time of election*. The election not to use whole dollar amounts must be made at the time of filing the return, declaration, statement, or other document. Such election may not be revoked after the time prescribed for filing such return, declaration, statement, or other document, including extensions of time granted for such filing. Such election may be made on any return, declaration, statement, or other document which is filed after the time prescribed for filing (including extensions of time), and such an election is irrevocable.

(3) *Effect of election*. The taxpayer's election shall be binding only on the return, declaration, statement, or other document filed for a taxable year or

period, and a new election may be made on the return, declaration, statement, or other document filed for a subsequent taxable year or period.

(4) *Fractional part of a cent*. For treatment of the fractional part of a cent in the payment of taxes, see 26 U.S.C. 6313 and § 70.62 of this part.

(c) *Inapplicability to computation of amount*. The provisions of paragraph (a) of this section apply only to amounts required to be reported on a return, declaration, statement, or other document. They do not apply to items which must be taken into account in making the computations necessary to determine such amounts. For example, each item of liability must be taken into account at its exact amount, including cents, in computing the amount of total liability required to be reported on a tax return or supporting schedule. It is the amount of total liability, so computed, which is to be reported at the nearest whole dollar on the return or supporting schedule.

(26 U.S.C. 6102)

Par. 24. Section 70.64 is revised to read as follows:

§ 70.64 Receipt for taxes.

The regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center shall, upon request, issue a receipt for each tax payment made (other than a payment for stamps sold or delivered). In addition, the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center or other authorized ATF officer or employee shall issue a receipt for each payment of 1 dollar or more made in cash, whether or not requested. In the case of payments made by check, the canceled check is usually a sufficient receipt. No receipt shall be issued in lieu of a stamp representing a tax, whether the payment is in cash or otherwise.

(26 U.S.C. 6314)

Par. 25. Section 70.71 is revised to read as follows:

Assessment

§ 70.71 Assessment authority.

The regional director (compliance) and the Chief, Tax Processing Center are authorized and required to make all inquiries necessary to the determination and assessment of all taxes imposed under the provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau. The regional director (compliance) and the Chief, Tax Processing Center are further authorized and required to make the determinations and the assessments of such taxes. The

term "taxes" includes interest, additional amounts, additions to the taxes, and assessable penalties. The authority of the regional director (compliance) and the Chief, Tax Processing Center to make assessment includes the following:

(a) *Taxes shown on return.* The regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center shall assess all taxes determined by the taxpayer or by the regional director (compliance) or by the Chief, Tax Processing Center and disclosed on a return or list.

(b) *Unpaid taxes payable by stamp.* (1) If without use of the proper stamp:

(i) Any article upon which a tax is required to be paid by means of a stamp is sold or removed for sale or use by the manufacturer thereof, or

(ii) Any transaction or act upon which a tax is required to be paid by means of a stamp occurs, the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center, upon such information as can be obtained, must estimate the amount of the tax which has not been paid and the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center determines to be liable for the tax. However, the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center may not assess any tax which is payable by stamp unless the taxpayer fails to pay such tax at the time and in the manner provided by law or regulations.

(2) If a taxpayer gives a check or money order as a payment for stamps but the check or money order is not paid upon presentment, then the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center shall assess the amount of the check or money order against the taxpayer as if it were a tax due at the time the check or money order was received by the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center.

(26 U.S.C. 6201)

Par. 26. Section 70.72 is amended by revising the first sentence to read as follows:

§ 70.72 Method of assessment.

The regional director (compliance) and the Chief, Tax Processing Center shall appoint one or more assessment officers. * * *

Par. 27. Section 70.73 is revised to read as follows:

§ 70.73 Supplemental assessments.

If any assessment is incomplete or incorrect in any material respect, the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center, subject to the applicable period of limitation, may make a supplemental assessment for the purpose of correcting or completing the original assessment.

(26 U.S.C. 6204)

Par. 28. Section 70.74 is added to read as follows:

§ 70.74 Request for prompt assessment.

(a) Except as otherwise provided in § 70.223 of this part, any tax for which a return is required and for which:

(1) A decedent or an estate of a decedent may be liable, or

(2) A corporation which is contemplating dissolution, is in the process of dissolution, or has been dissolved, may be liable, shall be assessed, or a proceeding in court without assessment for the collection of such tax shall be begun, within 18 months after the receipt of a written request for prompt assessment thereof.

(b) The executor, administrator, or other fiduciary representing the estate of the decedent, or the corporation, or the fiduciary representing the dissolved corporation, as the case may be, shall, after the return in question has been filed, file the request for prompt assessment in writing with the regional director (compliance) for the ATF region in which such return was filed or with the Chief, Tax Processing Center in the case of special (occupational) tax. The request, in order to be effective, must be transmitted separately from any other document, must set forth the classes of tax and the taxable periods for which the prompt assessment is requested, and must clearly indicate that it is a request for prompt assessment under the provisions of 26 U.S.C. 6501(d). The effect of such a request is to limit the time in which an assessment of tax may be made, or a proceeding in court without assessment for collection of tax may be begun, to a period of 18 months from the date the request is filed with the proper regional director (compliance) or with the Chief, Tax Processing Center. The request does not extend the time within which an assessment may be made, or a proceeding in court without assessment shall be begun, after the expiration of 3 years from the date the return was filed. This special period of limitations will not apply to any return filed after a request for prompt assessment has been made unless an additional request is filed in the manner provided herein.

(c) In the case of a corporation the 18-month period shall not apply unless:

(1) The written request notifies the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center that the corporation contemplates dissolution at or before the expiration of such 18-month period; the dissolution is in good faith begun before the expiration of such 18-month period; and the dissolution so begun is completed either before or after the expiration of such 18-month period; or

(2) The written request notifies the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center that a dissolution has in good faith begun, and the dissolution is completed either before or after the expiration of such 18-month period; or

(3) A dissolution has been completed at the time the written request is made.

(26 U.S.C. 6501(d))

Par. 29. Section 70.75 is revised to read as follows:

§ 70.75 Jeopardy assessment of alcohol, tobacco, and firearms taxes.

(a) If the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center believes that the collection of any tax imposed under provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau will be jeopardized by delay, the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center shall, whether or not the time otherwise prescribed by law for filing the return or paying such tax has expired, immediately assess such tax, together with all interest, additional amounts and additions to the tax provided by law. A regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center will make an assessment under this section if collection is determined to be in jeopardy because at least one of the following conditions exists.

(1) The taxpayer is or appears to be designing quickly to depart from the United States or to conceal himself or herself.

(2) The taxpayer is or appears to be designing quickly to place the taxpayer's property beyond the reach of the Government either by removing it from the United States, by concealing it, or by dissipating it, or by transferring it to other persons.

(3) The taxpayer's financial solvency is or appears to be threatened.

(b) The tax, interest, additional amounts, and additions to the tax will, upon assessment, become immediately due and payable, and the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax

processing Center shall, without delay, issue a notice and demand for payment thereof in full.

(c) See 26 U.S.C. 7429 with respect to requesting the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center to review the making of the jeopardy assessment.

(d) For provisions relating to stay of collection of jeopardy assessments, see § 70.76 of this part.

(26 U.S.C. 6862 and 6863)

Par. 30. Sections 70.76 and 70.77 are added to read as follows:

§ 70.76 Stay of collection of jeopardy assessment; bond to stay collection.

(a) The collection of taxes assessed under 26 U.S.C. 6862 (referred to as a "jeopardy assessment" for purposes of this section) of any tax may be stayed by filing with the regional director (compliance) or Chief, Tax Processing Center a bond on the form to be furnished by ATF upon request.

(b) The bond may be filed:

(1) At any time before the time collection by levy is authorized under 26 U.S.C. 6331(a), or

(2) After collection by levy is authorized and before levy is made on any property or rights to property, or

(3) In the discretion of the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center, after any such levy has been made and before the expiration of the period of limitations on collection.

(c) The bond must be in an amount equal to the portion (including interest thereon to the date of payment as calculated by the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center) of the jeopardy assessment collection of which is sought to be stayed. See 26 U.S.C. 7101 and § 70.281, relating to the form of bond and the sureties thereon. The bond shall be conditioned upon the payment of the amount (together with interest thereon), for which the collection is stayed, at the time at which, but for the making of the jeopardy assessment, such amount would be due.

(d) Upon the filing of a bond in accordance with this section, the collection of so much of the assessment as is covered by the bond will be stayed. The taxpayer may at any time waive the stay of collection of the whole or of any part of the amount covered by the bond. If as a result of such waiver any part of the amount covered by the bond is paid, or if any portion of the jeopardy assessment is abated by the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center, then the bond shall

(at the request of the taxpayer) be proportionately reduced.

(26 U.S.C. 6863)

§ 70.77 Collection of jeopardy assessment; stay of sale of seized property pending court decision.

(a) *General rule.* In the case of an assessment under 26 U.S.C. 6862, and property seized for the collection of such assessment shall not (except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section) be sold until the latest of the following occurs:

(1) The period provided in 26 U.S.C. 7429(a)(2) to request the regional director (compliance) or Chief, Tax Processing Center to review the action taken expires.

(2) The period provided in 26 U.S.C. 7429(b)(1) to file an action in U.S. District Court expires if a request for redetermination is made to the regional director (compliance) or Chief, Tax Processing Center.

(3) The U.S. District Court judgment in such action becomes final, if a civil action is begun in accordance with 26 U.S.C. 7429(b).

(b) *Exceptions.* Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (a) of this section, any property seized may be sold:

(1) If the taxpayer files with the regional director (compliance) a written consent to the sale, or

(2) If the regional director (compliance) determines that the expenses of conservation and maintenance of the property will greatly reduce the net proceeds from the sale of such property, or

(3) If the property is of a type to which 26 U.S.C. 6336 (relating to sale of perishable goods) is applicable.

(26 U.S.C. 6863)

Par. 31. Section 70.81 and an undesignated centerheading preceding it are added to read as follows:

Notice and Demand

§ 70.81 Notice and demand for tax.

(a) *General rule.* Where it is not otherwise provided by provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau, the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center shall, after the making of an assessment of a tax pursuant to § 70.71 of this part, give notice to each person liable for the unpaid tax, stating the basis for the tax due, the amount of tax, interest, additional amounts, additions to the tax and assessable penalties, and demanding payment thereof. Such notice shall be given as soon as possible and within 60 days. However, the failure to give notice

within 60 days does not invalidate the notice. Such notice shall be left at the dwelling or usual place of business of such person, or shall be sent by mail to such person's last known address.

(b) *Assessment prior to last date for payment.* If any tax is assessed prior to the last date prescribed for payment of such tax, demand that such tax be paid will not be made before such last date, except where it is believed collection would be jeopardized by delay.

(26 U.S.C. 6303 and 7521)

Par. 32. Section 70.82 is revised to read as follows:

§ 70.82 Payment on notice and demand.

Upon receipt of notice and demand from the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center, there shall be paid at the place and time stated in such notice the amount of any tax (including any interest, additional amounts, additions to the tax, and assessable penalties) stated in such notice and demand.

(26 U.S.C. 6155)

Par. 33. The undesignated centerheadings which read "Abatements, Credits, and Refunds", "Procedure in General", "Rule of Special Application", "Limitations", "Limitations on Assessment", "Limitations on Credit or Refund", and "Periods of Limitation in Judicial Proceedings" are removed.

Par. 34. Section 70.90(a) and the third sentence of 70.90(e)(1) are revised to read as follows:

Interest

§ 70.90 Interest on underpayments.

(a) *General rule.* Interest at the underpayment rate referred to in § 70.93 of this part shall be paid on any unpaid amount of tax from the last date prescribed for payment of the tax (determined without regard to any extension of time for payment) to the date on which payment is received.

(e) * * * Thus, except as provided in paragraph (d) of this section, interest at the underpayment rate referred to in § 70.93 of this part is payable on any unpaid portion of the tax for the period during which such portion remains unpaid by reason of an extension of time for the payment thereof.

Par. 35. Section 70.91 is revised to read as follows:

§ 70.91 Interest on erroneous refund recoverable by suit.

Any portion of an internal revenue tax (or any interest, assessable penalty, additional amount, or addition to tax) which has been erroneously refunded, and which is recoverable by a civil action pursuant to 26 U.S.C. 7405, shall bear interest at the underpayment rate referred to in § 70.93 of this part.

(26 U.S.C. 6602)

Par. 36. The first sentences of sections 70.92(a), 70.92(c) and 70.92(d)(2)(i) are revised to read as follows:

§ 70.92 Interest on overpayments.

(a) *General rule.* Except as otherwise provided, interest shall be allowed on any overpayment of any tax at the overpayment rate referred to in § 70.93 of this part from the date of overpayment of the tax.

(c) *Period for which interest is allowable in case of refunds.* If an overpayment of tax is refunded, interest shall be allowed from the date of the overpayment to a date determined by the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center which shall not be more than 30 days prior to the date of the refund check. * * *

(d) * * *

(2) *Determination of due date.*—(i) *General.* The term "due date", as used in this section, means the last day fixed by law or regulations for the payment of the tax (determined without regard to any extension of time), and not the date on which the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center makes demand for the payment of the tax. * * *

Par. 37. Section 70.93 is revised to read as follows:

§ 70.93 Interest rate.

(a) *In general.* The interest rate established under 26 U.S.C. 6621(a)(2) shall be:

- (1) On amounts outstanding before July 1, 1975, 6 percent per annum.
- (2) On amounts outstanding:

After	And before	Rate per annum (percent)
June 30, 1975.....	Feb. 1, 1976.....	9
Jan. 31, 1976.....	Feb. 1, 1978.....	7
Jan. 31, 1978.....	Feb. 1, 1980.....	6
Jan. 31, 1980.....	Feb. 1, 1982.....	12
Jan. 31, 1982.....	Jan. 1, 1983.....	20

(3) On amounts outstanding after December 31, 1982, the adjusted rates

for overpayment and underpayment established by the Commissioner of Internal Revenue under 26 U.S.C. 6621. These adjusted rates shall be published by the Commissioner in a Revenue Ruling. See § 70.94 of this part for application of daily compounding in determining interest accruing after December 31, 1982. Because interest accruing after December 31, 1982, accrues at the prescribed rate per annum compounded daily, the effective annual percentage rate of interest will exceed the prescribed rate of interest.

(b) *Applicability of interest rates.* (1) *Computation.* Interest and additions to tax on any amount outstanding on a specific day shall be computed at the annual rate applicable on such day.

(2) *Additions to tax.* Additions to tax under any section of the Internal Revenue Code that refers to the annual rate established under 26 U.S.C. 6621, shall be computed at the same rate per annum as the interest rate set forth under paragraph (a) of this section.

(3) *Interest.* Interest provided for under any section of the Internal Revenue Code that refers to the annual rate established under this section, including 26 U.S.C. 6332(d)(1), 6343(c), 6601(a), 6602, 6611(a), 7426(g), and 28 U.S.C. 1961(c)(1) or 2411, shall be computed at the rate per annum set forth under paragraph (a) of this section.

Par. 38. Section 70.94 is revised to read as follows:

§ 70.94 Interest compounded daily.

(a) *General rule.* Effective for interest accruing after December 31, 1982, in computing the amount of any interest required to be paid under any provision of 26 U.S.C. or under 28 U.S.C. 1961(c)(1) or 2411, by the Director or by the taxpayer, or in computing any other amount determined by reference to such amount of interest, or by reference to the interest rate established under 26 U.S.C. 6621, such interest or such other amount shall be compounded daily by dividing such rate of interest by 365 (366 in a leap year) and compounding such daily interest rate each day.

(b) *Applicability to unpaid amounts on December 31, 1982.* The unpaid interest (or other amount) that shall be compounded daily includes the interest (or other amount) accrued but unpaid on December 31, 1982. (26 U.S.C. 6622)

Par. 39. Section 70.95 is amended by removing the reference to "§ 70.106" and replacing it with § 70.107".

Par. 40. Section 70.96(a)(1), the first sentence of 70.96(a)(2), the first sentence of 70.96(a)(3), paragraph 70.96(a)(4) and the second, third and fourth sentences of

paragraph 70.96(c) are revised to read as follows:

§ 70.96 Failure to file tax return or to pay tax.

(a) *Addition to the tax.* (1) *Failure to file tax return.* In the case of failure to file a return required under authority of:

(i) Title 26 U.S.C. 61, relating to returns and records;

(ii) Title 26 U.S.C. 51, relating to distilled spirits, wines and beer;

(iii) Title 26 U.S.C. 52, relating to tobacco products, and cigarette papers and tubes; or

(iv) Title 26 U.S.C. 53, relating to machine guns, destructive devices, and certain other firearms; and the regulations thereunder, on or before the date prescribed for filing (determined with regard to any extension of time for such filing), there shall be added to the tax required to be shown on the return the amount specified below unless the failure to file the return within the prescribed time is shown to the satisfaction of the regional director (compliance) to be due to reasonable cause and not to willful neglect. The amount to be added to the tax is 5 percent thereof if the failure is not for more than one month, with an additional 5 percent for each additional month or fraction thereof during which the failure continues, but not to exceed 25 percent in the aggregate. The amount of any addition under paragraph (a)(1) of this section shall be reduced by the amount of the addition under paragraph (a)(2) of this section for any month to which an addition to tax applies under both paragraphs (a)(1) and (a)(2) of this section.

(2) *Failure to pay tax shown on return.* In case of failure to pay the amount shown as tax on any return required to be filed after December 31, 1989 (without regard to any extension of time for filing thereof), specified in paragraph (a)(1) of this section, on or before the date prescribed for payment of such tax (determined with regard to any extension of time for payment), there shall be added to the tax shown on the return the amount specified below unless the failure to pay the tax within the prescribed time is shown to the satisfaction of the regional director (compliance) to be due to reasonable cause and not to willful neglect. * * *

(3) *Failure to pay tax not shown on return.* In case of failure to pay any amount in respect of any tax required to be shown on a return specified in paragraph (a)(1) of this section, which is not so shown (including an assessment made pursuant to 26 U.S.C. 6213(b)) within 10 days from the date of the

notice and demand therefor, there shall be added to the amount shown in the notice and demand the amount specified below unless the failure to pay the tax within the prescribed time is shown to the satisfaction of the regional director (compliance) to be due to reasonable cause and not to willful neglect. * * *

(4) *Increases in penalties in certain cases.* For increases in penalties for failure to file a return or pay tax in certain cases, see 26 U.S.C. 6651(d) or (f).

(c) *Showing of reasonable cause.* * * * Such statement should be filed with the regional director (compliance) with jurisdiction over the state in which the liability was incurred. In addition, where special tax returns of liquor dealers are delivered to an ATF officer working under the supervision of the regional director (compliance), such statement may be delivered with the return. If the regional director (compliance) determines that the delinquency was due to a reasonable cause and not to willful neglect, the addition to the tax will not be assessed. * * *

Par. 41. Section 70.98(a) is amended by revising the first two sentences to read as follows:

§ 70.98 Penalty for underpayment of deposits.

(a) *General rule.* If any person is required by the provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau or regulations prescribed thereunder to deposit any tax in a government depository that is authorized under 26 U.S.C. 6302(c) to receive the deposit, and fails to deposit the tax within the time prescribed therefor, a penalty shall be imposed on such person unless the failure is shown to be due to reasonable cause and not due to willful neglect. The penalty shall be:

(1) For penalties assessed before October 22, 1986, 5 percent of the amount of the underpayment without regard to the period during which the underpayment continues.

(2) For penalties assessed after October 21, 1986, on deposits of taxes required to be made before January 1, 1990, 10 percent of the amount of the underpayment without regard to the period during which the underpayment continues.

(3) For deposits of taxes required to be made after December 31, 1989.

(i) 2 percent of the amount of the underpayment if the failure is for not more than 5 days,

(ii) 5 percent of the amount of the underpayment if the failure is for more than 5 days but not more than 15 days,

(iii) 10 percent of the amount of the underpayment if the failure is for more than 15 days,

(iv) 15 percent of the amount of the underpayment if the tax is not deposited before the earlier of:

(A) The day 10 days after the date of the first delinquency notice to the taxpayer under section 6303, or

(B) The day on which notice and demand for immediate payment is given under 26 U.S.C. 6062 or the last sentence of 26 U.S.C. 6331(a). * * *

Par. 42. Section 70.100 is added to read as follows:

§ 70.100 Penalty for fraudulently claiming drawback.

Whenever any person fraudulently claims or seeks to obtain an allowance of drawback on goods, wares, or merchandise on which no internal revenue tax shall have been paid, or fraudulently claims any greater allowance of drawback than the tax actually paid, that person shall forfeit triple the amount wrongfully or fraudulently claimed or sought to be obtained, or the sum of \$500, at the election of the regional director (compliance).

(26 U.S.C. 7304)

Par. 43. Section 70.101 is amended by revising the last sentence to read as follows:

§ 70.101 Bad checks.

* * * This section shall not apply if the person establishes to the satisfaction of the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center that such check was tendered in good faith and that such person had reasonable cause to believe that such check would be duly paid.

(26 U.S.C. 6657)

Par. 44. Section 70.113 is amended by removing from paragraph (a) the amount "\$5" and replacing it with "\$50"; by removing from paragraph (a) the amount "\$50,000" and replacing it with "\$100,000"; by removing from paragraph (b) the phrase "regional director (compliance)" and replacing it with "regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center" and the informational cite immediately following the section is amended by replacing the number "6676" with the number "6723".

Par. 45. The undesignated centerheadings which read "General Provisions Relating to Stamps, Marks, or Labels", "Jeopardy Assessment" and "Registration" are removed, and two

undesignated centerheadings are added immediately preceding § 70.121 to read as follows:

Abatements, Credits and Refunds

Procedure in General

Par. 46. Section 70.122 is revised to read as follows:

§ 70.122 Authority to make credits or refunds.

The regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center, within the applicable period of limitations, may credit any overpayment of tax, including interest thereon, against any outstanding liability for any tax (or for any interest, additional amount, addition to the tax, or assessable penalty) owed by the person making the overpayment and the balance, if any, shall be refunded, subject to 26 U.S.C. 6402 (c) and (d) and the regulations thereunder, to such person by the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center.

(26 U.S.C. 6402)

Par. 47. Section 70.123 is amended by revising the first sentence of paragraph (a)(2), the second sentence of paragraph (b)(1), and paragraph (b)(2), and by adding the OMB control number immediately following the informational cite at the end of the section to read as follows:

§ 70.123 Claims for credit or refund.

(a) * * *

(2) All claims relating to provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau, together with appropriate supporting evidence, shall be filed with the regional director (compliance), for the region in which the claimant is located, or, in the case of special (occupational) tax, with the Chief, Tax Processing Center. * * *

(b) * * *

(1) * * * The claim must set forth in detail each ground upon which credit or refund is claimed and facts sufficient to apprise the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center of the exact basis thereof. * * *

(2) The regional director (compliance) and the Chief, Tax Processing Center do not have authority to refund on equitable grounds penalties or other amounts legally collected.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 1512-0141)

Par. 48. Section 70.124 is revised to read as follows:

§ 70.124 Payments in excess of amounts shown on return.

In certain cases, the taxpayer's payments in respect of a tax liability, made before the filing of the taxpayer's return, may exceed the amount of tax shown on the return. In any case in which the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center determines that the payments by the taxpayer (made within the period prescribed for payment and before the filing of the return) are in excess of the amount of tax shown on the return, the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center may make credit or refund of such overpayment without awaiting examination of the completed return and without awaiting filing of a claim for refund. However, the provisions of § 70.123 of this part are applicable to such overpayment, and taxpayers should submit claims for refund to protect themselves in the event the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center fails to make such determination and credit or refund.

(26 U.S.C. 6402)

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 1512-0141)

Par. 49. Section 70.125 is revised to read as follows:

§ 70.125 Abatements.

(a) The regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center may abate the unpaid portion of any assessment or liability, if the assessment is in excess of the correct tax liability, if the assessment is made subsequent to the expiration of the period of limitation applicable thereto, or if the assessment has been erroneously or illegally made.

(b) If more than the correct amount of tax, interest, additional amount, addition to the tax, or assessable penalty is assessed but not paid to ATF, the person against whom the assessment is made may file a claim for abatement of such overassessment. Each claim for abatement under this section shall be made on Form 2635 (5020.8), Claim—Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Taxes, in accordance with the instructions on the form. All such claims shall be filed with the ATF official who made demand for the amount assessed.

(c) The Director may issue uniform instructions to regional directors (compliance) and the Chief, Tax Processing Center authorizing them, to the extent permitted in such instructions, to abate amounts the collection of which is not warranted because of the administration and collection costs.

(26 U.S.C. 6404)

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 1512-0141)

Par. 50. Section 70.126 is revised to read as follows:

§ 70.126 Date of allowance of refund or credit.

The date on which the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center, or an authorized certifying officer designated by the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center, first certifies the allowance of an overassessment in respect of any internal revenue tax imposed by the provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau shall be considered as the date of allowance of refund or credit in respect of such tax.

(26 U.S.C. 6407)

Par. 51. Section 70.127 is added to read as follows:

§ 70.127 Overpayment of installment.

If any installment of tax is overpaid, the overpayment shall first be applied against any outstanding installments of such tax. If the overpayment exceeds the correct amount of tax due, the overpayment shall be credited or refunded as provided in §§ 70.122 to 70.124 of this part, inclusive.

(26 U.S.C. 6403)

Par. 52. Two undesignated centerheadings are added immediately preceding § 70.131 to read as follows:

Rule of Special Application

Par. 53. New §§ 70.141 through 70.151 and an undesignated centerheading preceding them are added to read as follows:

Lien for Taxes**§ 70.141 Lien for taxes.**

If any person liable to pay any tax under provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau neglects or refuses to pay the same after demand, the amount (including any interest, additional amount, addition to tax, or assessable penalty, together with any costs that may accrue in addition thereto) shall be a lien in favor of the United States upon all property and rights to property, whether real or personal, tangible or intangible, belonging to such person. The lien attaches to all property and rights to property belonging to such person at any time during the period of the lien, including any property or rights to property acquired by such person after the lien arises. Solely for purposes of this section and §§ 70.161 and 70.162 of

this part, any interest in restricted land held in trust by the United States for an individual noncompetent Indian (and not for a tribe) shall not be deemed to be property, or a right to property, belonging to such Indian.

(26 U.S.C. 6321)

§ 70.142 Scope of definitions.

Except as otherwise provided by § 70.143 of this part, the definitions provided by §§ 70.143 apply for purposes of § 70.142 through 70.149 and §§ 70.231 through 70.234 of this part.

§ 70.143 Definitions.

(a) *Security interest*—(1) *In general.* The term "security interest" means any interest in property acquired by contract for the purpose of securing payment or performance of an obligation or indemnifying against loss or liability. A security interest exists at any time:

(i) If, at such time, the property is in existence and the interest has become protected under local law against a subsequent judgment lien (as provided in paragraph (a)(2) of this section) arising out of an unsecured obligation; and

(ii) To the extent that, at such time, the holder has parted with money or money's worth (as defined in paragraph (a)(3) of this section). For purposes of paragraph (a)(1) of this section, a contract right (as defined in § 70.232(c)(2)(i) of this part) is in existence when the contract is made. An account receivable (as defined in § 70.232(c)(2)(ii) of this part) is in existence when, and to the extent, a right to payment is earned by performance. A security interest must be in existence, within the meaning of paragraph (a) of this section, at the time as of which its priority against a tax lien is determined. For example, to be afforded priority under the provisions of § 70.145(a) of this part, a security interest must be in existence within the meaning of paragraph (a) of this section before a notice of lien is filed.

(2) *Protection against a subsequent judgment lien.* For purposes of paragraph (a) of this section, a security interest is deemed to be protected against a subsequent judgment lien on:

(i) The date on which all actions required under local law to establish the priority of a security interest against a judgment lien have been taken, or

(ii) If later, the date on which all required actions are deemed effective, under local law, to establish the priority of the security interest against a judgment lien.

For purposes of paragraph (a)(2) of this section, the dates described in

paragraphs (a)(2) (i) and (ii) of this section shall be determined without regard to any rule or principle of local law which permits the relation back or the making of any requisite action retroactive to a date earlier than the date on which the action is actually performed. For purposes of paragraph (a) of this section, a judgment lien is a lien held by a judgment lien creditor as defined in paragraph (g) of this section.

(3) *Money or money's worth.* For purposes of paragraph (a) of this section, the term "money or money's worth" includes money, a security (as defined in paragraph (d) of this section), tangible or intangible property, services, and other consideration reducible to a money value. Money or money's worth also includes any consideration which otherwise would constitute money or money's worth under the preceding sentence which was parted with before the security interest would otherwise exist if, under local law, past consideration is sufficient to support an agreement giving rise to a security interest. A relinquishing or promised relinquishment of dower, curtesy, or of a statutory estate created in lieu of dower or curtesy, or of other marital rights is not a consideration in money or money's worth. Nor is love and affection, promise of marriage, or any other consideration not reducible to a money value a consideration in money or money's worth.

(4) *Holder of a security interest.* For purposes of paragraph (a) of this section, the holder of a security interest is the person in whose favor there is a security interest. For provisions relating to the treatment of a purchaser of commercial financing security as a holder of a security interest, see § 70.232(e) of this part.

(b) *Mechanic's lienor.* The term "mechanic's lienor" means any person who under local law has a lien on real property (or on the proceeds of a contract relating to real property) for services, labor, or materials furnished in connection with the construction or improvement (including demolition) of the property. A mechanic's lienor is treated as having a lien on the later of:

(1) The date on which the mechanic's lien first becomes valid under local law against subsequent purchasers of the real property without actual notice, or

(2) The date on which the mechanic's lienor begins to furnish the services, labor, or materials.

(c) *Motor vehicle.* (1) The term "motor vehicle" means a self-propelled vehicle which is registered for highway use under the laws of any State, the District of Columbia, or a foreign country.

(2) A motor vehicle is "registered for highway use" at the time of a sale if immediately prior to the sale it is so registered under the laws of any State, the District of Columbia, or a foreign country. Where immediately prior to the sale of a motor vehicle by a dealer, the dealer is permitted under local law to operate it under a dealer's tag, license, or permit issued to the dealer, the motor vehicle is considered to be registered for highway use in the name of the dealer at the time of the sale.

(d) *Security.* The term "security" means any bond, debenture, note, or certificate or other evidence of indebtedness, issued by a corporation or a government or political subdivision thereof, with interest coupons or in registered form, share of stock, voting trust certificate, or any certificate of interest or participation in, certificate of deposit or receipt for, temporary or interim certificate for, or warrant or right to subscribe to or purchase, any of the foregoing; negotiable instrument; or money.

(e) *Tax lien filing.* The term "tax lien filing" means the filing of notice of the lien imposed by 26 U.S.C. 6321 in accordance with § 70.148 of this part.

(f) *Purchaser—(1) In general.* The term "purchaser" means a person who, for adequate and full consideration in money or money's worth (as defined in paragraph (f)(3) of this section), acquires an interest (other than a lien or security interest) in property which is valid under local law against subsequent purchasers without actual notice.

(2) *Interest in property.* For purposes of paragraph (f) of this section, each of the following interests is treated as an interest in property, if it is not a lien or security interest:

- (i) A lease of property,
- (ii) A written executory contract to purchase or lease property,
- (iii) An option to purchase or lease property and any interest therein, or
- (iv) An option to renew or extend a lease of property.

(3) *Adequate and full consideration in money or money's worth.* For purposes of paragraph (f) of this section, the term "adequate and full consideration in money or money's worth" means a consideration in money or money's worth having a reasonable relationship to the true value of the interest in property acquired. See paragraph (a)(3) of this section for definition of the term "money or money's worth." Adequate and full consideration in money or money's worth may include the consideration in a bona fide bargain purchase. The term also includes the consideration in a transaction in which the purchaser has not completed

performance of an obligation, such as the consideration in an installment purchase contract where the purchaser has not completed the installment payments.

(g) *Judgment lien creditor.* The term "judgment lien creditor" means a person who has obtained a valid judgment, in a court of record and of competent jurisdiction, for the recovery of specifically designated property or for a certain sum of money. In the case of a judgment for the recovery of a certain sum of money, a judgment lien creditor is a person who has perfected a lien under the judgment on the property involved. A judgment lien is not perfected until the identity of the lienor, the property subject to the lien, and the amount of the lien are established. Accordingly, a judgment lien does not include an attachment or garnishment lien until the lien has ripened into judgment, even though under local law the lien of the judgment relates back to an earlier date. If recording or docketing is necessary under local law before a judgment becomes effective against third parties acquiring liens on real property, a judgment lien under such local law is not perfected with respect to real property until the time of such recording or docketing. If, under local law, levy or seizure is necessary before a judgment lien becomes effective against third parties acquiring liens on personal property, then a judgment lien under such local law is not perfected until levy or seizure of the personal property involved. The term "judgment" does not include the determination of a quasi-judicial body or of an individual acting in a quasi-judicial capacity such as the action of State taxing authorities. (26 U.S.C. 6323)

§ 70.144 Special rules.

(a) *Actual notice or knowledge.* For purposes of 26 U.S.C. 6321 through 6327, an organization is deemed, in any transaction, to have actual notice or knowledge of any fact from the time the fact is brought to the attention of the individual conducting the transaction, and in any event from the time the fact would have been brought to the individual's attention if the organization had exercised due diligence. An organization exercises due diligence if it maintains reasonable routines for communicating significant information to the person conducting the transaction and there is reasonable compliance with the routines. Due diligence does not require an individual acting for the organization to communicate information unless such communication is part of the individual's regular duties

or unless the individual has reason to know of the transaction and that the transaction would be materially affected by the information.

(b) *Subrogation*: Where, under local law, one person is subrogated to the rights of another with respect to a lien or interest, such person shall be subrogated to such rights for purposes of any lien imposed by 26 U.S.C. 6321 or 6324. Thus, if a tax lien imposed by 26 U.S.C. 6321 or 6324 is not valid with respect to a particular interest as against the holder of that interest, then the tax lien also is not valid with respect to that interest as against any person who, under local law, is a successor in interest to the holder of that interest.

(c) *Disclosure of amount of outstanding lien*. If a notice of lien has been filed (see § 70.148 of this part), the amount of the outstanding obligation secured by the lien is authorized to be disclosed as a matter of public record on ATF Form 5651.2 "Notice of Federal Tax Lien Under Internal Revenue Laws." The amount of the outstanding obligation secured by the lien remaining unpaid at the time of an inquiry is authorized to be disclosed to any person who has a proper interest in determining this amount. Any person who has a right in the property or intends to obtain a right in the property by purchase or otherwise will, upon presentation of satisfactory evidence, be considered to have a proper interest. Any person desiring this information may make a request to the office of the Bureau named on the notice of lien with respect to which the request is made. The request should clearly describe the property subject to the lien, identify the applicable lien, and give the reasons for requesting the information. (26 U.S.C. 6323)

§ 70.145 Purchasers, holders of security interests, mechanic's lienors, and judgment lien creditors.

(a) *Invalidity of lien without notice*. The lien imposed by 26 U.S.C. 6321 is not valid against any purchaser (as defined in § 70.143(f) of this part), holder of a security interest (as defined in § 70.143(a) of this part), mechanic's lienor (as defined in § 70.143(b) of this part), or judgment lien creditor (as defined in § 70.143(g) of this part) until a notice of lien is filed in accordance with § 70.148 of this part. Except as provided by 26 U.S.C. 6323, if a person becomes a purchaser, holder of a security interest, mechanic's lienor, or judgment lien creditor after a notice of lien is filed in accordance with § 70.148 of this part, the interest acquired by such person is subject to the lien imposed by 26 U.S.C. 6321.

(b) *Cross references*. For provisions relating to the protection afforded a security interest arising after tax lien filing, which interest is covered by a commercial transactions financing agreement, real property construction or improvement financing agreement, or an obligatory disbursement agreement, see §§ 70.232, 70.233, and 70.234 of this part, respectively. For provisions relating to the protection afforded to a security interest coming into existence by virtue of disbursements, made before the 46th day after the date of tax lien filing, see § 70.146 of this part. For provisions relating to priority afforded to interest and certain other expenses with respect to a lien or security interest having priority over the lien imposed by 26 U.S.C. 6321, see § 70.147 of this part. For provisions relating to certain other interests arising after tax lien filing, see § 70.231 of this part.

(26 U.S.C. 6323)

§ 70.146 45-day period for making disbursements.

Even though a notice of a lien imposed by 26 U.S.C. 6321 is filed in accordance with § 70.149 of this part, the lien is not valid with respect to a security interest which comes into existence, after tax lien filing, by reason of disbursements made before the 46th day after the date of tax lien filing, or if earlier, before the person making the disbursements has actual notice or knowledge of the tax lien filing, but only if the security interest is:

(a) In property which is subject, at the time of tax lien filing, to the lien imposed by 26 U.S.C. 6321 and which is covered by the terms of a written agreement entered into before tax lien filing, and

(b) Protected under local law against a judgment lien arising, as of the time of tax lien filing, out of an unsecured obligation.

For purposes of paragraph (a) of this section, a contract right (as defined in § 70.232(c)(2)(i) of this part) is subject, at the time of tax lien filing, to the lien imposed by 26 U.S.C. 6321 if the contract has been made by such time. An account receivable (as defined in § 70.232(c)(2)(ii) of this part) is subject, at the time of tax lien filing, to the lien imposed by 26 U.S.C. 6321 if, and to the extent, a right to payment has been earned by performance at such time. For purposes of paragraph (b) of this section, a judgment lien is a lien held by a judgment lien creditor as defined in § 70.143(g) of this part. For purposes of this section, it is immaterial that the written agreement provides that the disbursements are to be made at the

option of the person making the disbursements. See § 70.143 (a) and (e) of this part for definitions of the terms "security interest" and "tax lien filing," respectively. See § 70.144(a) of this part for certain circumstances under which a person is deemed to have actual notice or knowledge of a fact.

(26 U.S.C. 6323)

§ 70.147 Priority of interest and expenses.

(a) *In general*. If the lien imposed by 26 U.S.C. 6321 is not valid as against another lien or security interest, the priority of the other lien or security interest also extends to each of the following items to the extent that under local law the item has the same priority as the lien or security interest to which it relates:

(1) Any interest or carrying charges (including finance, service, and similar charges) upon the obligation secured,

(2) The reasonable charges and expenses of an indenture trustee (including, for example, the trustee under a deed of trust) or agent holding the security interest for the benefit of the holder of the security interest,

(3) The reasonable expenses, including reasonable compensation for attorneys, actually incurred in collecting or enforcing the obligation secured,

(4) The reasonable costs of insuring, preserving, or repairing the property to which the lien or security interest relates,

(5) The reasonable costs of insuring payment of the obligation secured (including amounts paid by the holder of the security interest for mortgage insurance, such as that issued by the Federal Housing Administration), and

(6) Amounts paid to satisfy any lien on the property to which the lien or security interest relates, but only if the lien so satisfied is entitled to priority over the lien imposed by 26 U.S.C. 6321.

(b) *Collection expenses*. The reasonable expenses described in paragraph (a)(3) of this section include expenditures incurred by the protected holder of the lien or security interest to establish the priority of the holder's interest or to collect, by foreclosure or otherwise, the amount due the holder from the property subject to the protected holder's lien. Accordingly, the amount of the encumbrance which is protected is increased by the amounts so expended by the holder of the security interest.

(c) *Costs of insuring, preserving, etc.* The reasonable costs of insuring, preserving, or repairing described in paragraph (a)(4) of this section include expenditures by the holder of a security interest for fire and casualty insurance

on the property subject to the security interest and amounts paid by the holder of the lien or security interest to repair the property. Such reasonable costs also include the amounts paid by the holder of the lien or security interest in a leasehold to the lessor of the leasehold to preserve the leasehold subject to the lien or security interest. Accordingly, the amount of the lien or security interest which is protected is increased by the amounts so expended by the holder of the lien or security interest.

(d) *Satisfaction of liens.* The amounts described in paragraph (a)(6) of this section include expenditures incurred by the protected holder of a lien or security interest to discharge a statutory lien for State sales taxes on the property subject to the lien or security interest if both the lien or security interest and the sales tax lien have priority over a Federal tax lien. Accordingly, the amount of the lien or security interest is increased by the amounts so expended by the holder of the lien or security interest even though under local law the holder of the lien or security interest is not subrogated to the rights of the holder of the State sales tax lien. However, if the holder of the lien or security interest is subrogated, within the meaning of § 70.144(b) of this part, to the rights of the holder of the sales tax lien, the holder of the lien or security interest will also be entitled to any additional protection afforded by 26 U.S.C. 6323(i)(2).

(26 U.S.C. 6323).

§ 70.148 Place for filing notice; form.

(a) *Place for filing.* The notice of lien referred to in § 70.145 of this part shall be filed as follows:

(1) *Under State laws—(i) Real property.* In the case of real property, notice shall be filed in one office within the State (or the county or other governmental subdivision), as designated by the laws of the State, in which the property subject to the lien is deemed situated under the provisions of paragraph (b)(1) of this section.

(ii) *Personal property.* In the case of personal property, whether tangible or intangible, the notice shall be filed in one office within the State (or the county or other governmental subdivision), as designated by the laws of the State, in which the property subject to the lien is deemed situated under the provision of paragraph (b)(2) of this section, except that State law merely conforming to or reenacting Federal law establishing a national filing system does not constitute a second office for filing as designated by the laws of such State.

(2) *With the clerk of the United States district court.* Whenever a State has not by law designated one office which meets the requirements of paragraph (a)(1) (i) or (ii) of this section, the notice shall be filed in the office of the clerk of the U.S. district court for the judicial district in which the property subject to the lien is deemed situated under the provisions of paragraph (b) of this section. For example, a State has not by law designated one office meeting the requirements of paragraph (a)(1)(i) of this section, if more than one office is designated within the State, county, or other governmental subdivision for filing notices with respect to all property located in such State, county or other governmental subdivision. A State has not by law designated one office meeting the requirements of paragraph (a)(1)(ii) of this section, if more than one office is designated in the State, county, or other governmental subdivision for filing notices with respect to all of the personal property of a particular taxpayer.

(3) *With the Recorder of Deeds of the District of Columbia.* If the property subject to the lien imposed by 26 U.S.C. 6321 is deemed situated, under the provision of paragraph (b) of this section, in the District of Columbia, the notice shall be filed in the office of the Recorder of Deeds of the District of Columbia.

(b) *Situs of property subject to lien.* For purposes of paragraph (a) of this section, property is deemed situated as follows:

(1) *Real property.* Real property is deemed situated at its physical location.

(2) *Personal property.* Personal property, whether tangible or intangible, is deemed situated at the residence of the taxpayer at the time the notice of lien is filed.

For purposes of paragraph (b)(2) of this section, the residence of a corporation or partnership is deemed to be the place at which the principal executive office of the business is located, and the residence of a taxpayer whose residence is not within the United States is deemed to be in the District of Columbia.

(c) *Form—(1) In general.* The notice referred to in § 70.145 of this part shall be filed on ATF Form 5651.2, "Notice of Federal Tax Lien under Internal Revenue Laws". Such notice is valid notwithstanding any other provision of law regarding the form or content of a notice of lien. For example, omission from the notice of lien of a description of the property subject to the lien does not affect the validity thereof even though State law may require that the notices

contain a description of the property subject to the lien.

(2) *ATF Form 5651.2 defined.* The term "ATF Form 5651.2" generally means a paper form. However, if a State in which a notice referred to in § 70.145 of this part is filed permits a notice of Federal tax lien to be filed by the use of an electronic or magnetic medium the term "ATF Form 5651.2" includes an ATF Form 5651.2 filed by the use of any electronic or magnetic medium permitted by that State. An ATF Form 5651.2 must identify the taxpayer, the tax liability giving rise to the lien, and the date the assessment arose regardless of the method used to file the notice of Federal tax lien.

(26 U.S.C. 6323)

§ 70.149 Refiling of notice of tax lien.

(a) *In general—(1) Requirement to refile.* In order to continue the effect of a notice of lien, the notice must be refiled in the place described in paragraph (b) of this section during the required refiling period (described in paragraph (c) of this section). In the event that two or more notices of lien are filed with respect to a particular tax assessment, the failure to comply with the provision of paragraphs (b)(1) (i) and (c) of this section in respect of one of the notices of lien does not affect the effectiveness of the refiling of any other notice of lien. Except for the filing of a notice of lien required by paragraph (b)(1)(ii) of this section (relating to a change of residence), the validity of any refiling of a notice of lien is not affected by the refiling or nonrefiling of any other notice of lien.

(2) *Effect of refiling.* A timely refiled notice of lien is effective as of the date on which the notice of lien to which it relates was effective.

(3) *Effect of failure to refile.* Except as provided below, if the Chief, Tax Processing Center or the regional director (compliance) fails to refile a notice of lien in the manner described in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section, the notice of lien is not effective, after the expiration of the required refiling period, as against any person without regard to when the interest of the person in the property subject to the lien was acquired. However, the failure of the Chief, Tax Processing Center or the regional director (compliance) to refile a notice of lien during the required refiling period will not, following the expiration of the refiling period, affect the effectiveness of the notice with respect to:

(i) Property which is the subject matter of a suit, to which the United States is a party, commenced prior to

the expiration of the required refiling period, or

(ii) Property which has been levied upon by the United States prior to the expiration of the refiling period. However, if a suit or levy referred to in the preceding sentence is dismissed or released, respectively, and property is subject to the lien at such time, a notice of lien with respect to the property is not effective after the suit or levy is dismissed or released unless refiled during the required refiling period. Failure to refile a notice of lien does not affect the existence of the lien.

(4) *Filing of new notice.* If a notice of lien is not refiled, and if the lien remains in existence, the Bureau may nevertheless file a new lien either on the prescribed form for the filing of a notice of lien or on the form prescribed for refiling a notice of lien. This new filing must meet the requirements of 26 U.S.C. 6323(f) and § 70.148 of this part and is effective from the date on which such filing is made.

(b) *Place for refiling notice of lien—*

1) *In general.* A notice of lien refiled during the required refiling period (described in paragraph (c) of this section) shall be effective only:

(i) If the notice of lien is refiled in the office in which the prior notice of lien (including a refiled notice) was filed under the provisions of 26 U.S.C. 6323; and

(ii) In any case in which 90 days or more prior to the date the refiling of the notice of lien under paragraph (a)(1)(i) of this section is completed, the Bureau receives written information (in the manner described in paragraph (b)(2) of this section) concerning a change in the taxpayer's residence, if a notice of such lien is also filed in accordance with 26 U.S.C. 6323(f)(1)(A)(ii) in the State in which such new residence is located (or, if such new residence is located in the District of Columbia or outside the United States, in the District of Columbia).

A notice of lien is considered as refiled in the office in which the prior notice or refiled notice was filed under the provisions of 26 U.S.C. 6323 if it is refiled in the office which, pursuant to a change in the applicable local law, assumed the functions of the office in which the prior notice or refiled notice was filed. If on or before the 90th day referred to in paragraph (b)(1)(ii) of this section, more than one written notice is received concerning a change in the taxpayer's residence, a notice of lien is required by this subdivision to be filed only with respect to the residence shown on the written notice received on the most recent date. Paragraph (b)(1)(ii)

of this section is applicable regardless of whether the taxpayer resides at the new residence on the date the refiling of notice of lien under paragraph (b)(1)(i) of this section is completed.

(2) *Notice of change of taxpayer's residence—(i) In general.* For purposes of this section, a notice of change of a taxpayer's residence will be effective only if it:

(A) is received, in writing, from the taxpayer or the taxpayer's representative by the Chief, Tax Processing Center or the regional director (compliance) who filed the original notice of lien.

(B) relates to an unpaid tax liability of the taxpayer, and

(C) states the taxpayer's name and the address of the taxpayer's new residence.

Although it is not necessary that a written notice contain the taxpayer's identifying number authorized by section 6109, it is preferable that it include such number. A return or amended return filed by the taxpayer with the Bureau which on its face indicates that there is a change in the taxpayer's address and correctly states the taxpayer's name, the address of the taxpayer's new residence, and the taxpayer's identifying number required by 26 U.S.C. 6109 is sufficient notice under this paragraph.

(ii) *Other rules applicable.* Except as provided in paragraph (b)(2)(i) of this section, no communication (either written or oral) to the Bureau will be considered effective as notice of a change of a taxpayer's residence under this section, whether or not the Bureau has actual notice or knowledge of the taxpayer's new residence. For the purpose of determining the date on which a notice of change of a taxpayer's residence is received under this section, the notice shall be treated as received on the date it is actually received by the Bureau without reference to the provisions of 26 U.S.C. 7502.

(c) *Required refiling period.* For the purpose of this section, the term "required refiling period" means:

(1) The 1-year period ending 30 days after the expiration of 6 years after the date of the assessment of the tax, and

(2) The 1-year period ending with the expiration of 6 years after the close of the preceding required refiling period for such notice of lien.

(26 U.S.C. 6323)

§ 70.150 Release of lien or discharge of property.

(a) *Release of lien.* Generally, the Chief, Tax Processing Center is the ATF official charged with releasing liens or discharging property from liens, but

whenever necessary to protect the interests of the government, a regional director (compliance) may also release a lien or discharge property from a lien, following the procedures set forth in this section. The Chief, Tax Processing Center shall issue a certificate of release of a lien imposed with respect to any tax imposed by a provision of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau, not later than 30 days after the day on which either:

(1) The Chief, Tax Processing Center finds that the entire liability for the tax has been satisfied or has become unenforceable as a matter of law (and not merely uncollectible or unenforceable as a matter of fact). Tax liabilities frequently are unenforceable in fact for the time being, due to the temporary nonpossession by the taxpayer of discoverable property or property rights. In all cases the liability for the payment of the tax continues until satisfaction of the tax in full or until the expiration of the statutory period for collection, including such extension of the period for collection as may be agreed upon in writing by the taxpayer and the Chief, Tax Processing Center.

(2) The Chief, Tax Processing Center is furnished and accepts a bond that is conditioned upon the payment of the amount assessed (together with all interest in respect thereof and any expenses to which the Government has been put in the matter), within the time agreed upon in the bond, but not later than 6 months before the expiration of the statutory period for collection, including any period for collection agreed upon in writing by the Chief, Tax Processing Center and the taxpayer. For provisions relating to bonds, see 26 U.S.C. 7101 and 7102 and §§ 70.281 and 70.282 of this part.

(b) *Discharge of specific property from the lien—(1) Property double the amount of the liability.* The Chief, Tax Processing Center may, in that official's discretion, issue a certificate of discharge of any part of the property subject to a lien imposed under 26 U.S.C. 64 if the Bureau determines that the fair market value of that part of the property remaining subject to the lien is at least double the sum of the amount of the unsatisfied liability secured by the lien and of the amount of all other liens upon the property which have priority over the lien. In general, fair market value is that amount which one ready and willing but not compelled to buy would pay to another ready and willing but not compelled to sell the property.

(2) *Part payment; interest of United States valueless—(i) Part payment.* The

Chief, Tax Processing Center may, in that official's discretion, issue a certificate of discharge of any part of the property subject to a lien imposed under 26 U.S.C. 64 if there is paid over to the Bureau in partial satisfaction of the liability secured by the lien an amount determined by the Bureau to be not less than the value of the interest of the United States in the property to be so discharged. In determining the amount to be paid, the Chief, Tax Processing Center will take into consideration all the facts and circumstances of the case, including the expenses to which the Government has been put in the matter. In no case shall the amount to be paid be less than the value of the interest of the United States in the property with respect to which the certificate of discharge is to be issued.

(ii) *Interest of the United States valueless.* The Chief, Tax Processing Center may, in that official's discretion, issue a certificate of discharge of any part of the property subject to the lien if the Bureau determines that the interest of the United States in the property to be so discharged has no value.

(iii) *Valuation of interest of United States.* For purposes of this paragraph (b)(2), in determining the value of the interest of the United States in the property, or any part thereof, with respect to which the certificate of discharge is to be issued, the Chief, Tax Processing Center shall give consideration to the value of the property and the amount of all liens and encumbrances thereon having priority over the Federal tax lien. In determining the value of the property, the Chief, Tax Processing Center may, in that official's discretion, give consideration to the forced sale value of the property in appropriate cases.

(3) *Discharge of property by substitution of proceeds of sale.* The Chief, Tax Processing Center may, in that official's discretion, issue a certificate of discharge of any part of the property subject to a lien imposed under 26 U.S.C. 64 if such part of the property is sold and, pursuant to a written agreement with the Chief, Tax Processing Center, the proceeds of the sale are held, as a fund subject to the liens and claims of the United States, in the same manner and with the same priority as the lien or claim had with respect to the discharged property. This subparagraph does not apply unless the sale divests the taxpayer of all right, title, and interest in the property sought to be discharged. Any reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in connection with the sale of the property and the administration of the sale

proceeds shall be paid by the applicant or from the proceeds of the sale before satisfaction of any lien or claim of the United States.

(4) *Application for certificate of discharge.* Any person desiring a certificate of discharge under this paragraph shall submit an application in writing to the Chief, Tax Processing Center. The application shall contain such information as the Chief, Tax Processing Center may require.

(c) *Subordination of lien—(1) By payment of the amount subordinated.* The Chief, Tax Processing Center may, in that official's discretion, issue a certificate of subordination of a lien imposed under 26 U.S.C. 64 upon any part of the property subject to the lien if there is paid over to the Chief, Tax Processing Center an amount equal to the amount of the lien or interest to which the certificate subordinates the lien of the United States. For this purpose, the tax lien may be subordinated to another lien or interest on a dollar-for-dollar basis. For example, if a notice of a Federal tax lien is filed and a delinquent taxpayer secures a mortgage loan on a part of the property subject to the tax lien and pays over the proceeds of the loan to the Chief, Tax Processing Center after an application for a certificate of subordination is approved, the Chief, Tax Processing Center will issue a certificate of subordination. This certificate will have the effect of subordinating the tax lien to the mortgage.

(2) *To facilitate tax collection.* The Chief, Tax Processing Center may, in that official's discretion, issue a certificate of subordination of a lien imposed under 26 U.S.C. 64 upon any part of the property subject to the lien if the Chief, Tax Processing Center believes that the subordination of the lien will ultimately result in an increase in the amount realized by the United States from the property subject to lien and will facilitate the ultimate collection of the tax liability.

(3) *Application for certificate of subordination.* Any person desiring a certificate of subordination under this paragraph shall submit an application therefor in writing to the Chief, Tax Processing Center. The application shall contain such information as the Chief, Tax Processing Center may require.

(d) *Nonattachment of lien.* If the Chief, Tax Processing Center determines that, because of confusion of names or otherwise, any person (other than the person against whom the tax was assessed) is or may be injured by the appearance that a notice of lien filed in

accordance with § 70.148 of this part refers to such person, the Chief, Tax Processing Center may issue a certificate of nonattachment. Such certificate shall state that the lien, notice of which has been filed, does not attach to the property of such person. Any person desiring a certificate of nonattachment under this paragraph shall submit an application therefor in writing to the Chief, Tax Processing Center. The application shall contain such information as the Chief, Tax Processing Center may require.

(e) *Effect of certificate—(1) Conclusiveness.* Except as provided in paragraphs (e) (2) and (3) of this section, if a certificate is issued under 26 U.S.C. 6325 by the Chief, Tax Processing Center and the certificate is filed in the same office as the notice of lien to which it relates (if the notice of lien has been filed), the certificate shall have the following effect:

(i) In the case of a certificate of release issued under paragraph (a) of this section, the certificate shall be conclusive that the tax lien referred to in the certificate is extinguished;

(ii) In the case of a certificate of discharge issued under paragraph (b) of this section, the certificate shall be conclusive that the property covered by the certificate is discharged from the tax lien;

(iii) In the case of a certificate of subordination issued under paragraph (c) of this section, the certificate shall be conclusive that the lien or interest to which the Federal tax lien is subordinated is superior to the tax lien; and

(iv) In the case of a certificate of nonattachment issued under paragraph (d) of this section, the certificate shall be conclusive that the lien of the United States does not attach to the property of the person referred to in the certificate.

(2) *Revocation of certificate of release or nonattachment—(i) In general.* If the Chief, Tax Processing Center determines that either:

(A) A certificate of release or a certificate of nonattachment of the general tax lien imposed by 26 U.S.C. 6321 was issued erroneously or inadvertently, or

(B) A certificate of release of such lien was issued in connection with a compromise agreement under 26 U.S.C. 7122 which has been breached, and if the period of limitation on collection after assessment of the tax liability has not expired, the Chief, Tax Processing Center may revoke the certificate and reinstate the tax lien.

(ii) *Method of revocation and reinstatement.* The revocation and

reinstatement described in paragraph (e)(2)(i) of this section is accomplished by:

(A) Mailing notice of the revocation to the taxpayer at the taxpayer's last known address, and

(B) Filing notice of the revocation of the certificate in the same office in which the notice of lien to which it relates was filed (if the notice of lien has been filed).

(iii) *Effect of reinstatement—(A) Effective date.* A tax lien reinstated in accordance with the provisions of this paragraph (e)(2) is effective on and after the date the notice of revocation is mailed to the taxpayer in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (e)(2)(ii)(A) of this section, but the reinstated lien is not effective before the filing of notice of revocation, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (e)(2)(ii)(B) of this section, if the filing is required by reason of the fact that a notice of the lien had been filed.

(B) *Treatment of reinstated lien.* As of the effective date of reinstatement, a reinstated lien has the same force and effect as a general tax lien imposed by 26 U.S.C. 6321 which arises upon assessment of a tax liability. The reinstated lien continues in existence until the liability is satisfied or until the expiration of the period of limitation on collection after assessment of the tax liability to which it relates. The reinstatement of the lien does not retroactively reinstate a previously filed notice of lien. The reinstated lien is not valid against any holder of a lien or interest described in § 70.145 of this part until notice of the reinstated lien has been filed in accordance with the provisions of § 70.148 of this part subsequent to or concurrent with the time the reinstated lien became effective.

(3) *Certificates void under certain conditions.* Notwithstanding any other provisions of 26 U.S.C. subtitle F, any lien for Federal taxes attaches to any property with respect to which a certificate of discharge has been issued if the person liable for the tax reacquires the property after the certificate has been issued. Thus, if property subject to a Federal tax lien is discharged therefrom and is later reacquired by the delinquent taxpayer at a time when the lien is still in existence, the tax lien attaches to the reacquired property and is enforceable against it as in the case of after-acquired property generally.

(f) *Filing of certificates and notices.* If a certificate or notice described in this section may not be filed in the office designated by State law in which the notice of lien imposed by 26 U.S.C. 6321

(to which the certificate or notice relates) is filed, the certificate or notice is effective if filed in the office of the clerk of the United States district court for the judicial district in which the State office where the notice of lien is filed is situated.

(26 U.S.C. 6325)

§ 70.151 Administrative appeal of liens.

(a) *In general.* After the filing of a notice of a lien on the property or rights to property of a person, such person shall be allowed to appeal to the official who filed the lien for release of such lien alleging an error in the filing of the notice of such lien.

(b) *Certificate of release.* If the official who filed the lien determines that the filing of the notice of any lien was erroneous, that official shall expeditiously (and, to the extent practicable, within 14 days after such determination) issue a certificate of release of such lien and shall include in such certificate a statement that such filing was erroneous.

(c) *Exception.* Whenever necessary to protect the interests of the government, a regional director (compliance) or Chief, Tax Processing Center other than the official who filed the lien, may receive and act on an administrative appeal of a lien in accordance with this section.

(20 U.S.C. 6326)

Par. 54. Sections 70.161 through 70.170 and an undesignated center heading preceding them are added to read as follows:

Seizure of Property for Collection of Taxes

§ 70.161 Levy and distraint.

(a) *Authority to levy—(1) In general.* If any person liable to pay any tax neglects or refuses to pay the tax within 10 days after notice and demand, the regional director (compliance) or Chief, Tax Processing Center who initiated the assessment (or, on that official's request, any other regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center) may proceed to collect the tax by levy, provided the taxpayer has been furnished the notice described in § 70.162(a) of this part. The regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center may levy upon any property, or rights to property, whether real or personal, tangible or intangible, belonging to the taxpayer. The regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center may also levy upon property with respect to which there is a lien provided by 26 U.S.C. 6321 for the payment of the tax. For exemption of

certain property from levy, see 26 U.S.C. 6334 and §§ 70.241 through 70.245 of this part. As used in 26 U.S.C. 6331 and this section, the term "tax" includes any interest, additional amount, addition to tax, or assessable penalty, together with costs and expenses. Property subject to a Federal tax lien which has been sold or otherwise transferred by the taxpayer may be seized while in the hands of the transferee or any subsequent transferee. However, see 26 U.S.C. 6323(i)(2) and § 70.144 of this part concerning the subrogation rights of certain transferees. Levy may be made by serving a Notice of Levy on any person in possession of, or obligated with respect to, property or rights to property subject to levy, including receivables, bank accounts, evidences of debt, securities, and salaries, wages, commissions, or other compensation. Except as provided in § 70.162(c) of this part with regard to a levy on salary or wages, a levy extends only to property possessed and obligations which exist at the time of the levy. Obligations exist when the liability of the obligor is fixed and determinable although the right to receive payment thereof may be deferred until a later date. For example, if on the first day of the month a delinquent taxpayer sold personal property subject to an agreement that the buyer remit the purchase price on the last day of the month, a levy made on the buyer on the 10th day of the month would reach the amount due on the sale, although the buyer need not satisfy the levy by paying over the amount to the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center until the last day of the month. Similarly, a levy only reaches property in the possession of the person levied upon at the time the levy is made. For example, a levy made on a bank with respect to the account of a delinquent taxpayer is satisfied if the bank surrenders the amount of the taxpayer's balance at the time the levy is made, including interest thereon to the date of surrender. The levy has no effect upon any subsequent deposit made in the bank by the taxpayer. Subsequent deposits may be reached only by a subsequent levy on the bank.

(2) *Jeopardy cases.* If the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center finds that the collection of any tax is in jeopardy, that official may make notice and demand for immediate payment of such tax and, upon failure or refusal to pay such tax, collection thereof by levy shall be lawful without regard to the 10-day period provided in 26 U.S.C. 6331(a) or the 30-day period provided in 26 U.S.C. 6331(d).

(3) *Bankruptcy or receivership cases.*

During a bankruptcy proceeding or a receivership proceeding in either a Federal or a State court, the assets of the taxpayer are in general under the control of the court in which such proceeding is pending. Taxes cannot be collected by levy upon assets in the custody of a court, whether or not such custody is incident to a bankruptcy or receivership proceeding, except where the proceeding has progressed to such a point that the levy would not interfere with the work of the court or where the court grants permission to levy. Any assets which under applicable provisions of law are not under the control of the court may be levied upon, for example, property exempt from court custody under State law or the bankrupt's earnings and property acquired after the date of bankruptcy. However, levy upon such property is not mandatory and the Government may rely upon payment of taxes in the proceeding.

(4) *Certain types of compensation.—*

(i) *Federal employees.* Levy may be made upon the salary or wages of any officer or employee (including members of the Armed Forces), or elected or appointed official, of the United States, the District of Columbia, or any agency or instrumentality of either, by serving a notice of levy on the employer of the delinquent taxpayer. As used in this paragraph, the term "employer" means:

(A) The officer or employee of the United States, the District of Columbia, or of the agency or instrumentality of the United States or the District of Columbia, who has control of the payment of the wages, or

(B) Any other officer or employee designated by the head of the branch, department, or agency, or instrumentality of the United States or of the District of Columbia as the party upon whom service of the notice of levy may be made.

If the head of such branch, department, agency or instrumentality designates an officer or employee other than one who has control of the payment of the wages, as the party upon whom service of the notice of levy may be made, such head shall promptly notify the Director of the name and address of each officer or employee so designated and the scope or extent of the authority of such designee.

(ii) *State and municipal employees.* Salaries, wages, or other compensation of any officer, employee, or elected or appointed official of a State or Territory, or of any agency, instrumentality, or political subdivision thereof, are also

subject to levy to enforce collection of any Federal tax.

(iii) *Seamen.* Notwithstanding the provisions of section 12 of the Seamen's Act of 1915 (46 U.S.C. 601), wages of seamen, apprentice seamen, or fishermen employed on fishing vessels are subject to levy. See 26 U.S.C. 6334(c).

(5) *Noncompetent Indians.* Solely for purposes of 26 U.S.C. 6321 and 6331, any interest in restricted land held in trust by the United States for an individual noncompetent Indian (and not for a tribe) shall not be deemed to be property, or a right to property, belonging to such Indian.

(b) *Successive seizures.* Whenever any property or rights to property upon which a levy has been made are not sufficient to satisfy the claim of the United States for which the levy is made, the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center may thereafter, and as often as may be necessary, proceed to levy in like manner upon any other property or rights to property subject to levy of the person against whom such claim exists or on which there is a lien imposed by 26 U.S.C. 6321 (or the corresponding provision of prior law) for the payment of such claim until the amount due from such person, together with all costs and expenses, is fully paid.

(c) *Service of notice of levy by mail.* A notice of levy may be served by mailing the notice to the person upon whom the service of a notice of levy is authorized under paragraph (a)(1) of this section. In such a case the date and time the notice is delivered to the person to be served is the date and time the levy is made. If the notice is sent by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested, the date of delivery on the receipt is treated as the date the levy is made. If, after receipt of a notice of levy, an officer or other person authorized to act on behalf of the person served signs and notes the date and time of receipt on the notice of levy, the date and time so noted will be presumed to be, in the absence of proof to the contrary, the date and time of delivery. Any person may upon written notice to the Chief, Tax Processing Center or to the regional director (compliance) having jurisdiction over such person, have all notices of levy by mail sent to one designated office. After such a notice is received by the Chief, Tax Processing Center or the regional director (compliance), notices of levy by mail will sent to the designated office until a written notice withdrawing the request or a written notice designating a difference office is received by the Chief, Tax Processing Center or the regional director (compliance).

(26 U.S.C. 6331 and 6332)

§ 70.162 Levy and distraint on salary and wages.

(a) *Notice of intent to levy.* Levy may be made for any unpaid tax only after the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center has notified the taxpayer in writing of the intent to levy. The notice must be given in person, left at the dwelling or usual place of business of the taxpayer, or be sent by certified or registered mail to the taxpayer's last known address, no less than 30 days before the day of levy. The notice of intent to levy is in addition to, and may be given at the same time as, the notice and demand described in § 70.161 of this part.

(b) *Jeopardy.* Paragraph (a) of this section does not apply to a levy if the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center has made a finding under § 70.161(a)(2) of this part that the collection of tax is in jeopardy.

(c) *Continuing effect of levy on salary or wages.* A levy on salary or wages is continuous from the time of the levy until the liability out of which the levy arose is released under 26 U.S.C. 6343 and § 70.167 of this part. For this purpose, the term "salary or wages" includes compensation for services paid in the form of fees, commissions, bonuses, and similar items. The levy attaches to both salary or wages earned but not yet paid at the time of the levy, and salary or wages earned and becoming payable (or paid in the form of an advance) subsequent to the date of the levy, until the levy is released pursuant to paragraph (d) of this section. In general, salaries or wages that are the subject of a continuing levy, if not exempt from levy under 26 U.S.C. 6334(a) (8) or (9), become payable to the official who made the levy as the payor would otherwise be obligated to pay over the money to the taxpayer. For example, if the wage earner is paid on the Wednesday following the close of each workweek, a levy made upon the taxpayer's employer on any Monday would reach both the wages due for the prior workweek and the wages for succeeding workweeks as such wages become payable. In such a case the levy would be satisfied if the employer, on the first Wednesday after the levy and on each Wednesday thereafter, pays over to the official who made the levy wages which would otherwise be paid to the employee on such Wednesday, until the employer receives a notice of release from levy described in paragraph (d) of this section. See, however, § 70.245(d) of this part for

rules which permit a delayed payment to the official who made the levy in certain cases where amounts payable to the taxpayer are exempt from levy under 26 U.S.C. 6334 (a)(9) and (d).

(d) *Release and notice of release from levy.* The official who made the levy will promptly release a continuing levy on salary or wages when the conditions of 26 U.S.C. 6343 are met. The official who made the levy will also promptly notify the person upon whom the levy was made that it has been released.

(26 U.S.C. 6331)

§ 70.163 Surrender of property subject to levy.

(a) *Requirement—(1) In general.* Except as otherwise provided in 26 U.S.C. 6332, relating to levy in the case of banks or life insurance and endowment contracts, any person in possession of (or obligated with respect to) property or rights to property subject to levy and upon which a levy has been made shall, upon demand of the official who made the levy, surrender the property or rights (or discharge the obligation) to the official who made the levy, except that part of the property or rights (or obligation) which, at the time of the demand, is actually or constructively under the jurisdiction of a court because of an attachment or execution under any judicial process.

(2) *Property held by banks.* (i) Any bank shall surrender any deposits (including interest thereon) in such bank only after 21 days after service of levy.

(ii) Notwithstanding paragraph (a)(1) of this section, if a levy has been made upon property or rights to property subject to levy which a bank engaged in the banking business in the United States or a possession of the United States is in possession of (or obligated with respect to), the Director shall not enforce the levy with respect to any deposits held in an office of the bank outside the United States or a possession of the United States, unless the notice of levy specifies that the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center intends to reach such deposits. The notice of levy shall not specify that the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center intends to reach such deposits unless that official believes:

(A) That the taxpayer is within the jurisdiction of a U.S. court at the time the levy is made and that the bank is in possession of (or obligated with respect to) deposits of the taxpayer in an office of the bank outside the United States or a possession of the United States; or

(B) That the taxpayer is not within the jurisdiction of a U.S. court at the time the levy is made, that the bank is in

possession of (or obligated with respect to) deposits of the taxpayer in an office outside the United States or a possession of the United States, and that such deposits consist, in whole or in part, of funds transferred from the United States or a possession of the United States in order to hinder or delay the collection of a tax imposed by provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau.

(b) *Enforcement of levy.—(1) Extent of personal liability.* Any person who, upon demand of the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center, fails or refuses to surrender any property or right to property subject to levy is liable in his/her own person and estate in a sum equal to the value of the property or rights not so surrendered, together with costs and interests. The liability, however, may not exceed the amount of the taxes for the collection of which the levy was made. Interest is to be computed at the annual rate referred to in regulations under 26 U.S.C. 6221 from the date of the levy, or, in the case of a continuing levy on salary or wages (see 26 U.S.C. 6331(e)), from the date the person would otherwise have been obligated to pay over the wages or salary to the taxpayer. Any amount recovered, other than cost, will be credited against the tax liability for the collection of which the levy was made.

(2) *Penalty for violation.* In addition to the personal liability described in paragraph (b)(1) of this section, any person who is required to surrender property or rights to property and who fails or refuses to surrender them without reasonable cause is liable for a penalty equal to 50 percent of the amount recoverable under 26 U.S.C. 6332(d)(2). No part of the penalty described in this subparagraph shall be credited against the tax liability for the collection of which the levy was made. The penalty described in this subparagraph is not applicable in cases where a bona fide dispute exists concerning the amount of the property to be surrendered pursuant to a levy or concerning the legal effectiveness of the levy. However, if a court in a later enforcement suit sustains the levy, then reasonable cause would usually not exist to refuse to honor a later levy made under similar circumstances.

(c) *Effect of honoring levy.* Any person in possession of, or obligated with respect to, property or rights to property subject to levy and upon which a levy has been made who, upon demand by the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center, surrenders the property or rights to property, or

discharges the obligation, to that official, or who pays a liability described in paragraph (b)(1) of this section, is discharged from any obligation or liability to the delinquent taxpayer with respect to the property or rights to property arising from the surrender or payment. If an insuring organization satisfies a levy with respect to a life insurance or endowment contract in accordance with § 70.164 of this part, the insuring organization is discharged from any obligation or liability to any beneficiaries of the contract arising from the surrender or payment. Also, it is discharged from any obligation or liability to the insured or other owner. Any person who mistakenly surrenders to the United States property or rights to property not properly subject to levy is not relieved from liability to a third party who owns the property. The owners of mistakenly surrendered property may, however, secure from the United States the administrative relief provided for in 26 U.S.C. 6343(b) or may bring suit to recover the property under 26 U.S.C. 7426.

(d) *Person defined.* In addition to the definition given in § 70.11 of this part, the term "person," as used in 26 U.S.C. 6332(a) and this section, includes an officer or employee of a corporation or a member or employee of a partnership, who is under a duty to surrender the property or rights to property or to discharge the obligation. In the case of a levy upon the salary or wages of an officer, employee, or elected or appointed official of the United States, the District of Columbia, or any agency or instrumentality of either, the term "person" includes the officer or employee of the United States, of the District of Columbia, or of such agency or instrumentality who is under a duty to discharge the obligation. As to the officer or employee who is under such duty, see § 70.161(a)(4)(i) of this part.

(26 U.S.C. 6332)

§ 70.164 Surrender of property subject to levy in the case of life insurance and endowment contracts.

(a) *In general.* This section provides special rules relating to the surrender of property subject to levy in the case of life insurance and endowment contracts. The provisions of § 70.163 of this part which relate generally to the surrender of property subject to levy apply, to the extent not inconsistent with the special rules set forth in this section, to a levy in the case of life insurance and endowment contracts.

(b) *Effect of service of notice of levy.—(1) In general.* A notice of levy served by a regional director

(compliance) or the chief, Tax Processing Center on an insuring organization with respect to a life insurance or endowment contract issued by the organization shall constitute:

(i) A demand by the official who made the levy for the payment of the cash loan value of the contract adjusted in accordance with paragraph (c) of this section, and

(ii) The exercise of the right of the person against whom the tax is assessed to the advance of such cash loan value.

It is unnecessary for the official who made the levy to surrender the contract document to the insuring organization upon which the levy is made. However, the notice of levy will include a certification by the official who made the levy that a copy of the notice of levy has been mailed to the person against whom the tax is assessed at that person's last known address. At the time of service of the notice of levy, the levy is effective with respect to the cash loan value of the insurance contract, subject to the condition that if the levy is not satisfied or released before the 90th day after the date of service, the levy can be satisfied only by payment of the amount described in paragraph (c) of this section. Other than satisfaction or release of the levy, no event during the 90-day period subsequent to the date of service of the notice of levy shall release the cash loan value from the effect of the levy. For example, the termination of the policy by the taxpayer or by the death of the insured during such 90-day period shall not release the levy. For the rules relating to the time when the insuring organization is to pay over the required amount, see paragraph (c) of this section.

(2) *Notification of amount subject to levy—(i) Full payment before the 90th day.* In the event that the unpaid liability to which the levy relates is satisfied at any time during the 90-day period subsequent to the date of service of the notice of levy, the official who filed the notice of levy will promptly give the insuring organization written notification that the levy is released.

(ii) *Notification after the 90th day.* In the event that notification is not given under paragraph (b)(2)(i) of this section, the official who filed the notice of levy will, promptly following the 90th day after service of the notice of levy, give the insuring organization written notification of the current status of all accounts listed on the notice of levy, and of the total payments received since service of the notice of levy. This notification will be given to the insuring organization whether or not there has

been any change in the status of the accounts.

(c) *Satisfaction of levy.* The levy described in paragraph (b) of this section with respect to a life insurance or endowment contract shall be deemed to be satisfied if the insuring organization pays over to the official who made the levy the amount which the person against whom the tax is assessed could have had advanced by the organization on the 90th day after service of the notice of levy on the organization. However, this amount is increased by the amount of any advance (including contractual interest thereon), generally called a policy loan, made to the person on or after the date the organization has actual notice or knowledge, within the meaning of 26 U.S.C. 6323(i)(1), of the existence of the tax lien with respect to which the levy is made. The insuring organization may, nevertheless, make an advance (including contractual interest thereon), generally called an automatic premium loan, made automatically to maintain the contract in force under an agreement entered into before the organization has such actual notice or knowledge. In any event, the amount paid to the Chief, Tax Processing Center by the insuring organization is not to exceed the amount of the unpaid liability shown on the notification described in paragraph (b)(2) of this section. The amount determined in accordance with the provisions of this section, subject to the levy, shall be paid to the Chief, Tax Processing Center by the insuring organization promptly after receipt of the notification described in paragraph (b)(2) of this section. The satisfaction of a levy with respect to a life insurance or endowment contract will not discharge the contract from the tax lien. However, see 26 U.S.C. 6323(b)(9)(C) and § 70.231(i) of this part concerning the liability of an insurance company after satisfaction of a levy with respect to a life insurance or endowment contract. If the person against whom the tax is assessed so directs, the insuring organization, on a date before the 90th day after service of the notice of levy, may satisfy the levy by paying over an amount computed in accordance with the provisions of this subparagraph substituting such date for the 90th day. In the event of termination of the policy by the taxpayer or by the death of the insured on a date before the 90th day after service of the notice of levy, the amount to be paid over to the Chief, Tax Processing Center by the insuring organization in satisfaction of the levy shall be an amount computed in accordance with the provisions of this subparagraph substituting the date of

termination of the policy or the date of death for the 90th day.

(d) *Other enforcement proceedings.* The satisfaction of the levy described in paragraph (b) of this section by an insuring organization shall be without prejudice to any civil action for the enforcement of any Federal tax lien with respect to a life insurance or endowment contract. Thus, this levy procedure is not the exclusive means of subjecting the life insurance and endowment contracts of the person against whom a tax is assessed to the collection of the person's unpaid assessment. The United States may choose to foreclose the tax lien in any case where it is appropriate, as, for example, to reach the cash surrender value (as distinguished from cash loan value) of a life insurance or endowment contract.

(e) *Cross references.* (1) For provisions relating to priority of certain advances with respect to a life insurance or endowment contract after satisfaction of a levy pursuant to 26 U.S.C. 6332(b), see 26 U.S.C. 6323(b)(9) and § 70.231(i) of this part.

(2) For provisions relating to the issuance of a certificate of discharge of a life insurance or endowment contract subject to a tax lien, see 26 U.S.C. 6325(b) and § 70.150(b) of this part. (26 U.S.C. 6332)

§ 70.165 Production of books.

If a levy has been made or is about to be made on any property or rights to property, any person, having custody or control of any books or records containing evidence or statements relating to the property or rights to property subject to levy, shall, upon demand of the ATF officer who has made or is about to make the levy, exhibit such books or records to such officer.

(26 U.S.C. 6333)

§ 70.166 Levy allowed on principal residence in case of jeopardy or certain approval.

Property described in 26 U.S.C. 6334(a)(13) shall not be exempt from levy if:

(a) The regional director (compliance) personally approves (in writing) the levy of such property, or

(b) The Director finds that the collection of tax is in jeopardy.

(26 U.S.C. 6334(e))

§ 70.167 Authority to release levy and return property.

(a) *Release of levy—(1) Authority.* A regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center may release the levy upon all or part of the

property or rights to property levied upon as provided in paragraphs (a) (2), (3) and (4) of this section. Generally, the official who made the levy will receive and act on requests for release of a levy and return of property, but whenever necessary to protect the interests of the government, any regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center may release a levy and return property seized by another ATF official. A levy may be released under paragraph (a)(3) of this section only if the delinquent taxpayer complies with such of the conditions thereunder as a regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center may require and if the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center determines that such action will facilitate the collection of the liability. A release pursuant to paragraph (a)(4) of this section is considered to facilitate the collection of the liability. The release under this section shall not operate to prevent any subsequent levy.

(2) *Conditions for mandatory release.* (i) A regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center shall release the levy as authorized under paragraph (a)(1) of this section, if any of the following conditions exist:

(A) The liability for which such levy was made is satisfied or becomes unenforceable by reason of lapse of time,

(B) Release of such levy will facilitate the collection of such liability,

(C) The taxpayer has entered into an agreement under 26 U.S.C. 6159 to satisfy such liability by means of installment payments, unless such agreement provides otherwise (a regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center is not required to release the levy in this case if release of such levy would jeopardize the secured creditor status of the United States).

(D) A regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center has determined that such levy is creating an economic hardship due to the financial condition of the taxpayer, or

(E) The fair market value of the property exceeds such liability and release of the levy on a part of such property could be made without hindering the collection of such liability.

(ii) In the case of any tangible personal property essential in carrying on the trade or business of the taxpayer, the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center shall provide for an expedited determination under paragraph (a)(2)(i) if levy on such tangible personal property would

prevent the taxpayer from carrying on such trade or business.

(3) *Conditions for discretionary release.* A regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center may release the levy as authorized under paragraph (a)(1) of this section, if:

(i) *Escrow arrangement.* The delinquent taxpayer offers a satisfactory arrangement, which is accepted by a regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center, for placing property in escrow to secure the payment of the liability (including the expenses of levy) which is the basis of the levy.

(ii) *Bond.* The delinquent taxpayer delivers an acceptable bond to a regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center conditioned upon the payment of the liability (including the expenses of levy) which is the basis of the levy. Such bond shall be in the form provided in 26 U.S.C. 7101 and § 70.281 of this part.

(iii) *Payment of amount of U.S. interest in the property.* There is paid to a regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center an amount determined by ATF to be equal to the interest of the United States in the seized property or the part of the seized property to be released.

(iv) *Assignment of salaries and wages.* The delinquent taxpayer executes an agreement directing the taxpayer's employer to pay to a regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center amounts deducted from the employee's wages on a regular, continuing, or periodic basis, in such manner and in such amount as is agreed upon with a regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center, until the full amount of the liability is satisfied, and such agreement is accepted by the employer.

(v) *Extension of statute of limitations.* The delinquent taxpayer executes an agreement to extend the statute of limitations in accordance with 26 U.S.C. 6502(a)(2) and § 70.224 of this part.

(4) *Release where value of interest of United States is insufficient to meet expenses of sale.* A regional director (compliance) may release the levy as authorized under paragraph (a)(1) of this section if that official determines that the value of the interest of the United States in the seized property, or in the part of the seized property to be released is insufficient to cover the expenses of the sale of such property.

(b) *Return of property—(1) General rule.* If a regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center determines that property has been wrongfully levied upon, the regional

director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center may return:

(i) The specific property levied upon,

(ii) An amount of money equal to the amount of money levied upon (together with interest thereon at the overpayment rate from the date ATF receives the money to a date not more than 30 days before the date of return), or

(iii) An amount of money equal to the amount of money received by the United States from a sale of the property (together with interest thereon at the overpayment rate from the date of the sale of the property to a date not more than 30 days before the date of return).

If the United States is in possession of specific property, the property may be returned at any time. An amount equal to the amount of money levied upon or received from a sale of the property may be returned at any time before the expiration of 9 months from the date of the levy. When a request described in paragraph (b)(2) of this section is filed for the return of property before the expiration of 9 months from the date of levy, an amount of money may be returned after a reasonable period of time subsequent to the expiration of the 9-month period if necessary for the investigation and processing of such request. In cases where money is specifically identifiable, as in the case of a coin collection which may be worth substantially more than its face value, the money will be treated as specific property and, whenever possible, this specific property will be returned. For purposes of paragraph (b)(1)(iii) of this section, if property is declared purchased by the United States at a sale pursuant to 26 U.S.C. 6335(e), the United States is treated as having received an amount of money equal to the minimum price determined by the regional director (compliance) before the sale or, if larger, the amount received by the United States from the resale of the property.

(2) *Request for return of property.* A written request for the return of property wrongfully levied upon shall be addressed to the official who authorized the levy. The written request shall contain the following information:

(i) The name and address of the person submitting the request,

(ii) A detailed description of the property levied upon,

(iii) A description of the claimant's basis for claiming an interest in the property levied upon, and

(iv) The name and address of the taxpayer, the originating ATF office, and the date of lien or levy as shown on the Notice of Tax Lien, Notice of Levy, or, in

lieu thereof, a statement of the reasons why such information cannot be furnished.

(3) *Inadequate request.* A request shall not be considered adequate unless it is a written request containing the information required by paragraph (b)(2) of this section. However, unless a notification is mailed by the official who received the request to the claimant within 30 days of receipt of the request to inform the claimant of the inadequacies, any written request shall be considered adequate. If the official who received the request timely notifies the claimant of the inadequacies of the request, the claimant shall have 30 days from the receipt of the notification of inadequacy to supply in writing any omitted information. Where the omitted information is so supplied within the 30-day period, the request shall be considered to be adequate from the time the original request was made for purposes of determining the applicable period of limitation upon suit under 26 U.S.C. 6532(c).

(26 U.S.C. 6343)

§ 70.168 Redemption of property.

(a) *Before sale.* Any person whose property has been levied upon shall have the right to pay the amount due, together with costs and expenses of the proceeding, if any, to the regional director (compliance) at any time prior to the sale of the property. Upon such payment the regional director (compliance) shall restore such property to the owner and all further proceedings in connection with the levy on such property shall cease from the time of such payment.

(b) *Redemption of real estate after sale—(1) Period.* The owner of any real estate sold as provided in 26 U.S.C. 6335, the owner's heirs, executors, or administrators, or any person having any interest therein, or a lien thereon, or any person in their behalf, shall be permitted to redeem the property sold, or any particular tract of such property, at any time within 180 days after the sale thereof.

(2) *Price.* Such property or tract of property may be redeemed upon payment to the purchaser, or in case the purchaser cannot be found in the county in which the property to be redeemed is situated, then to the regional director (compliance) for the ATF region in which the property is situated, for the use of the purchaser, the purchaser's heirs, or assigns, the amount paid by such purchaser and interest thereon at the rate of 20 percent per annum. In case real and personal property (or several tracts of real property) are purchased in

the aggregate, the redemption price of the real property (or of each of the several tracts) shall be determined on the basis of the ratio, as of the time of sale, of the value of the real property (or tract) to the value of the total property purchased. For this purpose the minimum price or the highest bid price, whichever is higher, offered for the property separately or in groups shall be treated as the value.

(c) *Record.* When any real property is redeemed, the regional director (compliance) shall cause entry of the fact to be made upon the record of sale kept in accordance with 26 U.S.C. 6340 and § 70.187 of this part, and such entry shall be evidence of such redemption. The party who redeems the property shall notify the regional director (compliance) of the ATF region in which the property is situated of the date of such redemption and of the transfer of the certificate of sale, the amount of the redemption price, and the name of the party to whom such redemption price was paid.

(26 U.S.C. 6337)

§ 70.169 Expense of levy and sale.

The regional director (compliance) shall determine the expenses to be allowed in all cases of levy and sale. Such expenses shall include the expenses of protection and preservation of the property during the period subsequent to the levy, as well as the actual expenses incurred in connection with the sale thereof. In case real and personal property (or several tracts of real property) are sold in the aggregate, the regional director (compliance) shall properly apportion the expenses to the real property (or to each tract).

(26 U.S.C. 6341)

§ 70.170 Application of proceeds of levy.

(a) *Collection of liability.* Any money realized by proceedings under 26 U.S.C. 6331 through 6344, or by sale of property redeemed by the United States (if the interest of the United States in the property was a lien arising under the provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau), is applied in the manner specified in paragraphs (a)(1), (2), and (3) of this section. Money realized by proceedings under 26 U.S.C. 6331 through 6344, includes money realized by seizure, by sale of seized property, or by surrender under 26 U.S.C. 6332 except money realized by the imposition of a 50 percent penalty pursuant to 26 U.S.C. 6332(d)(2).

(1) *Expense of levy and sale.* First, against the expenses of the proceedings or sale, including expenses allowable

under 26 U.S.C. 6341 and amounts paid by the United States to redeem property.

(2) *Specific tax liability on seized property.* If the property seized and sold is subject to a tax imposed by any provision of 26 U.S.C. which has not been paid, the amount remaining after applying paragraph (a)(1) of this section, shall then be applied against such tax liability (and, if such tax was not previously assessed, it shall then be assessed):

(3) *Liability of delinquent taxpayer.* The amount, if any, remaining after applying paragraphs (a)(1) and (2) of this section, shall then be applied against the liability in respect of which the levy was made or the sale of redeemed property was conducted.

(b) *Surplus proceeds.* Any surplus proceeds remaining after the application of paragraph (a) of this section shall, upon application and satisfactory proof in support thereof, be credited or refunded by the Chief, Tax Processing Center to the person or persons legally entitled thereto. The delinquent taxpayer is the person entitled to the surplus proceeds unless another person establishes a superior claim thereto.

(26 U.S.C. 6342)

Par. 55. Sections 70.181 through 70.188 and an undesignated centerheading preceding them are added to read as follows:

Disposition of Property

§ 70.181 Disposition of seized property.

(a) *Notice of seizure.* As soon as practicable after seizure of property, the ATF officer seizing the property shall give notice in writing to the owner of the property (or, in the case of personal property, to the possessor thereof). The written notice shall be delivered to the owner (or to the possessor, in the case of personal property) or left at the owner's usual place of abode or business, if located within the ATF region where the seizure is made. If the owner cannot be readily located, or has no dwelling or place of business within such region, the notice may be mailed to the owner's last known address. Such notice shall specify the sum demanded and shall contain, in the case of personal property, a list sufficient to identify the property seized and, in the case of real property, a description with reasonable certainty of the property seized.

(b) *Notice of sale.* (1) As soon as practicable after seizure of the property, the regional director (compliance) shall give notice of sale in writing to the owner. Such notice shall be delivered to the owner or left at the owner's usual

place of abode or business if located within the ATF region where the seizure is made. If the owner cannot be readily located, or has no dwelling or place of business within such region, the notice may be mailed to the owner's last known address. The notice shall specify the property to be sold, and the time, place, manner, and conditions of the sale thereof, and shall expressly state that only the right, title, and interest of the delinquent taxpayer in and to such property is to be offered for sale. The notice shall also be published in some newspaper published in the county wherein the seizure is made or in a newspaper generally circulated in that county. For example, if a newspaper of general circulation in a county but not published in that county will reach more potential bidders for the property to be sold than a newspaper published within the county, or if there is a newspaper of general circulation within the county but no newspaper published within the county, the regional director (compliance) may cause public notice of the sale to be given in the newspaper of general circulation within the county. If there is no newspaper published or generally circulated in the county, the notice shall be posted at the post office nearest the place where the seizure is made, and in not less than two other public places.

(2) The regional director (compliance) may use other methods of giving notice of sale and of advertising seized property in addition to those referred to in paragraph (b)(1) of this section, when the regional director (compliance) believes that the nature of the property to be sold is such that a wider or more specialized advertising coverage will enhance the possibility of obtaining a higher price for the property.

(3) Whenever levy is made without regard to the 10-day period provided in 26 U.S.C. 6331(a) (relating to cases in which collection is in jeopardy), a public notice of sale of the property seized shall not be made within such 10-day period unless 26 U.S.C. 6336 (relating to perishable goods) is applicable.

(c) *Time, place, manner, and conditions of sale.* The time, place, manner, and conditions of sale of property seized by levy shall be as follows:

(1) *Time and place of sale.*—(i) *In general.* The time of sale shall not be less than 10 days nor more than 40 days from the time of giving public notice under 26 U.S.C. 6335(b) (see paragraph (b) of this section). The place of sale shall be within the county in which the property is seized, except that if it appears to the regional director (compliance) under whose supervision

the seizure was made that substantially higher bids may be obtained for the property if the sale is held at a place outside such county, the regional director (compliance) may order that the sale be held in such other place. The sale shall be held at the time and place stated in the notice of sale.

(ii) *Right to request sale of seized property within 60 days.* The owner of any property seized by levy may request that the regional director (compliance) sell such property within 60 days after such request (or within such longer period as may be specified by the owner). The regional director (compliance) shall comply with such request unless it is determined (and the owner is notified within such period) that such compliance would not be in the best interests of the United States.

(2) *Adjournment of sale.* When it appears to the regional director (compliance) that an adjournment of the sale will best serve the interest of the United States or that of the taxpayer, the regional director (compliance) may adjourn, or cause the ATF officer conducting the sale to adjourn, the sale from time to time, but the date of the sale shall not be later than one month after the date fixed in the original notice of sale.

(3) *Minimum price.* (i) Before the sale of property seized by levy, the regional director (compliance) shall determine:

(A) A minimum price, taking into account the expenses of levy and sale, for which the property shall be sold, and

(B) Whether the purchase of such property by the United States at such minimum price would be in the best interest of the United States.

If, at the sale, one or more persons offer to purchase such property for not less than the amount of the minimum price, the property shall be declared to be sold to the highest bidder. If no person offers for such property at the sale the amount of the minimum price and the regional director (compliance) has determined that the purchase of such property by the United States would be in the best interest of the United States, the property shall be declared to be sold to the United States at such minimum price. If, at the sale, the property is not declared sold to the highest bidder or the United States, the property shall be released to the owner thereof and the expense of the levy and sale shall be added to the amount of tax for the collection of which the levy was made. Any property released to the owner under these circumstances shall remain subject to any lien imposed by 26 U.S.C. chapter 64, subchapter C.

(ii) The ATF officer conducting the sale shall either announce the minimum price before the sale begins or defer announcement of the minimum price until after the receipt of the highest bid, and, if the highest bid is greater than the minimum price, no announcement of the minimum price shall be made.

(4) *Offering of property.*—(i) *Sale of indivisible property.* If any property levied upon is not divisible, so as to enable the regional director (compliance) by sale of a part thereof to raise the whole amount of the tax and expenses of levy and sale, the whole of such property shall be sold. For application of surplus proceeds of sale, see 26 U.S.C. 6342(b).

(ii) *Separately, in groups, or in the aggregate.* The seized property may be offered for sale:

(A) As separate items, or

(B) As groups of items, or

(C) In the aggregate, or

(D) Both as separate items (or in groups) and in the aggregate. In such cases, the property shall be sold under the method which produces the highest aggregate amount.

The regional director (compliance) shall select whichever of the foregoing methods of offering the property for sale as is most feasible under all the facts and circumstances of the case, except that if the property to be sold includes both real and personal property, only the personal property may be grouped for the purpose of offering such property for sale. However, real and personal property may be offered for sale in the aggregate, provided the real property, as separate items, and the personal as a group, or as groups, or as separate items, are first offered separately.

(iii) *Condition of title and of property.* Only the right, title, and interest of the delinquent taxpayer in and to the property seized shall be offered for sale, and such interest shall be offered subject to any prior outstanding mortgages, encumbrances, or other liens in favor of third parties which are valid as against the delinquent taxpayer and are superior to the lien of the United States. All seized property shall be offered for sale "as is" and "where is" and without recourse against the United States. No guaranty or warranty, express or implied, shall be made by the ATF officer offering the property for sale, as to the validity of the title, quality, quantity, weight, size, or condition of any of the property, or its fitness for any use or purpose. No claim shall be considered for allowance or adjustment or for rescission of the sale based upon failure of the property to

conform with any representation, express or implied.

(iv) *Terms of payment.* The property shall be offered for sale upon whichever of the following terms is fixed by the regional director (compliance) in the public notice of sale:

(A) Payment in full upon acceptance of the highest bid, without regard to the amount of such bid, or

(B) If the aggregate price of all property purchased by a successful bidder at the sale is more than \$200, an initial payment of \$200 or 20 percent of the purchase price, whichever is the greater, and payment of the balance (including all costs incurred for the protection or preservation of the property subsequent to the sale and prior to final payment) within a specified period, not to exceed 1 month from the date of the sale.

(5) *Method of sale.* The regional director (compliance) shall sell the property either:

(i) At public auction, at which open competitive bids shall be received, or

(ii) At public sale under sealed bids. The following rules, in addition to the other rules provided in this paragraph, shall be applicable to public sale under sealed bids:

(A) *Invitation to bidders.* Bids shall be solicited through a public notice of sale.

(B) *Form for use by bidders.* A bid shall be submitted on a form which will be furnished by the regional director (compliance) upon request. The form shall be completed in accordance with the instructions thereon.

(C) *Remittance with bid.* If the total bid is \$200 or less, the full amount of the bid shall be submitted therewith. If the total bid is more than \$200, 20 percent of such bid or \$200, whichever is greater, shall be submitted therewith. (In the case of alternative bids submitted by the same bidder for items of property offered separately, or groups, or in the aggregate, the bidder shall remit the full amount of the highest alternative bid submitted, if the bid is \$200 or less. If the highest alternative bid submitted is more than \$200, the bidder shall remit 20 percent of the highest alternative bid or \$200, whichever is greater.) Such remittance shall be by a certified, cashier's, or treasurer's check drawn on any bank or trust company incorporated under the laws of the United States or under the laws of any State, Territory, or possession of the United States, or by a U.S. postal, bank, express, or telegraph money order.

(D) *Time for receiving and opening bids.* Each bid shall be submitted in a securely sealed envelope. The bidder shall indicate in the upper left hand corner of the envelope the bidder's

name and address and the time and place of sale as announced in the public notice of sale. A bid will not be considered unless it is received by the ATF officer conducting the sale prior to the opening of the bids. The bids will be opened at the time and place stated in the notice or sale, or at the time fixed in the announcement of the adjournment of the sale.

(E) *Consideration of bids.* The public notice of sale shall specify whether the property is to be sold separately, by groups, or in the aggregate or by a combination of these methods, as provided in paragraph (c)(4)(ii) of this section. If the notice specifies an alternative method, bidders may submit bids under one or more of the alternatives. In case of error in the extension of prices in any bid, the unit price will govern. The ATF officer conducting the sale shall have the right to waive any technical defects in a bid. In the event two or more highest bids are equal in amount, the ATF officer conducting the sale shall determine the successful bidder by drawing lots. After the opening, examination, and consideration of all bids, the ATF officer conducting the sale shall announce the amount of the highest bid or bids and the name of the successful bidder or bidders. Any remittance submitted in connection with an unsuccessful bid shall be returned at the conclusion of the sale.

(F) *Withdrawal of bids.* A bid may be withdrawn on written or telegraphic request received from the bidder prior to the time fixed for opening the bids. A technical defect in a bid confers no right on the bidder for the withdrawal of his bid after it has been opened.

(6) *Payment of bid price.* All payments for property sold under this section shall be made by cash or by a certified, cashier's, or treasurer's check drawn on any bank or trust company incorporated under the laws of the United States, or under the laws of any State, Territory, or possession of the United States, or by a U.S. postal, bank, express, or telegraph money order. If payment in full is required upon acceptance of the highest bid, the payment shall be made at such time. If deferred payment is permitted, the initial payment shall be made upon acceptance of the bid, and the balance shall be paid on or before the date fixed for payment thereof. Any remittance submitted with a successful sealed bid shall be applied toward the purchase price.

(7) *Delivery and removal of personal property.* Responsibility of the United States for the protection or preservation of seized personal property shall cease immediately upon acceptance of the

highest bid. The risk of loss is on the purchaser of personal property upon acceptance of his bid. Possession of any personal property shall not be delivered to the purchaser until the purchase price has been paid in full. If payment of part of the purchase price for personal property is deferred, the United States will retain possession of such property as security for the payment of the balance of the purchase price and, as agent for the purchaser, will cause the property to be cared for until the purchase price has been paid in full or the sale is declared null and void for failure to make full payment of the purchase price. In such case, all charges and expenses incurred in caring for the property after the acceptance of the bid shall be borne by the purchaser.

(8) *Default in payment.* If payment in full is required upon acceptance of the bid and is not then and there paid, the ATF officer conducting the sale shall forthwith proceed again to sell the property in the manner provided in 26 U.S.C. 6335(e) and this section. If the conditions of the sale permit part of the payment to be deferred, and if such part is not paid within the prescribed period, suit may be instituted against the purchaser for the purchase price or such part thereof as has not been paid, together with interest at the rate of 6 percent per annum from the date of the sale; or, in the discretion of the regional director (compliance), the sale may be declared by the regional director (compliance) to be null and void for failure to make full payment of the purchase price and the property may again be advertised and sold as provided in 26 U.S.C. 6335(b), (c), and (e) and this section. In the event of such readvertisement and sale, any new purchaser shall receive such property or rights to property free and clear of any claim or right of the former defaulting purchaser, of any nature whatsoever, and the amount paid upon the bid price by such defaulting purchaser shall be forfeited to the United States.

(26 U.S.C. 6335)

§ 70.182 Disposition of personal property acquired by the United States.

(a) *Sale.*—(1) *In general.* Any personal property (except bonds, notes, checks, and other securities) acquired by the United States in payment of or as security for debts arising under the internal revenue laws may be sold by the regional director (compliance) who acquired such property for the United States. United States saving bonds shall not be sold by the regional director (compliance), but shall be transferred to the appropriate office of the Treasury

Department for redemption. Other bonds, notes, checks, and other securities shall be disposed of in accordance with instructions issued by the Director.

(2) *Time, place, manner and terms of sale.* The time, place, manner and terms of sale of personal property acquired for the United States shall be as follows:

(i) *Time, notice, and place of sale.* The property may be sold at any time after it has been acquired by the United States. A public notice of sale shall be posted at the post office nearest the place of sale and in at least two other public places. The notice shall specify the property to be sold and the time, place, manner, and conditions of sale. In addition, the regional director (compliance) may use such other methods of advertising as the regional director (compliance) believes will result in obtaining the highest price for the property. The place of sale shall be within the region where the property was originally acquired by the United States. However, if the regional director (compliance) believes that a substantially higher price may be obtained, the sale may be held outside the region.

(ii) *Rejection of bids and adjournment of sale.* The ATF officer conducting the sale reserves the right to reject any and all bids and withdraw the property from the sale. When it appears to the ATF officer conducting the sale that an adjournment of the sale will best serve the interest of the United States, that officer may order the sale adjourned from time to time. If the sale is adjourned for more than 30 days in the aggregate, public notice of the sale must again be given in accordance with paragraph (a)(2)(i) of this section.

(iii) *Liquidated damages.* The notice shall state whether, in the case of default in payment of the bid price, any amount deposited with the United States will be retained as liquidated damages. In case liquidated damages are provided, the amount thereof shall not exceed \$200.

(3) *Agreement to bid.* The regional director (compliance) may, before giving notice of sale, solicit offers from prospective bidders and enter into agreements with such persons that they will bid at least a specified amount in case the property is offered for sale. In such cases, the regional director (compliance) may also require such persons to make deposits to secure the performance of their agreements. Any such deposit, but not more than \$200, shall be retained as liquidated damages in case such person fails to bid the specified amount and the property is not sold for as much as the amount specified in such agreement.

(4) *Terms of payment.* The property shall be offered for sale upon whichever of the following terms is fixed by the regional director (compliance) in the public notice of sale:

(i) Payment in full upon acceptance of the highest bid, without regard to the amount of such bid, or

(ii) If the aggregate price of all property purchased by a successful bidder at the sale is more than \$200, an initial payment of \$200 or 20 percent of the purchase price, whichever is the greater, and payment of the balance (including all costs incurred for the protection or preservation of the property subsequent to the sale and prior to final payment) within a specified period, not to exceed one month from the date of the sale.

(5) *Method of sale.* The property may be sold either:

(i) At public auction, at which open competitive bids shall be received, or

(ii) At public sale under sealed bids.

(6) *Sales under sealed bids.* The following rules, in addition to the other rules provided in this paragraph, shall be applicable to public sales under sealed bids.

(i) *Invitation to bidders.* Bids shall be solicited through a public notice of sale.

(ii) *Form for use by bidders.* A bid shall be submitted on a form which will be furnished by the regional director (compliance) upon request. The form shall be completed in accordance with the instructions thereon.

(iii) *Remittance with bid.* If the total bid is \$200 or less, the full amount of the bid shall be submitted therewith. If the total bid is more than \$200, 20 percent of such bid or \$200, whichever is greater, shall be submitted therewith. Such remittance shall be by a certified, cashier's, or treasurer's check drawn on any bank or trust company incorporated under the laws of the United States or under the laws of any State, Territory, or possession of the United States, or by a U.S. postal, bank, express, or telegraph money order.

(iv) *Time for receiving and opening bids.* Each bid shall be submitted in a securely sealed envelope. The bidder shall indicate in the upper left hand corner of the envelope the bidder's name and address and the time and place of sale as announced in the public notice of sale. A bid will not be considered unless it is received by the ATF officer conducting the sale prior to the opening of the bids. The bids will be opened at the time and place stated in the notice of sale, or at the time fixed in the announcement of the adjournment of the sale.

(v) *Consideration of bids.* The ATF officer conducting the sale shall have

the right to waive any technical defects in a bid. After the opening, examination, and consideration of all bids, the ATF officer conducting the sale shall announce the amount of the highest bid or bids and the name of the successful bidder or bidders, unless in the opinion of the officer a higher price can be obtained for the property than has been bid. In the event the highest bids are equal in amount (and unless in the opinion of the ATF officer conducting the sale a higher price can be obtained for the property than has been bid), the officer shall determine the successful bidder by drawing lots. Any remittance submitted in connection with an unsuccessful bid shall be returned to the bidder at the conclusion of the sale.

(vi) *Withdrawal of bids.* A bid may be withdrawn on written or telegraphic request received from the bidder prior to the time fixed for opening the bids. A technical defect in a bid confers no right on the bidder for the withdrawal of the bid after it has been opened.

(7) *Payment of bid price.* All payments for property sold pursuant to this section shall be made by cash or by a certified, cashier's or treasurer's check drawn on any bank or trust company incorporated under the laws of the United States or under the laws of any State, Territory, or possession of the United States, or by a U.S. postal, bank, express, or telegraph money order. If payment in full is required upon acceptance of the highest bid, the payment shall be made at such time. If payment in full is not made at such time, the ATF officer conducting the sale may forthwith proceed again to sell the property in the manner provided in paragraph (a)(5) of this section. If deferred payment is permitted, the initial payment shall be made upon acceptance of the bid, and the balance shall be paid on or before the date fixed for payment thereof. Any remittance submitted with a successful sealed bid shall be applied toward the purchase price.

(8) *Delivery and removal of personal property.* The risk of loss is on the purchaser of the property upon acceptance of the purchaser's bid. Possession of any property shall not be delivered to the purchaser until the purchase price has been paid in full. If payment of part of the purchase price for the property is deferred, the United States will retain possession of such property as security for the payment of the balance of the purchase price and, as agent for the purchaser, will cause the property to be cared for until the purchase price has been paid in full or the sale is declared null and void for failure to make full payment of the

purchase price. In such case, all charges and expenses incurred in caring for the property after acceptance of the bid shall be borne by the purchaser.

(9) *Certificate of sale.* The ATF officer conducting the sale shall issue a certificate of sale to the purchaser upon payment in full of the purchase price.

(b) *Accounting.* In case of the resale of such property, the proceeds of the sale shall be paid into the Treasury as internal revenue collections and there shall be rendered by the regional director (compliance) a distinct account of all charges incurred in such sale. For additional accounting rules, see 26 U.S.C. 7809.

(26 U.S.C. 7505)

§ 70.183 Administration and disposition of real estate acquired by the United States.

(a) *Persons charged with.* The regional director (compliance) for the region in which the property is situated shall have charge of all real estate which has been or shall be assigned, set off, or otherwise conveyed by purchase or otherwise to the United States in payment of debts or penalties arising under provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau or which has been or shall be vested in the United States by mortgage, or other security for payment of such debts, or which has been redeemed by the United States, or which has been or shall be acquired by the United States for payment of or as security for debts arising under provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau, and of all trusts created for the use of the United States in payment of such debts due the United States.

(b) *Sale.* The regional director (compliance) for the region in which the property is situated may sell any real estate owned or held by the United States as aforesaid, subject to the following rules:

(1) *Property purchased at sale under levy.* If the property was acquired as a result of being declared purchased for the United States at a sale under 26 U.S.C. 6335, relating to sale of seized property, the property shall not be sold until after the expiration of 180 days after such sale under levy.

(2) *Notice of sale.* A notice of sale shall be published in some newspaper published or generally circulated within the county where the property is situated, or a notice shall be posted at the post office nearest the place where the property is situated and in at least two other public places. The notice shall specify the property to be sold and the time, place, manner and conditions of sale. In addition, the regional director (compliance) may use other methods of

advertising and of giving notice of the sale if the regional director (compliance) believes such methods will enhance the possibility of obtaining a higher price for the property.

(3) *Time and place of sale.* The time of the sale shall be not less than 20 days from the date of giving public notice of sale under paragraph (b)(2) of this section. The place of sale shall be within the county where the property is situated. However, if the regional director (compliance) believes a substantially better price may be obtained, the sale may be held outside such county.

(4) *Rejection of bids and adjournment of sale.* The ATF officer conducting the sale reserves the right to reject any and all bids and withdraw the property from the sale. When it appears to the ATF officer conducting the sale that an adjournment of the sale will best serve the interest of the United States, that officer may order the sale adjourned from time to time. If the sale is adjourned for more than 30 days in the aggregate, public notice of the sale must be given again in accordance with paragraph (b)(2) of this section.

(5) *Liquidated damages.* The notice shall state whether, in the case of default in payment of the bid price, any amount deposited with the United States will be retained as liquidated damages. In case liquidated damages are provided, the amount thereof shall not exceed \$200.

(6) *Agreement to bid.* The regional director (compliance) may, before giving notice of sale, solicit offers from prospective bidders and enter into agreements with such persons that they will bid at least a specified amount in case the property is offered for sale. In such cases, the regional director (compliance) may also require such persons to make deposits to secure the performance of their agreements. Any such deposit, but not more than \$200, shall be retained as liquidated damages in case such person fails to bid the specified amount and the property is not sold for as much as the amount specified in such agreement.

(7) *Terms.* The property shall be offered for sale upon whichever of the following terms is fixed by the regional director (compliance) in the public notice of sale:

(i) Payments in full upon acceptance of the highest bid, or

(ii) If the price of the property purchased by a successful bidder at the sale is more than \$200, an initial payment of \$200 or 20 percent of the purchase price, whichever is the greater, and payment of the balance within a specified period, not to exceed one month from the date of the sale.

(8) *Method of sale.* The property may be sold either:

(i) At public auction, at which open competitive bids shall be received, or

(ii) At public sale under sealed bids.

(9) *Sales under sealed bids.* The following rules, in addition to the other rules provided in this paragraph (b), shall be applicable to public sales under sealed bids.

(i) *Invitation to bidders.* Bids shall be solicited through a public notice of sale.

(ii) *Form for use by bidders.* A bid shall be submitted on a form which will be furnished by the regional director (compliance) upon request. The form shall be completed in accordance with the instructions thereon.

(iii) *Remittance with bid.* If the total bid is \$200 or less, the full amount of the bid shall be submitted therewith. If the total bid is more than \$200, 20 percent of such bid or \$200, whichever is greater, shall be submitted therewith. Such remittance shall be by a certified, cashier's, or treasurer's check drawn on any bank or trust company incorporated under the laws of the United States or under the laws of any State, Territory, or possession of the United States, or by a U.S. postal, bank, express, or telegraph money order.

(iv) *Time for receiving and opening bids.* Each bid shall be submitted in a securely sealed envelope. The bidder shall indicate in the upper left hand corner of the envelope the bidder's name and address and the time and place of sale as announced in the public notice of sale. A bid shall not be considered unless it is received by the ATF officer conducting the sale prior to the opening of the bids. The bids will be opened at the time and place stated in the notice of sale, or at the time fixed in the announcement of the adjournment of the sale.

(v) *Consideration of bids.* The ATF officer conducting the sale shall have the right to waive any technical defects in a bid. After the opening, examination, and consideration of all bids, the ATF officer conducting the sale shall announce the amount of the highest bid or bids and the name of the successful bidder or bidders, unless in the opinion of the officer a higher price can be obtained for the property than has been bid. In the event the highest bids are equal in amount (and unless in the opinion of the ATF officer conducting the sale a higher price can be obtained for the property than has been bid), the officer shall determine the successful bidder by drawing lots. Any remittance submitted in connection with an unsuccessful bid shall be returned to the bidder at the conclusion of the sale.

(vi) *Withdrawal of bid.* A bid may be withdrawn on written or telegraphic request received from the bidder prior to the time fixed for opening the bids. A technical defect in a bid confers no right on the bidder for the withdrawal of the bid after it has been opened.

(10) *Payment of bid price.* All payments for property sold pursuant to this section shall be made by cash or by a certified cashier's or treasurer's check drawn on any bank or trust company incorporated under the laws of the United States or under the laws of any State, Territory, or possession of the United States, or by a U.S. postal, bank, express, or telegraph money order. If payment in full is required upon acceptance of the highest bid, the payment shall be made at such time. If payment in full is not made at such time, the ATF officer conducting the sale may forthwith proceed again to sell the property in the manner provided in paragraph (b)(8) of this section. If deferred payment is permitted, the initial payment shall be made upon acceptance of the bid, and the balance shall be paid on or before the date fixed for payment thereof. Any remittance submitted with a successful sealed bid shall be applied toward the purchase price.

(11) *Deed.* Upon payment in full of the purchase price, the regional director (compliance) shall execute a quitclaim deed to the purchaser.

(c) *Lease.* Until real estate is sold, the regional director (compliance) for the region in which the property is situated may lease such property.

(d) *Release to debtor.* In cases where real estate has or may become the property of the United States by conveyance or otherwise, in payment of or as security for a debt arising under the laws relating to internal revenue, and such debt shall have been paid, together with the interest thereon (at the rate of 1 percent per month), to the United States within 2 years from the date of the acquisition of such real estate, the regional director (compliance) for the region in which the property is located may release by deed or otherwise convey such real estate to the debtor from whom it was taken, or to the debtor's heirs or other legal representatives. If property is declared purchased by the United States under 26 U.S.C. 6335, then, for the purpose of this paragraph, the date of such declaration shall be deemed to be the date of acquisition of such real estate.

(e) *Accounting.* The regional director (compliance) for the region in which the property is situated shall, in accordance with 26 U.S.C. 7809, account for the proceeds of all sales or leases of the

property and all expenses connected with the maintenance, sale, or lease of the property.

(f) *Authority of Director.* Notwithstanding the other paragraphs of this section, the Director may, when the Director deems it advisable, take charge of and assume responsibility for any real estate to which this section is applicable. In such case, the Director will notify in writing the regional director (compliance) for the region in which the property is situated. In any case where a single parcel of real estate is situated in more than one region, the Director may designate in writing a regional director (compliance) who shall have charge of and be responsible for the entire property.

(26 U.S.C. 7506)

§ 70.184 Disposition of perishable goods.

(a) *Appraisal of certain seized property.* If the regional director (compliance) determines that any property seized by levy is liable to perish or become greatly reduced in price or value by keeping, or that such property cannot be kept without great expense, the regional director (compliance) shall appraise the value of such property and return it to the owner if the owner complies with the conditions prescribed in paragraph (b) of this section or, if the owner does not comply with such conditions, dispose of the property in accordance with paragraph (c) of this section.

(b) *Return to owner.* If the owner of the property can be readily found, the regional director (compliance) shall give the owner written notice of the regional director (compliance)'s determination of the appraised value of the property. However, if the regional director (compliance) determines that the circumstances require immediate action, the regional director (compliance) may give the owner an oral notice of the determination of the appraised value of the property, which notice shall be confirmed in writing prior to sale. The property shall be returned to the owner if, within the time specified in the notice, the owner:

(1) Pays to the regional director (compliance) an amount equal to the appraised value, or

(2) Gives an acceptable bond as prescribed by 26 U.S.C. 7101 and § 70.281 of this part. Such bond shall be in an amount not less than the appraised value of the property and shall be conditioned upon the payment of such amount at such time as the regional director (compliance) determines to be appropriate in the circumstances.

(c) *Immediate sale.* If the owner does not pay the amount of the appraised value of the seized property within the time specified in the notice, or furnish bond as provided in paragraph (b) of this section within such time, the regional director (compliance) shall as soon as practicable make public sale of the property in accordance with the following terms and conditions:

(1) *Notice of sale.* If the owner can readily be found, a notice shall be given to the owner. A notice of sale also shall be posted in two public places in the county which the property is to be sold. The notice shall specify the time and place of sale, the property to be sold, and the manner and conditions of sale. The regional director (compliance) may give such other notice and in such other manner as the regional director (compliance) deems advisable under the circumstances.

(2) *Sale.* The property shall be sold at public auction to the higher bidder.

(3) *Terms.* The purchase price shall be paid in full upon acceptance of the highest bid. The payment shall be made by cash, or by a certified, cashier's or treasurer's check drawn on any bank or trust company incorporated under the laws of the United States or under the laws of any State, Territory, or possession of the United States, or by a U.S. postal, bank, express, or telegraph money order.

(26 U.S.C. 6336)

§ 70.185 Certificate of sale; deed of real property.

(a) *Certificate of sale.* In the case of property sold as provided in 26 U.S.C. 6335 (relating to sale of seized property), the regional director (compliance) shall give to the purchaser a certificate of sale upon payment in full of the purchase price. A certificate of sale of real property shall set forth the real property purchased, for whose taxes the same was sold, the name of the purchaser, and the price paid therefor.

(b) *Deed to real property.* In case of any real property sold as provided in 26 U.S.C. 6335 and not redeemed in the manner and within the time prescribed in 26 U.S.C. 6337, the regional director (compliance) shall execute (in accordance with the laws of the State in which the real property is situated pertaining to sales of real property under execution) to the purchaser of such real property at the sale or his assigns, upon surrender of the certificate of sale, a deed of the real property so purchased, reciting the facts set forth in the certificate.

(c) *Deed to real property purchased by the United States.* If real property is

declared purchased by the United States at a sale pursuant to 26 U.S.C. 6335, the regional director (compliance) shall at the proper time execute a deed therefor and shall, without delay, cause the deed to be duly recorded in the proper registry of deeds.

(26 U.S.C. 6338)

§ 70.186 Legal effect of certificate of sale of personal property and deed of real property.

(a) *Certificate of sale of property other than real property.* In all cases of sale pursuant to 26 U.S.C. 6335 of property (other than real property), the certificate of such sale.

(1) *As evidence.* Shall be prima facie evidence of the right of the officer to make such sale, and conclusive evidence of the regularity of the officer's proceedings in making the sale; and

(2) *As conveyance.* Shall transfer to the purchaser all right, title, and interest of the party delinquent in and to the property sold; and

(3) *As authority for transfer of corporate stock.* If such property consists of corporate stocks, shall be notice, when received, to any corporation, company, or association of such transfer, and shall be authority to such corporation, company, or association to record the transfer on its books and records in the same manner as if the stocks were transferred or assigned by the party holding the stock certificate, in lieu of any original or prior certificate, which shall be void, whether canceled or not; and

(4) *As receipts.* If the subject of sale is securities or other evidence of debt, shall be a good and valid receipt to the person holding the certificate of sale as against any person holding or claiming to hold possession of such securities or other evidences of debt; and

(5) *As authority for transfer of title to motor vehicle.* If such property consists of a motor vehicle, shall be notice, when received, to any public official charged with the registration of title to motor vehicles, of such transfer and shall be authority to such official to record the transfer on his books and records in the same manner as if the certificate of title to such motor vehicle were transferred or assigned by the party holding the certificate of title, in lieu of any original or prior certificate, which shall be null and void, whether canceled or not.

(b) *Deed to real property.* In the case of the sale of real property pursuant to 26 U.S.C. 6335:

(1) *Deed as evidence.* The deed of sale given pursuant to 26 U.S.C. 6338 shall be prima facie evidence of the facts therein stated; and

(2) *Deed as conveyance of title.* If the proceedings of the regional director (compliance) as set forth have been substantially in accordance with the provisions of law, such deed shall be considered and operate as a conveyance of all the right, title, and interest the party delinquent had in and to the real property thus sold at the time the lien of the United States attached thereto.

(c) *Effect of junior encumbrances.* A certificate of sale of personal property given or a deed to real property executed pursuant to 26 U.S.C. 6338 discharges the property from all liens, encumbrances, and titles over which the lien of the United States, with respect to which the levy was made, has priority. For example, a mortgage on real property executed after a notice of a Federal tax lien has been filed is extinguished when the regional director (compliance) executes a deed to the real property to a purchaser thereof at a sale pursuant to 26 U.S.C. 6335 following the seizure of the property by the United States. The proceeds of such a sale are distributed in accordance with priority of the liens, encumbrances, or titles. See 26 U.S.C. 6342(b) and 7426(a)(2) and §§ 70.170 and 70.207(a)(2) of this part with respect to surplus proceeds.

(26 U.S.C. 6339)

§ 70.187 Records of sale.

(a) *Requirement.* Each regional director (compliance) shall make a record of all sales under 26 U.S.C. 6335 of real property situated within that region and of redemptions of such property. The records shall set forth the tax for which any such sale was made, the dates of seizures and sale, the name of the party assessed and all proceedings in making such sale, the amount of expenses, the names of the purchasers, and the date of the deed. In the case of redemption of the property, the records shall additionally set forth the date of such redemption and of the transfer of the certificate of sale, the amount of the redemption price, and the name of the party to whom such redemption price was paid. The original record shall be retained by the Chief, Tax Processing Center.

(b) *Copy as evidence.* A copy of such record, or any part thereof, certified by the Chief, Tax Processing Center shall be evidence in any court of the truth of the facts therein stated.

(26 U.S.C. 6340)

§ 70.188 Expense of levy and sale.

The regional director (compliance) shall determine the expenses to be allowed in all cases of levy and sale. Such expenses shall include the

expenses of protection and preservation of the property during the period subsequent to the levy, as well as the actual expenses incurred in connection with the sale thereof. In case real and personal property (or several tracts of real property) are sold in the aggregate, the regional director (compliance) shall properly apportion the expenses to the real property (or to each tract).

(26 U.S.C. 6341)

Par. 56. Sections 70.191 through 70.193 and 70.201 through 70.213 with their undesignated centerheadings, are added to read as follows:

Judicial Proceedings

Civil Action by the United States

§ 70.191 Authorization.

(a) *In general.* No civil action for the collection or recovery of taxes, or of any fine, penalty, or forfeiture (with respect to the provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau) shall be commenced unless the Director, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, or designated delegate, or the Chief Counsel for the Bureau, or designated delegate, directs that the action be commenced.

(b) *Property held by banks.* The Director shall not authorize or sanction any civil action for the collection or recovery of taxes, or of any fine, penalty, or forfeiture, from any deposits held in a foreign office of a bank engaged in the banking business in the United States or a possession of the United States unless the Director believes:

(1) That the taxpayer is within the jurisdiction of a U.S. court at the time the civil action is authorized or sanctioned and that the bank is in possession of (or obligated with respect to) deposits of the taxpayer in an office of the bank outside the United States or a possession of the United States; or

(2) That the taxpayer is not within the jurisdiction of a U.S. court at the time the civil action is authorized or sanctioned, that the bank is in possession of (or obligated with respect to) deposits of the taxpayer in an office of the bank outside the United States or a possession of the United States, and that such deposits consist, in whole or in part, of funds transferred from the United States or a possession of the United States in order to hinder or delay the collection of a tax imposed by the provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau.

(26 U.S.C. 7401)

§ 70.192 Action to enforce lien or to subject property to payment of tax.

(a) *Civil actions.* In any case where there has been a refusal or neglect to pay any tax (with respect to the provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau) or to discharge any liability in respect thereof, whether or not levy has been made, the Attorney General or designated delegate at the request of the Director, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, or the Chief Counsel for the Bureau or designated delegate, may direct a civil action to be filed in any court of the United States to enforce the lien of the United States under the Internal Revenue Code with respect to such tax or liability or to subject any property, of whatever nature, of the delinquent, or in which the delinquent has any right, title or interest, to the payment of such tax or liability. In any such proceeding, at the instance of the United States, the court may appoint a receiver to enforce the lien, or, upon certification by the Director or the Chief Counsel for the Bureau during the pendency of such proceedings that it is in the public interest, may appoint a receiver with all the powers of a receiver in equity.

(b) *Bid by the United States.* If property is sold to satisfy a first lien held by the United States, the United States may bid at the sale a sum which does not exceed the amount of its lien and the expenses of the sale. See also 31 U.S.C. 3715.

(26 U.S.C. 7403)

§ 70.193 Disposition of judgments and moneys recovered.

All judgments and moneys recovered or received for taxes, costs, forfeitures, and penalties (with respect to the provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau) shall be paid to the Bureau as collections of taxes imposed under the provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau.

(26 U.S.C. 7406)

Proceedings by Taxpayers and Third Parties**§ 70.201 Exhaustion of administrative remedies.**

(a) *In general.* Title 26 U.S.C. 7430(b)(1) provides that a court shall not award reasonable litigation costs in any civil tax proceeding in court under 26 U.S.C. 7430(a) unless the court determines that the prevailing party has exhausted the administrative remedies available to the party within the Bureau. This section sets forth the circumstances in which the Bureau normally will

consider such administrative remedies exhausted.

(b) *Tax, penalty and addition to tax—*
(1) *In general.* A party has not exhausted its administrative remedies available within the Bureau with respect to any tax matter for which a managerial review is available under § 70.486 of this part unless:

(i) The party, prior to filing a civil action for refund in a court of the United States:

(A) Participates, either in person or through a qualified representative described in 31 CFR part 8, in a managerial review; and

(B) Agrees under 26 U.S.C. 6501(c)(4) to extend the time for an assessment of tax if necessary to provide the appropriate manager with a reasonable time period to consider the tax matter; or

(ii) The party, if no managerial review is granted, and, prior to the issuance of a statutory notice of disallowance in the case of a civil action for refund in a court of the United States:

(A) Requests a managerial review in accordance with § 70.486 of this part;

(B) Files a written protest if a written protest is required to obtain a managerial review; and

(C) Agrees under 26 U.S.C. 6501(c)(4) to extend the time for an assessment of tax if necessary to provide the appropriate manager with a reasonable time period to consider the tax matter.

(2) *Participates.*—For purposes of this paragraph a party or qualified representative of the party described in 31 CFR part 8 participates in a managerial review if the party or qualified representative discloses to the appropriate manager all relevant information regarding the party's tax matter to the extent such information and its relevance were known or should have been known to the party or qualified representative at the time of such conference.

(c) *Actions involving summonses, levies, liens, jeopardy assessments, etc.*

(1) A party has not exhausted its administrative remedies available within the Bureau with respect to a matter other than one to which paragraph (b) of this section applies (including summonses, levies, liens and jeopardy assessments) unless, prior to filing an action in a court of the United States:

(i) The party submits to the ATF officer who has jurisdiction over the dispute a written claim for relief reciting facts and circumstances sufficient to show the nature of the relief requested and that the party is entitled to such relief; and

(ii) The ATF officer has denied the claim for relief in writing or failed to act on the claim within a reasonable period after such claim is received by that officer.

(2) For purposes of this paragraph, a reasonable period is:

(i) The 5-day period preceding the filing of a petition to quash an administrative summons issued under 26 U.S.C. 7609;

(ii) The 5-day period preceding the filing of a wrongful levy action in which a demand for the return of property is made;

(iii) The period expressly provided for administrative review of the party's claim by an applicable provision of 26 U.S.C. that expressly provides for the pursuit of administrative remedies (such as the 18-day period provided under 26 U.S.C. 7429(b)(1)(B) relating to review of jeopardy assessment procedures); or

(iv) The 60-day period following receipt of the claim for relief in all other cases.

(d) *Tax matter.* For purposes of this section "tax matter" means a matter in connection with the determination, collection or refund of any tax, interest or penalty under provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau.

(e) *Exception to requirement that party pursue administrative remedies.* A party's administrative remedies within the Bureau are considered exhausted for purposes of 26 U.S.C. 7430 if the Bureau notifies the party in writing that the pursuit of administrative remedies in accordance with paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section is unnecessary.

(26 U.S.C. 7430)

§ 70.202 Intervention.

If the United States is not a party to a civil action or suit, the United States may intervene in such action or suit to assert any lien arising under provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau on the property which is the subject of such action or suit. The provisions of 28 U.S.C. 2410 (except subsection (b)) and of 28 U.S.C. 1444 shall apply in any case in which the United States intervenes as if the United States had originally been named a defendant in such action or suit. If the application of the United States to intervene is denied, the adjudication in such civil action or suit shall have no effect upon such lien.

(26 U.S.C. 7424)

§ 70.203 Discharge of liens; scope and application; judicial proceedings.

(a) *In general.* A tax lien of the United States, or a title derived from the

enforcement of a tax lien of the United States, may be discharged or divested under local law only in the manner prescribed in 26 U.S.C. 2410 or in the manner prescribed in 26 U.S.C. 7425. Title 26 U.S.C. 7425(a) contains provisions relating to the discharge of a lien when the United States is not joined as a party in the judicial proceedings described in subsection (a) of 26 U.S.C. 2410. These judicial proceedings are plenary in nature and proceed on formal pleadings. Title 26 U.S.C. 7425(b) contains provisions relating to the discharge of a lien or a title derived from the enforcement of a lien in the event of a nonjudicial sale with respect to the property involved. Title 26 U.S.C. 7425(c) contains special rules relating to the notice of sale requirements contained in 26 U.S.C. 7425(b).

(b) *Judicial proceedings*—(1) *In general.* Title 26 U.S.C. 7425(a) provides rules, where the United States is not joined as a party, to determine the effect of a judgment in any civil action or suit described in subsection (a) of 26 U.S.C. 2410 (relating to joinder of the United States in certain proceedings), or a judicial sale pursuant to such a judgment, with respect to property on which the United States has or claims a lien under the provisions of 26 U.S.C. If the United States is improperly named as a party to a judicial proceeding, the effect is the same as if the United States were not joined.

(2) *Notice of lien filed when the proceeding is commenced.* Where the United States is not properly joined as a party in the court proceeding and a notice of lien has been filed in accordance with 26 U.S.C. 6323(f) or (g) in the place provided by law for such filing at the time the action or suit is commenced, a judgment or judicial sale pursuant to such a judgment shall be made subject to and without disturbing the lien of the United States.

(3) *Notice of lien not filed when the proceeding is commenced.* Where the United States is not joined as a party in the court proceeding and either a notice of lien has not been filed in accordance with 26 U.S.C. 6323(f) or (g) in the place provided by law for such filing at the time the action or suit is commenced, or the law makes no provision for that filing, a judgment or judicial sale pursuant to such a judgment shall have the same effect with respect to the discharge or divestment of the lien of the United States as may be provided with respect to these matters by the local law of the place where the property is situated.

(4) *Proceeds of a judicial sale.* If a judicial sale of property pursuant to a judgment in any civil action or suit to

which the United States is not a party discharges a lien of the United States arising under the provisions of 26 U.S.C., the United States may claim the proceeds of the sale (exclusive of costs) prior to the time that distribution of the proceeds is ordered. The claim of the United States in such a case is treated as having the same priority with respect to the proceeds as the lien had with respect to the property which was discharged from the lien by the judicial sale.

[26 U.S.C. 7425(a)]

§ 70.204 Discharge of liens; nonjudicial sales.

(a) *In general.* Title 26 U.S.C. 7425(b) contains provisions with respect to the effect on the interest of the United States in property in which the United States has or claims a lien, or a title derived from the enforcement of a lien, of a sale made pursuant to:

(1) An instrument creating a lien on the property sold.

(2) A confession of judgment on the obligation secured by an instrument creating a lien on the property sold, or

(3) A statutory lien on the property sold.

For purposes of this section, such a sale is referred to as a "nonjudicial sale." The term "nonjudicial sale" includes, but is not limited to, the divestment of the taxpayer's interest in property which occurs by operation of law, by public or private sale, by forfeiture, or by termination under provisions contained in a contract for a deed or a conditional sales contract. Under 26 U.S.C. 7425(b)(1), if a notice of lien is filed in accordance with 26 U.S.C. 6323(f) or (g), or the title derived from the enforcement of a lien is recorded as provided by local law, more than 30 days before the date of sale and the appropriate ATF official is not given notice of the sale (in the manner prescribed in § 70.205 of this part), the sale shall be made subject to and without disturbing the lien or title of the United States. Under 26 U.S.C. 7425(b)(2)(C), in any case in which notice of the sale is given to the appropriate ATF official not less than 25 days prior to the date of sale (in the manner prescribed in 26 U.S.C. 7425(c)(1)), the sale shall have the same effect with respect to the discharge or divestment of the lien or title as may be provided by local law with respect to other junior liens or other titles derived from the enforcement of junior liens. A nonjudicial sale pursuant to a lien which is junior to a tax lien does not divest the tax lien, even though notice of the nonjudicial sale is given to the appropriate ATF official. However,

under the provisions of 26 U.S.C. 6325(b) and § 70.150 of this part, designated ATF officers may discharge the property from a tax lien, including a tax lien which is senior to another lien upon the property.

(b) *Date of sale.* In the case of a nonjudicial sale subject to the provisions of 26 U.S.C. 7425(b), in order to compute any period of time determined with reference to the date of sale, the date of sale shall be determined in accordance with the following rules:

(1) In the case of divestment of junior liens on property resulting directly from a public sale, the date of sale is deemed to be the date the public sale is held, regardless of the date under local law on which junior liens on the property are divested or the title to the property is transferred.

(2) In the case of divestment of junior liens on property resulting directly from a private sale, the date of sale is deemed to be the date title to the property is transferred, regardless of the date junior liens on the property are divested under local law, and

(3) In the case of divestment of junior liens on property not resulting directly from a public or private sale, the date of sale is deemed to be the date on which junior liens on the property are divested under local law. For provisions relating to the right of redemption of the United States, see 26 U.S.C. 7425(d) and § 70.206 of this part.

[26 U.S.C. 7425(b)]

§ 70.205 Discharge of liens; special rules.

(a) *Notice of sale requirements*—(1) *In general.* Except in the case of the sale of perishable goods described in paragraph (c) of this section, a notice (as described in paragraph (d) of this section) of a nonjudicial sale shall be given, in writing by registered or certified mail or by personal service, not less than 25 days prior to the date of sale (determined under the provisions of § 70.204(b) of this part), to the Chief, Tax Processing Center. The provisions of 26 U.S.C. 7502 (relating to timely mailing treated as timely filing) and 7503 (relating to time for performance of acts where the last day falls on Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday) apply in the case of notices required to be made under this paragraph.

(2) *Postponement of scheduled sale*—(i) *Where notice of sale is given.* In the event that notice of a sale is given in accordance with paragraph (a)(1) of this section, with respect to a scheduled sale which is postponed to a later time or date, the seller of the property is required to give notice of the

postponement to the Chief, Tax Processing Center, in the same manner as is required under local law with respect to other secured creditors. For example, assume that in State M local law requires that in the event of a postponement of a scheduled foreclosure sale of real property, an oral announcement of the postponement at the place and time of the scheduled sale constitutes sufficient notice to secured creditors of the postponement.

Accordingly, if at the place and time of a scheduled sale in State M an oral announcement of the postponement is made, the Bureau is considered to have notice of the postponement for the purpose of this paragraph (a)(2).

(ii) *Where notice of sale is not given.* In the event that:

(A) Notice of a nonjudicial sale would not be required under paragraph (a)(1) of this section, if the sale were held on the originally scheduled date,

(B) Because of a postponement of the scheduled sale, more than 30 days elapse between the originally scheduled date of the sale and the date of the sale, and

(C) A notice of lien with respect to the property to be sold is filed more than 30 days before the date of the sale, notice of the sale is required to be given to the Chief, Tax Processing Center in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (a)(1) of this section. In any case in which notice of sale is required to be given with respect to a scheduled sale, and notice of the sale is not given, any postponement of the scheduled sale does not affect the rights of the United States under 26 U.S.C. 7425(b).

(b) *Consent to sale—(1) In general.* Notwithstanding the notice of sale provisions of paragraph (a) of this section a nonjudicial sale of property shall discharge or divest the property of the lien or title of the United States if the Chief, Tax Processing Center consents to the sale of the property free of the lien or title. Pursuant to 26 U.S.C. 7425(c)(2), where adequate protection is afforded the lien or title of the United States, the Chief, Tax Processing Center may, in that official's discretion, consent with respect to the sale of property in appropriate cases. Such consent shall be effective only if given in writing and shall be subject to such limitations and conditions as the Chief, Tax Processing Center may require. However, the Chief, Tax Processing Center may not consent to a sale of property under this section after the date of sale, as determined under § 70.204(b) of this part. For provisions relating to the authority of the Chief, Tax Processing Center and the regional director (compliance) to release a lien or discharge property subject to a

tax lien, see 26 U.S.C. 6325 and § 70.150 of this part.

(2) *Application for consent.* Any person desiring the Chief, Tax Processing Center's consent to sell property free of a tax lien or a title derived from the enforcement of a tax lien of the United States in the property shall submit to the Chief, Tax Processing Center a written application, in triplicate, declaring that it is made under penalties of perjury, and requesting that such consent be given. The application shall contain the information required in the case of a notice of sale, as set forth in paragraph (d)(1) of this section, and, in addition, shall contain a statement of the reasons why the consent is desired.

(c) *Sale of perishable goods—(1) In general.* A notice (as described in paragraph (d) of this section) of a nonjudicial sale of perishable goods (as defined in paragraph (c)(2) of this section) shall be given in writing, by registered or certified mail or delivered by personal service, at any time before the sale, to the Chief, Tax Processing Center. If a notice of a nonjudicial sale is timely given in the manner described in this paragraph the nonjudicial sale shall discharge or divest the tax lien, or a title derived from the enforcement of a tax lien, of the United States in the property. The provisions of 26 U.S.C. 7502 (relating to timely mailing treated as timely filing) and 7503 (relating to time for performance of acts where the last day falls on Saturday, Sunday, or a legal holiday) apply in the case of notices required to be made under this paragraph. The seller of the perishable goods shall hold the proceeds (exclusive of costs) of the sale as a fund, for not less than 30 days after the date of the sale, subject to the liens and claims of the United States, in the same manner and with the same priority as the liens and claims of the United States had with respect to the property sold. If the seller fails to hold the proceeds of the sale in accordance with the provisions of this paragraph and if the Chief, Tax Processing Center asserts a claim to the proceeds within 30 days after the date of sale, the seller shall be personally liable to the United States for an amount equal to the value of the interest of the United States in the fund. However, even if the proceeds of the sale are not so held by the seller, but all the other provisions of this paragraph are satisfied, the buyer of the property at the sale takes the property free of the liens and claims of the United States. In the event of a postponement of the scheduled sale of perishable goods, the seller is not required to notify the Chief, Tax Processing Center of the postponement. For provisions relating to the authority

of the Chief, Tax Processing Center and the regional director (compliance) to release a lien or discharge property subject to a tax lien, see 26 U.S.C. 6325 and § 70.150 of this part.

(2) *Definition of perishable goods.* For the purpose of this paragraph, the term "perishable goods" means any tangible personal property which, in the reasonable view of the person selling the property, is liable to perish or become greatly reduced in price or value by keeping, or cannot be kept without great expense.

(d) *Forfeiture of land sales contract.* For purposes of paragraph (a) of this section, a nonjudicial sale of property includes any forfeiture of a land sales contract.

(e) *Content of notice of sale—(1) In general.* With respect to a notice of sale described in paragraph (a) or (c) of this section, the notice will be considered adequate if it contains the information described in paragraph (d)(1) (i), (ii), (iii), and (iv) of this section.

(i) The name and address of the person submitting the notice of sale;

(ii) A copy of each Notice of Federal Tax Lien (ATF Form 5551.2) affecting the property to be sold, or the following information as shown on each such Notice of Federal Tax Lien:

(A) The initiating office named thereon,

(B) The name and address of the taxpayer, and

(C) The date and place of filing of the notice;

(iii) With respect to the property to be sold the following information:

(A) A detailed description, including location of the property affected by the notice (in the case of real property, the street address, city, and State and the legal description contained in the title or deed to the property and, if available, a copy of the abstract of title),

(B) The date, time, place, and terms of proposed sale of the property, and

(C) In case of a sale of perishable property described in paragraph (c) of this section, a statement of the reasons why the property is believed to be perishable; and

(iv) The approximate amount of the principal obligation, including interest, secured by the lien sought to be enforced and a description of the other expenses (such as legal expenses, selling costs, etc.) which may be charged against the sale proceeds.

(2) *Inadequate notice.* Except as otherwise provided in this subparagraph, a notice of sale described in paragraph (a) of this section which does not contain the information described in paragraph (d)(1) of this

section shall be considered inadequate by the Chief, Tax Processing Center. If the Chief, Tax Processing Center determines that the notice is inadequate, that official will give written notification of the items of information which are inadequate to the person who submitted the notice. A notice of sale which does not contain the name and address of the person submitting such notice shall be considered to be inadequate for all purposes without notification of any specific inadequacy. In any case where a notice of sale, does not contain the information required under paragraph (d)(1)(ii) of this section with respect to a Notice of Federal Tax Lien, the Chief, Tax Processing Center may give written notification of such omission without specification of any other inadequacy and such notice of sale shall be considered inadequate for all purposes. In the event the Chief, Tax Processing Center gives notification that the notice of sale is inadequate, a notice complying with the provisions of this section (including the requirement that the notice be given not less than 25 days prior to the sale in the case of a notice described in paragraph (a) of this section) must be given. However, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (b)(1) of this section, in such a case the Chief, Tax Processing Center may, in that official's discretion, consent to the sale of the property free of the lien or title of the United States even though notice of the sale is given less than 25 days prior to the sale. In any case where the person who submitted a timely notice which indicates the person's name and address does not receive, more than 5 days prior to the date of the sale, written notification from the Chief, Tax Processing Center that the notice is inadequate, the notice shall be considered adequate for purposes of this section.

(3) *Acknowledgment of notice.* If a notice of sale described in paragraph (a) or (c) of this section is submitted in duplicate to the Chief, Tax Processing Center with a written request that receipt of the notice be acknowledged and returned to the person giving the notice, this request will be honored by the Chief, Tax Processing Center. The acknowledgment by the Chief, Tax Processing Center will indicate the date and time of the receipt of the notice.

(4) *Disclosure of adequacy of notice.* The Chief, Tax Processing Center is authorized to disclose, to any person who has a proper interest, whether an adequate notice of sale was given under paragraph (d)(1) of this section insofar as disclosure is authorized under 26 U.S.C. 6103. Any person desiring this

information should submit to the Chief, Tax Processing Center a written request which clearly describes the property sold or to be sold, identifies the applicable notice of lien, gives the reasons for requesting the information, and states the name and address of the person making the request.

(26 U.S.C. 7425(c))

§ 70.206 Discharge of liens; redemption by United States.

(a) *Right to redeem—(1) In general.* In the case of a nonjudicial sale of real property to satisfy a lien prior to the tax lien or a title derived from the enforcement of a tax lien, the regional director (compliance) may redeem the property within the redemption period (as described in paragraph (a)(2) of this section). The right of redemption of the United States exists under 26 U.S.C. 7425(d) even though the Chief, Tax Processing Center has consented to the sale under 26 U.S.C. 7425(c)(2) and § 70.205(b) of this part. For purposes of this section, the term "nonjudicial sale" shall have the same meaning as used in § 70.204(a) of this part.

(2) *Redemption period.* For purposes of this section, the redemption period shall be:

(i) The period beginning with the date of the sale (as determined under § 70.204(b)) and ending with the 120th day after such date, or

(ii) The period for redemption of real property allowable with respect to other secured creditors, under the local law of the place where the real property is located, whichever expires later.

Which ever period is applicable, 26 U.S.C. 7425 and this section shall govern the amount to be paid and the procedure to be followed.

(3) *Limitations.* In the event a sale does not ultimately discharge the property from tax lien (whether by reason of local law or the provisions of 26 U.S.C. 7425(b)), the provisions of this section do not apply because the tax lien will continue to attach to the property after the sale. In a case in which the Bureau is not entitled to a notice of sale under 26 U.S.C. 7425(b) and § 70.205 of this part, the United States does not have a right of redemption under 26 U.S.C. 7425(d). However, in such a case, if a tax lien has attached to the property at the time of sale, the United States has the same right of redemption, if any, which is afforded similar creditors under the local law of the place in which the property is situated.

(b) *Amount to be paid—(1) In general.* In any case in which a regional director (compliance) exercises the right to

redeem real property under 26 U.S.C. 7425(d), the amount to be paid is the sum of the following amounts:

(i) The actual amount paid for the property (as determined under paragraph (b)(2) of this section) being redeemed (which, in the case of a purchaser who is the holder of the lien being foreclosed, shall include the amount of the obligation secured by such lien to the extent legally satisfied by reason of the sale);

(ii) Interest on the amount paid (described in paragraph (b)(1)(i) of this section) at the sale by the purchaser of the real property computed at the rate of 6 percent per annum for the period from the date of the sale (as determined under § 70.204(b) of this part) to the date of redemption;

(iii) The amount, if any, equal to the excess of the expenses necessarily incurred to maintain such property (as determined under paragraph (b)(3) of this section) by the purchaser (and the purchaser's successor in interest, if any) over the income from such property realized by the purchaser (and the purchaser's successor in interest, if any) plus a reasonable rental value of such property (to the extent the property is used by or with the consent of the purchaser or the purchaser's successor in interest or is rented at less than its reasonable rental value); and

(iv) The amounts, if any, of a payment made by the purchaser or the purchaser's successor in interest after the foreclosure sale to a holder of a senior lien (to the extent provided under paragraph (b)(4) of this section).

(2) *Actual amount paid.* (i) The actual amount paid for property by a purchaser, other than holder of the lien being foreclosed, is the amount paid by the purchaser at the sale. For purposes of this paragraph, the amount paid by the purchaser at the sale includes deferred payments upon the bid price. The actual amount paid does not include costs and expenses incurred prior to the foreclosure sale by the purchaser except to the extent such expenses are included in the amount bid and paid for the property. For example, the actual amount paid does not normally include the expenses of the purchaser such as title searches, professional fees, or interest on debt incurred to obtain funds to purchase the property.

(ii) In the case of a purchaser who is the holder of the lien being foreclosed, the actual amount paid is the sum of:

(A) The amount of the obligation secured by such lien to the extent legally satisfied by reason of the sale and

(B) Any additional amount bid and paid at the sale.

For purposes of this section, a purchaser who acquires title as a result of a nonjudicial foreclosure sale is treated as the holder of the lien being foreclosed if a lien (or any interest reserved, created, or conveyed as security for the payment of a debt or fulfillment of other obligation) held by the purchaser is partially or fully satisfied by reason of the foreclosure sale. For example, a person whose title is derived from a tax deed issued under local law shall be treated as a purchaser who is the holder of the lien foreclosed in a case where a tax certificate, evidencing a lien on the property arising from the payment of property taxes, ripens into title. The amount paid by a purchaser at the sale includes deferred payments upon any portion of the bid price which is in excess of the amount of the lien being foreclosed. The actual amount paid does not include costs and expenses incurred prior to the foreclosure sale by the purchaser except to the extent such expenses are included in the amount of the lien being foreclosed which is legally satisfied by reason of the sale or in the amount bid and paid at the sale. Where the lien being foreclosed attaches to other property not subject to the foreclosure sale, the amount legally satisfied by reason of the sale does not include the amount of such lien that attaches to the other property. However, for purposes of the preceding sentences, the amount of the lien that attaches to the other property shall be considered to be equal to the amount by which the value of the other property exceeds the amount of any other senior lien on that property. Where, after the sale, the holder of the lien being foreclosed has the right to the unpaid balance of the amount due the holder, the amount legally satisfied by reason of the sale does not include the amount of such lien to the extent a deficiency judgment may be obtained therefor. However, for purposes of the preceding sentence, an amount, with respect to which the holder of the lien being foreclosed would otherwise have a right to a deficiency judgment, shall be considered to be legally satisfied by reason of the foreclosure sale to the extent that the holder has waived the holder's right to a deficiency judgment prior to the foreclosure sale. For this purpose, the waiver must be in writing and legally binding upon the foreclosing lienholder as of the time the sale is concluded. If, prior to the foreclosure, payments have been made by the foreclosing lienholder to a holder of a superior lien, the payments are included in the actual amount paid to the extent they give rise

to an interest which is legally satisfied by reason of the foreclosure sale.

(3) *Excess expenses incurred by purchaser.* (i) Expenses necessarily incurred in connection with the property after the foreclosure sale and before redemption by the United States are taken into account in determining if there are excess expenses payable under paragraph (b)(1)(iii) of this section. Expenses incurred by the purchaser prior to the foreclosure sale are not considered under paragraph (b)(3) of this section. (See paragraph (b)(2)(ii) of this section for circumstances under which such expenses may be included in the amount to be paid.) Expenses necessarily incurred in connection with the property include, for example, rental agent commissions, repair and maintenance expenses, utilities expenses, legal fees incurred after the foreclosure sale and prior to redemption in defending the title acquired through the foreclosure sale, and a proportionate amount of casualty insurance premiums and ad valorem taxes. Improvements made to the property are not considered as an expense unless the amounts incurred for such improvements are necessarily incurred to maintain the property.

(ii) At any time prior to the expiration of the redemption period applicable under paragraph (a)(2) of this section, the regional director (compliance) may, by certified or registered mail or hand delivery, request a written itemized statement of the amount claimed by the purchaser or the purchaser's successor in interest to be payable under paragraph (b)(1)(iii) of this section. Unless the purchaser or the purchaser's successor in interest furnishes the written itemized statement within 15 days after the request is made by the regional director (compliance), it shall be presumed that no amount is payable for expenses in excess of income and the Bureau shall tender only the amount otherwise payable under paragraph (b)(1) of this section. If a purchaser or the purchaser's successor in interest has failed to furnish the written itemized statement within 15 days after the request therefor is made by the regional director (compliance), or there is a disagreement as to the amount properly payable under paragraph (b)(1)(iii) of this section, a payment for excess expenses shall be made after the redemption within a reasonable time following the verification by the regional director (compliance) of a written itemized statement submitted by the purchaser or the purchaser's successor in interest or the resolution of the

disagreement as to the amount properly payable for excess expenses.

(4) *Payments made by purchaser or the purchaser's successor in interest to a senior lienor.* (i) The amount to be paid upon a redemption by the United States shall include the amount of a payment made by the purchaser or the purchaser's successor in interest to a holder of a senior lien to the extent a request for the reimbursement thereof (made in accordance with paragraph (b)(4)(ii) of this section) is approved as provided under paragraph (b)(4)(iii) of this section. This paragraph applies only to a payment made after the foreclosure sale and before the redemption to a holder of a lien that was, immediately prior to the foreclosure sale, superior to the lien foreclosed. A payment of principal or interest to a senior lienor shall be taken into account. Generally, the portion, if any, of a payment which is to be held in escrow for the payment of an expense, such as hazard insurance or real property taxes, is not considered under this paragraph. However, a payment by the escrow agent of a real property tax or special assessment lien, which was senior to the lien foreclosed, shall be considered to be a payment made by the purchaser or the purchaser's successor in interest for purposes of this paragraph. With respect to real property taxes assessed after the foreclosure sale, see paragraph (b)(3)(i) of this section, relating to excess expenses incurred by the purchaser.

(ii) Before the expiration of the redemption period applicable under paragraph (a)(2) of this section, the regional director (compliance) shall, in any case where a redemption is contemplated, send notice to the purchaser (or the purchaser's successor in interest of record) by certified or registered mail or hand delivery of the right under paragraph (b)(4) of this section to request reimbursement (payable in the event the right to redeem under 28 U.S.C. 7425(d) is exercised) for a payment made to a senior lienor. No later than 15 days after the notice from the regional director (compliance) is sent, the request for reimbursement shall be mailed or delivered to the office specified in such notice and shall consist of:

(A) A written itemized statement, signed by the claimant, of the amount claimed with respect to a payment made to a senior lienor, together with the supporting evidence requested in the notice from the regional director (compliance), and

(B) A waiver or other document that will be effective upon redemption by the United States to discharge the property

from, or transfer to the United States, any interest in or lien on the property that may arise under local law with respect to the payment made to a senior lienor.

Upon a showing of reasonable cause, a regional director (compliance) may, in that official's discretion and at any time before the expiration of the applicable period for redemption, grant an extension for a reasonable period of time to submit, amend, or supplement a request for reimbursement. Unless a request for reimbursement is timely submitted (determined with regard to any extension of time granted), no amount shall be payable to the purchaser or the purchaser's successor in interest on account of a payment made to a senior lienor if the right to redeem under 26 U.S.C. 7425(d) is exercised. A waiver or other document submitted pursuant to paragraph (b)(4)(ii) of this section shall be treated as effective only to the extent of the amount included in the redemption price under this paragraph. If the right to redeem is not exercised or a request for reimbursement is withdrawn, the regional director (compliance) shall, by certified or registered mail or hand delivery, return to the purchaser or the purchaser's successor any waiver or other document submitted pursuant to paragraph (b)(4)(ii) of this section as soon as is practicable.

(iii) A request for reimbursement submitted in accordance with paragraph (b)(4)(ii) of this section shall be considered to be approved for the total amount claimed by the purchaser, and payable in the event the right to redeem is exercised, unless the regional director (compliance) sends notice to the claimant, by certified or registered mail or hand delivery, of the denial of the amount claimed within 30 days after receipt of the request of 15 days before expiration of the applicable period for redemption, whichever is later. The notification of denial shall state the grounds for denial. If such notice of denial is given, the request for reimbursement for a payment made to a senior lienor shall be treated as having been withdrawn by the purchaser or the purchaser's successor and the Bureau shall tender only the amount otherwise payable under paragraph (b)(1) of this section. If a request for reimbursement is treated as having been withdrawn under the preceding sentence, payment for amounts described in paragraph (b)(4) of this section may, in the discretion of the regional director (compliance), be made after the redemption upon the resolution of the disagreement as to the amount properly

payable under paragraph (b)(1)(iv) of this section.

(c) *Certificate of redemption*—(1) *In general.* If a regional director (compliance) exercises the right of redemption of the United States described in paragraph (a) of this section, the regional director (compliance) shall apply to the officer designated by local law, if any, for the documents necessary to evidence the fact of redemption and to record title to the redeemed property in the name of the United States. If no such officer has been designated by local law or if the officer designated by local law fails to issue the necessary documents, the regional director (compliance) is authorized to issue a certificate of redemption for the property redeemed by the United States.

(2) *Filing.* The regional director (compliance) shall, without delay, cause either the documents issued by the local officer or the certificate of redemption executed by the regional director (compliance) to be filed with the local office where certificates of redemption are generally filed. If a certificate of redemption is issued by the regional director (compliance) and if the State in which the real property redeemed by the United States is situated has no office with which certificates of redemption may be filed, the regional director (compliance) shall file the certificate of redemption in the office of the clerk of the United States district court for the judicial district in which the redeemed property is situated.

(3) *Effect of certificate of redemption.* A certificate of redemption executed pursuant to paragraph (c)(1) of this section, shall constitute prima facie evidence of the regularity of the redemption. When a certificate of redemption is recorded, it shall transfer to the United States all the rights, title, and interest in and to the redeemed property acquired by the person, from whom the regional director (compliance) redeemed the property, by virtue of the sale of the property. Therefore, if under local law the purchaser takes title free of liens junior to the lien of the foreclosing lienholder, the United States takes the title free of such junior liens upon redemption of the property. If a certificate of redemption has been erroneously prepared and filed because the redemption was not effective, the regional director (compliance) shall issue a document revoking such certificate of redemption and such document shall be conclusively binding upon the United States against a purchaser of the property or a holder of a lien upon the property.

(4) *Application for release of right of redemption.* Upon application of a party with a proper interest in the real property sold in a nonjudicial sale described in 26 U.S.C. 7425(b) and § 70.204 of this part, which real property is subject to the right of redemption of the United States described in this section, the regional director (compliance) may, in that official's discretion, release the right of redemption with respect to the property. The application for the release shall be submitted in writing to a regional director (compliance) and shall contain such information as the regional director (compliance) may require. If the regional director (compliance) determines that the right of redemption of the United States is without value, no amount shall be required to be paid with respect to the release of the right of redemption.

(26 U.S.C. 7425(d))

§ 70.207 Civil actions by persons other than taxpayers.

(a) *Actions permitted.*—(1) *Wrongful levy.* If a levy has been made on property, or property has been sold pursuant to a levy, any person (other than the person against whom is assessed the tax out of which such levy arose) may bring a civil action against the United States in a district court of the United States based upon such person's claim:

(i) That the person has an interest in, or a lien on, such property which is senior to the interest of the United States; and

(ii) That such property was wrongfully levied upon.

No action is permitted under 26 U.S.C. 7426(a)(1) unless there has been a levy upon the property claimed.

(2) *Surplus proceeds.* If property has been sold pursuant to levy, any person (other than the person against whom is assessed the tax out of which such levy arose) may bring a civil action against the United States in a district court of the United States based upon the claim that the person:

(i) Has an interest in or lien on such property junior to that of the United States; and

(ii) is entitled to the surplus proceeds of such sale.

(3) *Substituted sale proceeds.* Any person who claims to be legally entitled to all or any part of the amount which is held as a fund from the sale of property pursuant to an agreement described in 26 U.S.C. 6325(b)(3) may bring a civil action against the United States in a district court of the United States to obtain the relief provided by 26 U.S.C. 7426(b)(4). It is not necessary that the

claimant be a party to the agreement which provides for the substitution of the sale proceeds for the property subject to the lien.

(b) *Adjudication*—(1) *Wrongful levy*. If the court determines that property has been wrongfully levied upon, the court may:

(i) Grant an injunction to prohibit the enforcement of such levy or to prohibit a sale of such property if such sale would irreparably injure rights in the property which are superior to the rights of the United States in such property; or

(ii) Order the return of specific property if the United States is in possession of such property; or

(iii) Grant a judgment for the amount of money levied upon, with interest thereon at the overpayment rate established under 26 U.S.C. 6621 from the date that the official who made the levy receives the money wrongfully levied upon to the date of payment of such judgment, or

(iv) Grant a judgment for an amount not exceeding the amount received by the United States from the sale of such property (which, in the case of property declared purchased by the United States at a sale, shall be the greater of the minimum amount determined pursuant to 26 U.S.C. 6335(e) or the amount received by the United States from the resale of such property), or the fair market value of such property immediately before the levy, with interest thereon at the overpayment rate established under 26 U.S.C. 6621 from the date of the sale of the property to the date of payment of such judgment.

For purposes of paragraph (b)(1) of this section, a levy is wrongful against a person (other than the taxpayer against whom the assessment giving rise to the levy is made), if the levy is upon property exempt from levy under 26 U.S.C. 6334, or the levy is upon property in which the taxpayer had no interest at the time the lien arose or thereafter, or the levy is upon property with respect to which such person is a purchaser against whom the lien is invalid under 26 U.S.C. 6323 or 6324(a)(2) or (b), or the levy or sale pursuant to levy will or does effectively destroy or otherwise irreparably injure such person's interest in the property which is senior to the Federal tax lien. A levy may be wrongful against a holder of a senior lien upon the taxpayer's property under certain circumstances although legal rights to enforce the holder's interest survive the levy procedure. For example, the levy may be wrongful against such a person if the property is an obligation which is collected pursuant to the levy rather than sold and nothing thereafter

remains for the senior lienholder, or the property levied upon is of such a nature that when it is sold at a public sale the property subject to the senior lien is not available for the senior lienholder as a realistic source for the enforcement of the holder's interest. Some of the factors which should be taken into account in determining whether property remains or will remain a realistic source from which the senior lienholder may realize collection are: The nature of the property, the number of purchasers, the value of each unit sold or to be sold, whether, as a direct result of the distraint sale, the costs of realizing collection from the security have or will be so substantially increased as to render the security substantially valueless as a source of collection, and whether the property subject to the distraint sale constitutes substantially all of the property available as security for the payment of the indebtedness to the senior lienholder.

(2) *Surplus proceeds*. If the court determines that the interest or lien of any party to an action under 26 U.S.C. 7426 was transferred to the proceeds of a sale of the property, the court may grant a judgment in an amount equal to all or any part of the amount of the surplus proceeds of such sale. The term "surplus proceeds" means property remaining after application of the provisions of 26 U.S.C. 6342(a).

(3) *Substituted sale proceeds*. If the court determines that a party has an interest in or lien on the amount held as a fund pursuant to an agreement described in 26 U.S.C. 6325(b)(3), the court may grant a judgment in an amount equal to all or any part of the amount of such fund.

(26 U.S.C. 7426)

§ 70.208 Review of jeopardy assessment or jeopardy levy procedures; information to taxpayer.

Not later than 5 days after the day on which an assessment is made under 26 U.S.C. 6862 or when a levy is made less than 30 days after the notice and demand described in 26 U.S.C. 6331(a), the official who authorized the assessment or levy shall provide the taxpayer a written statement setting forth the information upon which that official relies in authorizing such assessment or levy.

(26 U.S.C. 7429(a)(1))

§ 70.209 Review of jeopardy assessment or levy procedures; administrative review.

(a) *Request for administrative review*. Any request for the review of a jeopardy assessment or levy provided for by 26 U.S.C. 7429(a)(2) shall be filed with the official who authorized the assessment

or levy, within 30 days after the statement described in § 70.208 of this part is given to the taxpayer. However, if no statement is given within the 5-day period described in § 70.208, any request for review of the jeopardy assessment shall be filed within 35 days after the date the assessment is made. Such request shall be in writing, shall state fully the reasons for the request, and shall be supported by such evidence as will enable the reviewing official to make the redetermination described in 26 U.S.C. 7429(a)(3).

(b) *Administrative review*. In determining whether the assessment or levy is reasonable and the amount assessed appropriate, the reviewing official shall take into account not only information available at the time the assessment is made but also information which subsequently becomes available.

(26 U.S.C. 7429(a)(2))

§ 70.210 Review of jeopardy assessment or levy procedures; judicial action.

(a) *Time for bringing judicial action*. An action for judicial review described in 26 U.S.C. 7429(b) may be instituted by the taxpayer during the period beginning on the earlier of:

(1) The date of the reviewing official notifies the taxpayer of the determination described in 26 U.S.C. 7429(a)(3); or

(2) The 16th day after the request described in 26 U.S.C. 7429(a)(2) was made by the taxpayer; and ending on the 90th day thereafter.

(b) *Extension of the period for judicial review*. The U.S. Government may not seek an extension of the 20-day period described in 26 U.S.C. 7429(b)(2), but it may join with the taxpayer in seeking such an extension.

(26 U.S.C. 7429)

§ 70.211 Damages for failure to release lien.

(a) *General*. If any officer or employee of the Bureau knowingly, or by reason of negligence, fails to release a lien under 26 U.S.C. 6325 on property of the taxpayer, such taxpayer may bring a civil action for damages against the United States in a district court of the United States.

(b) *Damages*. In any action brought under paragraph (a) of this section, upon a finding of liability on the part of the defendant, the defendant shall be liable to the plaintiff in an amount equal to the sum of:

(1) Actual, direct economic damages sustained by the plaintiff which, but for the actions of the defendant, would not have been sustained, plus

(2) The costs of the action.

(c) *Limitations—(1) Requirement that administrative remedies be exhausted.*

A judgment for damages shall not be awarded under paragraph (b) of this section unless the court determines that the plaintiff has exhausted the administrative remedies available to such plaintiff within the Bureau.

(2) *Mitigation of damages.* The amount of damages awarded under paragraph (b)(1) of this section shall be reduced by the amount of such damages which could have reasonably been mitigated by the plaintiff.

(3) *Period for bringing action.* Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an action to enforce liability created under this section may be brought without regard to the amount in controversy and may be brought only within 2 years after the date of the right of action accrues.

(d) *Notice of failure to release lien.* The requirements covering release of liens and administrative appeal of liens appear at §§ 70.150 and 70.151 of this part, respectively. If a lien is not released when the conditions for release are met, the taxpayer should notify the Chief, Tax Processing Center in writing of ATF's failure to release the lien. The Chief, Tax Processing Center will release the lien or notify the taxpayer of any additional actions required on the taxpayer's part to effect release of the lien within 30 days from receipt of the notice of failure to release lien. Whenever necessary to protect the interests of the government, a regional director (compliance) may also release a lien under this section.

(26 U.S.C. 7432)

§ 70.212 Damages for unauthorized collection actions.

(a) *In general.* If, in connection with any collection of tax under the provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau with respect to a taxpayer, any officer or employee of the Bureau recklessly or intentionally disregards any provision of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau or any regulation thereunder, such taxpayer may bring a civil action for damages against the United States in a district court of the United States. Except as provided in 26 U.S.C. 7432 and § 70.211 of this part, such civil action shall be the exclusive remedy for recovering damages resulting from such actions.

(b) *Damages.* In any action brought under paragraph (a), upon a finding of liability on the part of the defendant, the defendant shall be liable to the plaintiff in an amount equal to the lesser of \$100,000 or the sum of:

(1) Actual, direct economic damages sustained by the plaintiff as a proximate result of the reckless or intentional actions of the officer or employee, and

(2) The costs of the action.

(c) *Limitations—(1) Requirement that administrative remedies be exhausted.*

A judgment for damages shall not be awarded under paragraph (b) unless the court determines that the plaintiff has exhausted the administrative remedies available to such plaintiff within the Bureau.

(2) *Mitigation of damages.* The amount of damages awarded under paragraph (b)(1) of this section shall be reduced by the amount of such damages which could have reasonably been mitigated by the plaintiff.

(3) *Period for bringing action.* Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an action to enforce liability created under this section may be brought without regard to the amount in controversy and may be brought only within 2 years after the date the right of action accrues.

(d) *Damages for frivolous or groundless claims.* Whenever it appears to the court that the taxpayer's position in proceedings before the court instituted or maintained by such taxpayer under this section is frivolous or groundless, damages in an amount not in excess of \$10,000 shall be awarded to the United States by the court in the court's decision. Damages so awarded shall be assessed at the same time as the decision and shall be paid upon notice and demand from the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center.

(26 U.S.C. 6673 and 7433)

§ 70.213 Repayments to officers or employees.

The Director is authorized to repay to any officer or employee of the Bureau the full amount of such sums of money as may be recovered against such officer or employee in any court for any taxes imposed under provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau collected by such officer or employee with the cost and expense of suit, and all damages and costs recovered against any officer or employee of the Bureau in any suit brought against such officer or employee by reason of anything done in the official performance of duties under the provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau.

(26 U.S.C. 7423)

Par. 57. Undesignated centerheadings are added immediately preceding § 70.221 to read as follows:

Limitations

Limitations on Assessment and Collection

Par. 58. Section 70.223(d) is amended by revising the first sentence to read as follows:

§ 70.223 Exceptions to general period of limitations on assessment and collection.

(d) *Extension by agreement.* The time prescribed by 26 U.S.C. 6501 for the assessment of any tax imposed by provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau may, prior to the expiration of such time, be extended for any period of time agreed upon in writing by the taxpayer and the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center. * * *

Par. 59. Sections 70.224 through 70.227 are added to read as follows:

§ 70.224 Collection after assessment.

(a) *Length of period—(1) General rule.* In any case in which a tax has been assessed within the statutory period of limitation properly applicable thereto, a proceeding in court to collect such tax may be begun, or levy for the collection of such tax may be made, within 6 years after the assessment thereof.

(2) *Extension by agreement.* (i) The 6-year period of limitation on collection after assessment of any tax may, prior to the expiration thereof, be extended for any period of time agreed upon in writing by the taxpayer and the regional director (compliance). Whenever necessary to protect the revenue, the Chief, Tax Processing Center may also execute a written agreement with the taxpayer to extend the period of limitation. The extension shall become effective upon execution of the agreement by both the taxpayer and the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center.

(ii) The period of limitation on collection after assessment of any tax (including any extension of such period) may be extended after the expiration thereof if there has been a levy on any part of the taxpayer's property prior to such expiration and if the extension is agreed upon in writing prior to a release of the levy under the provisions of 26 U.S.C. 6343. An extension under this paragraph has the same effect as an agreement made prior to the expiration of the period of limitation on collection after assessment, and during the period of the extension collection may be enforced as to all property or rights to property owned by the taxpayer

whether or not seized under the levy which was released.

(iii) Any period agreed upon under the provisions of paragraph (a)(1) of this section may be extended by subsequent agreements in writing made before the expiration of the period previously agreed upon.

(3) If a timely proceeding in court for the collection of a tax is commenced, the period during which such tax may be collected by levy shall be extended and shall not expire until the liability for the tax (or a judgment against the taxpayer arising from such liability) is satisfied or becomes unenforceable.

(b) *Date when levy is considered made.* The date on which a levy on property or rights to property is made is the date on which the notice of seizure provided in 26 U.S.C. 6335(a) is given.

(26 U.S.C. 6502)

§ 70.225 Suspension of running of period of limitation; assets of taxpayer in control or custody of court.

Where all or substantially all of the assets of a taxpayer are in the control or custody of the court in any proceeding before any court of the United States, or any State of the United States, or the District of Columbia, the period of limitations on collection after assessment prescribed in 26 U.S.C. 6502 is suspended with respect to the outstanding amount due on the assessment for the period such assets are in the control or custody of the court, and for 6 months thereafter.

(26 U.S.C. 6503)

§ 70.226 Suspension of running of period of limitation; taxpayer outside of United States.

The running of the period of limitations on collection after assessment prescribed in 26 U.S.C. 6502 (relating to collection after assessment) is suspended for the period during which the taxpayer is absent from the United States if such period is a continuous period of absence from the United States extending for 6 months or more. In a case where the running of the period of limitations has been suspended under the first sentence of this paragraph and at the time of the taxpayer's return to the United States the period of limitations would expire before the expiration of 6 months from the date of the taxpayer's return, the period of limitations shall not expire until after 6 months from the date of the taxpayer's return. The taxpayer will be deemed to be absent from the United States for purposes of this section if the taxpayer is generally and substantially absent from the United States, even

though the taxpayer makes casual temporary visits during the period.

(26 U.S.C. 6503)

§ 70.227 Suspension of running of period of limitation; wrongful seizure of property of third party.

The running of the period of limitations on collection after assessment prescribed in 26 U.S.C. 6502 (relating to collection after assessment) shall be suspended for a period equal to a period beginning on the date property (including money) is wrongfully seized or received by a regional director (compliance) and ending on the date 30 days after the date on which the regional director (compliance) returns the property pursuant to 26 U.S.C. 6343(b) (relating to authority to return property) or the date 30 days after the date on which a judgment secured pursuant to 26 U.S.C. 7426 (relating to civil actions by persons other than taxpayers) with respect to such property becomes final. The running of the period of limitations on collection after assessment shall be suspended under this section only with respect to the amount of such assessment which is equal to the amount of money or the value of specific property returned.

(26 U.S.C. 6503)

Par. 60. Sections 70.231 through 70.234 and an undesignated centerheading preceding them are added to read as follows:

Limitations on Liens

§ 70.231 Protection for certain interests even though notice filed.

(a) *Securities.* Even though a notice of a lien imposed by 26 U.S.C. 6321 is filed in accordance with § 70.148 of this part, the lien is not valid with respect to a security (as defined in § 70.143(d) of this part) against:

(1) A purchaser (as defined in § 70.143(f) of this part) of the security who at the time of purchase did not have actual notice or knowledge (as defined in § 70.144(a) of this part) of the existence of the lien;

(2) A holder of a security interest (as defined in § 70.143(a) of this part) in the security who did not have actual notice or knowledge (as defined in § 70.144(a) of this part) of the existence of the lien at the time the security interest came into existence or at the time such security interest was acquired from a previous holder for a consideration in money or money's worth (as defined in § 70.143(a) of this part); or

(3) A transferee of an interest protected under paragraph (a) (1) or (2) of this section to the same extent the lien is invalid against the transferor to

the transferee. For purposes of this paragraph, no person can improve that person's position with respect to the lien by reacquiring the interest from an intervening purchaser or holder of a security interest against whom the lien is invalid.

(b) *Motor vehicles.*—(1) *In general.* Even though a notice of a lien imposed by 26 U.S.C. 6321 is filed in accordance with § 70.148 of this part, the lien is not valid against a purchaser (as defined in § 70.143(f) of this part) of a motor vehicle (as defined in § 70.143(c) of this part) if:

(i) At the time of purchase, the purchaser did not have actual notice or knowledge (as defined in § 70.144(a) of this part) of the existence of the lien, and

(ii) Before the purchaser obtains such notice or knowledge, the purchaser has acquired actual possession of the motor vehicle and has not thereafter relinquished actual possession to the seller or seller's agent.

(2) *Cross reference.* For provisions relating to additional circumstances in which the lien imposed by 26 U.S.C. 6321 may not be valid against the purchaser of tangible personal property (including a motor vehicle) purchased at retail, see paragraph (c) of this section.

(c) *Personal property purchased at retail.*—(1) *In general.* Even though a notice of a lien imposed by 26 U.S.C. 6321 is filed (with respect to any tax imposed under the provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau) in accordance with § 70.148 of this part, the lien is not valid against a purchaser (as defined in § 70.143(f) of this part) of tangible personal property purchased at a retail sale (as defined in paragraph (c)(2) of this section) unless at the time of purchase the purchaser intends the purchase to (or knows that the purchase will) hinder, evade, or defeat the collection of any tax imposed by the provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau.

(2) *Definition of retail sale.* For purposes of paragraph (c) of this section, the term "retail sale" means a sale, made in the ordinary course of the seller's trade or business, of tangible personal property of which the seller is the owner. Such term includes a sale in customary retail quantities by a seller who is going out of business, but does not include a bulk sale or an auction sale in which goods are offered in quantities substantially greater than are customary in the ordinary course of the seller's trade or business or an auction sale of goods the owner of which is not in the business of selling such goods.

(d) *Personal property purchased in casual sale*—(1) *In general.* Even though a notice of a lien imposed by 26 U.S.C. 6321 is filed in accordance with § 70.148 of this part, the lien is not valid against a purchaser (as defined in § 70.143(f) of this part) of household goods, personal effects, or other tangible personal property of a type described in § 70.241 of this part (which includes wearing apparel, school books, fuel, provisions, furniture, arms for personal use, livestock, and poultry (whether or not the seller is the head of a family); and books and tools of a trade, business, or profession (whether or not the trade, business, or profession of the seller)), purchased, other than for resale, in a casual sale for less than \$250 (excluding interest and expenses described in § 70.147 of this part). For purposes of this paragraph, a casual sale is a sale not made in the ordinary course of the seller's trade or business.

(2) *Limitation.* This paragraph applies only if the purchaser does not have actual notice or knowledge (as defined in § 70.144(a) of this part):

- (i) Of the existence of the tax lien, or
- (ii) That the sale is one of a series of sales.

For purposes of paragraph (d)(2)(ii) of this section, a sale is one of a series of sales if the seller plans to dispose of, in separate transactions, substantially all of the seller's household goods, personal effects, and other tangible personal property described in § 70.241 of this part.

(e) *Personal property subject to possessory liens.* Even though a notice of a lien imposed by 26 U.S.C. 6321 is filed in accordance with § 70.148 of this part, the lien is not valid against a holder of a lien on tangible personal property which under local law secures the reasonable price of the repair or improvement of the property if the property is, and has been, continuously in the possession of the holder of the lien from the time the possessory lien arose. For example, if local law gives an automobile mechanic the right to retain possession of an automobile the mechanic has repaired as security for payment of the repair bill and the mechanic retains continuous possession of the automobile until such lien is satisfied, a tax lien filed in accordance with 26 U.S.C. 6323(f)(1) which has attached to the automobile will not be valid to the extent of the reasonable price of the repairs. It is immaterial that the notice of tax lien was filed before the mechanic undertook the work or that the mechanic knew of the lien before undertaking the work.

(f) *Real property tax and special assessment liens.* Even though a notice

of a lien imposed by 26 U.S.C. 6321 is filed in accordance with § 70.148 of this part, the lien is not valid against the holder of another lien upon the real property (regardless of when such other lien arises), if such other lien is entitled under local law to priority over security interests in real property which are prior in time and if such other lien on real property secures payment of:

(1) A tax of general application levied by any taxing authority based upon the value of the property, or

(2) A special assessment imposed directly upon the property by any taxing authority, if the assessment is imposed for the purpose of defraying the cost of any public improvement; or

(3) Charges for utilities or public services furnished to the property by the United States, a State or political subdivision thereof, or an instrumentality of any one or more of the foregoing.

(g) *Residential property subject to a mechanic's lien for certain repairs and improvements.* Even though a notice of lien imposed by 26 U.S.C. 6321 is filed in accordance with § 70.148 of this part, the lien is not valid against a mechanic's lienor (as defined in § 70.143(b) of this part) who holds a lien for the repair or improvement of a personal residence if:

(1) The residence is occupied by the owner and contains no more than four dwelling units, and

(2) The contract price on the prime contract with the owner for the repair or improvement (excluding interest and expenses described in § 70.147 of this part) is not more than \$1,000. For purposes of this paragraph, the amounts of subcontracts under the prime contract with the owner are not to be taken into consideration for purposes of computing the \$1,000 prime contract price. It is immaterial that the notice of tax lien was filed before the contractor undertakes the work or that the contractor knew of the lien before undertaking the work.

(h) *Attorney's liens*—(1) *In general.* Even though notice of a lien imposed by 26 U.S.C. 6321 is filed in accordance with § 70.148 of this part, the lien is not valid against an attorney who, under local law, holds a lien upon, or a contract enforceable against, a judgment or other amount in settlement of a claim or of a cause of action. The priority afforded an attorney's lien under this paragraph shall not exceed the amount of the attorney's reasonable compensation for obtaining the judgment or procuring the settlement. For purposes of this paragraph, reasonable compensation means the amount customarily allowed under local law for an attorney's service for

litigating or settling a similar case or administrative claim. However, reasonable compensation shall be determined on the basis of the facts and circumstances of each individual case. It is immaterial that the notice of tax lien is filed before the attorney undertakes the work or that the attorney knows of the tax lien before undertaking the work. This paragraph does not apply to an attorney's lien which may arise from the defense of a claim or cause of action against a taxpayer except to the extent such lien is held upon a judgment or other amount arising from the adjudication or settlement of a counterclaim in favor of the taxpayer. In case of suits against the taxpayer, see § 70.150(d)(2) of this part for rules relating to the subordination of the tax lien to facilitate tax collection.

(2) *Claim or cause of action against the United States.* Paragraph (h)(1) of this section does not apply to an attorney's lien with respect to:

(i) Any judgment or other fund resulting from the successful litigation or settlement of an administrative claim or cause of action against the United States to the extent that the United States, under any legal or equitable right, offsets its liability under the judgment or settlement against any liability of the taxpayer to the United States, or

(ii) Any amount credited against any liability of the taxpayer in accordance with 26 U.S.C. 6402.

(i) *Certain insurance contracts.* Even though a notice of a lien imposed by 26 U.S.C. 6321 (with respect to any tax imposed under the provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau) is filed in accordance with § 70.148 of this part, the lien is not valid with respect to a life insurance, endowment, or annuity contract, against an organization which is the insurer under the contract, at any time:

(1) Before the insuring organization has actual notice or knowledge (as defined in § 70.144(a) of this part) of the existence of the tax lien.

(2) After the insuring organization has actual notice or knowledge of the lien (as defined in § 70.144(a) of this part) with respect to advances (including contractual interest thereon as provided in § 70.147(a) of this part) required to be made automatically to maintain the contract in force under an agreement entered into before the insuring organization had such actual notice or knowledge, or

(3) After the satisfaction of a levy pursuant to 26 U.S.C. 6332(b), unless and until the Chief, Tax Processing Center delivers to the insuring organization a notice (for example, another notice of

levy, a letter, etc.), executed after the date of such satisfaction, that the lien exists.

Delivery of the notice described in paragraph (i)(3) of this section may be made by any means, including regular mail, and delivery of the notice shall be effective only from the time of actual receipt of the notification by the insuring organization. The provisions of this paragraph are applicable to matured as well as unmatured insurance contracts.

(j) *Passbook loans*—(1) *In general.* Even though a notice of a lien imposed by 26 U.S.C. 6321 is filed in accordance with § 70.148 of this part, the lien is not valid against an institution described in 26 U.S.C. 581 or 591 to the extent of any loan made by the institution which is secured by a savings deposit, share, or other account evidenced by a passbook (as defined in paragraph (j)(2) of this section) if the institution has been continuously in possession of the passbook from the time the loan is made. This paragraph applies only to a loan made without actual notice or knowledge (as defined in § 70.144(a) of this part) of the existence of the lien. Even though an original passbook loan is made without actual notice or knowledge of the existence of the lien, this paragraph does not apply to any additional loan made after knowledge of the lien is acquired by the institution even if it continues to retain the passbook from the time the original passbook loan is made.

(2) *Definition of passbook.* For purposes of paragraph (j) of this section, the term "passbook" includes:

(i) Any tangible evidence of a savings deposit, share, or other account which, when in the possession of the bank or other savings institution, will prevent a withdrawal from the account to the extent of the loan balance, and

(ii) Any procedure or system, such as an automatic data processing system, the use of which by the bank or other savings institution will prevent a withdrawal from the account to the extent of the loan balance.

(26 U.S.C. 6323)

§ 70.232 Protection for commercial transactions financing agreements.

(a) *In general.* Even though a notice of a lien imposed by 26 U.S.C. 6321 is filed in accordance with § 70.148 of this part, the lien is not valid with respect to a security interest which:

(1) Comes into existence after the tax lien filing.

(2) Is in qualified property covered by the terms of a commercial transactions financing agreement entered into before the tax lien filing, and

(3) Is protected under local law against a judgment lien arising, as of the time of the tax lien filing, out of an unsecured obligation.

See § 70.143 (a) and (e) of this part for definitions of the terms "security interest" and "tax lien filing," respectively. For purposes of this section, a judgment lien is a lien held by a judgment lien creditor as defined in § 70.143(g) of this part.

(b) *Commercial transactions financing agreement.* For purposes of this section, the term "commercial transactions financing agreement" means a written agreement entered into by a person in the course of such person's trade or business:

(1) To make loans to the taxpayer (whether or not at the option of the person agreeing to make such loans) to be secured by commercial financing security acquired by the taxpayer in the ordinary course of the taxpayer's trade or business, or

(2) To purchase commercial financing security, other than inventory, acquired by the taxpayer in the ordinary course of the taxpayer's trade or business. Such an agreement qualifies as a commercial transactions financing agreement only with respect to loans or purchases made under the agreement before the 46th day after the date of tax lien filing or the time when the lender or purchaser has actual notice or knowledge (as defined in § 70.144(a) of this part) of the tax lien filing, if earlier. For purposes of this paragraph, a loan or purchase is considered to have been made in the course of the lender's or purchaser's trade or business if such person is in the business of financing commercial transactions (such as a bank or commercial factor) or if the agreement is incidental to the conduct of such person's trade or business. For example, if a manufacturer finances the accounts receivable of one of its customers, the manufacturer is considered to engage in such financing in the course of its trade or business. The extent of the priority of the lender or purchaser over the tax lien is the amount of the disbursement made before the 46th day after the date the notice of tax lien is filed, or made before the day (before such 46th day) on which the lender or purchaser has actual notice or knowledge of the filing of the notice of the tax lien.

(c) *Commercial financing security*—(1) *In general.* The term "commercial financing security" means:

(i) Paper of a kind ordinarily arising in commercial transactions,

(ii) Accounts receivable (as defined in paragraph (c)(2) of this section),

(iii) Mortgages on real property, and

(iv) Inventory.

For purposes of this subparagraph, the term "paper of a kind ordinarily arising in commercial transactions" in general includes any written document customarily used in commercial transactions. For example, such written documents include paper giving contract rights (as defined in paragraph (c)(2) of this section), chattel paper, documents of title to personal property, and negotiable instruments or securities. The term "commercial financing security" does not include general intangibles such as patents or copyrights. A mortgage on real estate (including a deed of trust, contract for sale, and similar instrument) may be commercial financing security if the taxpayer has an interest in the mortgage as a mortgagee or assignee. The term "commercial financing security" does not include a mortgage when the taxpayer is the mortgagor of realty owned by the taxpayer. For purposes of this subparagraph, the term "inventory" includes raw materials and goods in process as well as property held by the taxpayer primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of the taxpayer's trade or business.

(2) *Definitions.* For purposes of §§ 70.143 and 70.146 of this part, and this section:

(i) A contract right is any right to payment under a contract not yet earned by performance and not evidenced by an instrument or chattel paper, and

(ii) An account receivable is any right to payment for goods sold or leased or for services rendered which is not evidenced by an instrument or chattel paper.

(d) *Qualified property.* For purposes of paragraph (a) of this section, qualified property consists solely of commercial financing security acquired by the taxpayer-debtor before the 46th day after the date of tax lien filing. Commercial financing security acquired before such day may be qualified property even though it is acquired by the taxpayer after the lender received actual notice or knowledge of the filing of the tax lien. For example, although the receipt of actual notice or knowledge of the filing of the notice of the tax lien has the effect of ending the period within which protected disbursements may be made to the taxpayer, property which is acquired by the taxpayer after the lender receives actual notice or knowledge of such filing and before such 46th day, which otherwise qualifies as commercial financing security, becomes commercial financing security to which the priority of the lender

extends for loans made before the lender received the actual notice or knowledge. An account receivable (as defined in paragraph (c)(2)(ii) of this section) is acquired by a taxpayer at the time, and to the extent, a right to payment is earned by performance. Chattel paper, documents of title, negotiable instruments, securities, and mortgages on real estate are acquired by a taxpayer when the taxpayer obtains rights in the paper or mortgage. Inventory is acquired by the taxpayer when title passes to the taxpayer. A contract right (as defined in paragraph (c)(2)(i) of this section) is acquired by a taxpayer when the contract is made. Identifiable proceeds, which arise from the collection or disposition of qualified property by the taxpayer, are considered to be acquired at the time such qualified property is acquired if the secured party has a continuously perfected security interest in the proceeds under local law. The term "proceeds" includes whatever is received when collateral is sold, exchanged, or collected. For purposes of this paragraph, the term "identifiable proceeds" does not include money, checks and the like which have been commingled with other cash proceeds. Property acquired by the taxpayer after the 45th day following tax lien filing, by the expenditure of proceeds, is not qualified property.

(e) *Purchaser treated as acquiring security interest.* A person who purchases commercial financing security, other than inventory, pursuant to a commercial transactions financing agreement is treated, for purposes of this section, as having acquired a security interest in the commercial financing security. In the case of a bona fide purchase at a discount, a purchaser of commercial financing security who satisfies the requirements of this section has priority over the tax lien to the full extent of the security.

(26 U.S.C. 6323)

§ 70.233 Protection for real property construction or improvement financing agreements.

(a) *In general.* Even though a notice of a lien imposed by 26 U.S.C. 6321 is filed in accordance with § 70.148 of this part, the lien is not valid with respect to a security interest which:

- (1) Comes into existence after the tax lien filing,
- (2) Is on qualified property covered by the terms of a real property construction or improvement financing agreement entered into before the tax lien filing, and
- (3) Is protected under local law against a judgment lien arising, as of the

time of tax lien filing, out of an unsecured obligation. For purposes of this section, it is immaterial that the holder of the security interest had actual notice or knowledge of the lien at the time disbursements are made pursuant to such an agreement. See § 70.143 (a) and (e) of this part for general definitions of the terms "security interest" and "tax lien filing." For purposes of this section, a judgment lien is a lien held by a judgment lien creditor as defined in § 70.143(g) of this part.

(b) *Real property construction or improvement financing agreement.* For purposes of this section, the term "real property construction or improvement financing agreement" means any written agreement to make cash disbursements (whether or not at the option of the party agreeing to make such disbursements):

- (1) To finance the construction, improvement, or demolition of real property if the agreement provides for a security interest in the real property with respect to which the construction, improvement, or demolition has been or is to be made;
- (2) To finance a contract to construct or improve, or demolish real property if the agreement provides for a security interest in the proceeds of the contract; or
- (3) To finance the raising or harvesting of a farm crop or the raising of livestock or other animals if the agreement provides for a security interest in any property subject to the lien imposed by 26 U.S.C. 6321 at the time of tax lien filing, in the crop raised or harvested, or in the livestock or other animals raised.

For purposes of paragraphs (b) (1) and (2) of this section, construction or improvement may include demolition. For purposes of any agreement described in paragraph (b)(3) of this section, the furnishing of goods and services is treated as the disbursement of cash.

(c) *Qualified property.* For purposes of this section, the term "qualified property" includes only:

- (1) In the case of an agreement described in paragraph (b)(1) of this section, the real property with respect to which the construction or improvement has been or is to be made;
- (2) In the case of an agreement described in paragraph (b)(2) of this section, the proceeds of the contract to construct or improve real property; or
- (3) In the case of an agreement described in paragraph (b)(3) of this section, property subject to the lien imposed by 26 U.S.C. 6321 at the time of tax lien filing, the farm crop raised or

harvested, or the livestock or other animals raised.

(26 U.S.C. 6323)

§ 70.234 Protection for obligatory disbursement agreements.

(a) *In general.* Even though a notice of a lien imposed by 26 U.S.C. 6321 is filed in accordance with § 70.148 of this part, the lien is not valid with respect to security interest which:

- (1) Comes into existence after the tax lien filing,
- (2) Is in qualified property covered by the terms of an obligatory disbursement agreement entered into before the tax lien filing, and
- (3) Is protected under local law against a judgment lien arising, as of the time of tax lien filing, out of an unsecured obligation.

See § 70.143 (a) and (e) of this part for definitions of the terms "security interest" and "tax lien filing." For purposes of this section, a judgment lien creditor as defined in § 70.143(g) of this part.

(b) *Obligatory disbursement agreement.* For purposes of this section, the term "obligatory disbursement agreement" means a written agreement, entered into by a person in the course of the person's trade or business, to make disbursements. An agreement is treated as an obligatory disbursement agreement only with respect to disbursements which are required to be made by reason of the intervention of the rights of a person other than the taxpayer. The obligation to pay must be conditioned upon an event beyond the control of the obligor. For example, the provisions of this section are applicable where an issuing bank obligates itself to honor drafts or other demands for payment on a letter of credit and a bank, in good faith, relies upon that letter of credit in making advances. The provisions of this section are also applicable, for example, where a bonding company obligates itself to make payments to indemnify against loss or liability and, under the terms of the bond, makes a payment with respect to a loss. The priority described in this section is not applicable, for example, in the case of an accommodation endorsement by an endorser who assumes the obligation other than in the course of the endorser's trade or business.

(c) *Qualified property.* Except as provided under paragraph (d) of this section, the term "qualified property," for purposes of this section, means property subject to the lien imposed by 26 U.S.C. 6321 at the time of tax lien filing and, to the extent that the

acquisition is directly traceable to the obligatory disbursement, property acquired by the taxpayer after tax lien filing.

(d) *Special rule for surety agreements.* Where the obligatory disbursement agreement is an agreement insuring the performance of a contract of the taxpayer and another person, the term "qualified property" shall be treated as also including:

(1) The proceeds of the contract the performance of which was insured, and

(2) If the contract the performance of which was insured is a contract to construct or improve real property, to produce goods, or to furnish services, any tangible personal property used by the taxpayer in the performance of the insured contract.

For example, a surety company which holds a security interest, arising from cash disbursements made after tax lien filing under a payment or performance bond on a real estate construction project, has priority over the tax lien with respect to the proceeds of the construction contract and, in addition, with respect to any tangible personal property used by the taxpayer in the construction project if its security interest in the tangible personal property is protected under local law against a judgment lien arising, as of the time the tax lien was filed, out of an unsecured obligation.

(26 U.S.C. 6323)

Par. 61. Sections 70.241 through 70.245 and an undesignated center heading preceding them are added to read as follows:

Limitations on Levies

§ 70.241 Property exempt from levy.

(a) *Enumeration.* There shall be exempt from levy:

(1) *Wearing apparel and school books.* Such items of wearing apparel and such school books as are necessary for the taxpayer or for members of the taxpayer's family. Expensive items of wearing apparel, such as furs, which are luxuries and are not necessary for the taxpayer or for members of the taxpayer's family, are not exempt from levy.

(2) *Fuel, provisions, furniture, and personal effects.* If the taxpayer is the head of a family, so much of the fuel, provisions, furniture, and personal effects in the taxpayer's household, and of the arms for personal use, livestock, and poultry of the taxpayer, as does not exceed \$1,650 in value. For purposes of this provision, an individual who is the only remaining member of a family and who lives alone is not the head of a family.

(3) *Books and tools of a trade, business or profession.* So many of the books and tools necessary for the trade, business, or profession of an individual taxpayer as do not exceed in the aggregate \$1,100 in value.

(4) *Unemployment benefits.* Any amount payable to an individual with respect to that individual's unemployment (including any portion thereof payable with respect to dependents) under an unemployment compensation law of the United States, of any State, or of the District of Columbia or of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

(5) *Undelivered mail.* Mail, addressed to any person, which has not been delivered to the addressee.

(6) *Certain annuity and pension payments.* Annuity or pension payments under the Railroad Retirement Act (45 U.S.C. chapter 9), benefits under the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act (45 U.S.C. chapter 11), special pension payments received by a person whose name has been entered on the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard Medal of Honor roll (38 U.S.C. 562), and annuities based on retired or retiree pay under 10 U.S.C. chapter 73.

(7) *Workmen's compensation.* Any amount payable to an individual as workmen's compensation (including any portion thereof payable with respect to dependents) under a workmen's compensation law of the United States, any State, the District of Columbia, or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

(8) *Judgments for support of minor children.* If the taxpayer is required under any type of order or decree (including an interlocutory decree or a decree of support pendente lite) of a court of competent jurisdiction, entered prior to the day of levy, to contribute to the support of such taxpayer's minor children, so much of the taxpayer's salary, wages, or other income as is necessary to comply with such order or decree. The taxpayer must establish the amount necessary to comply with the order or decree. The Chief, Tax Processing Center is not required to release a levy until such time as that official is satisfied that the amount to be released from levy will actually be applied in satisfaction of the support obligation. The Chief, Tax Processing Center may make arrangements with a delinquent taxpayer to establish a specific amount of such taxpayer's salary, wage, or other income for each pay period which shall be exempt from levy. Any request for such an arrangement shall be directed to the Chief, Tax Processing Center. Where the taxpayer has more than one source of income sufficient to satisfy the support

obligation imposed by the order or decree, the amount exempt from levy may at the discretion of the Chief, Tax Processing Center be allocated entirely to one salary, wage, or source of other income or be apportioned between the several salaries, wages, or other sources of income.

(9) *Minimum exemption for wages, salary, and other income.* Amounts payable to or received by the taxpayer as wages or salary for personal services, or as other income, to the extent provided in §§ 70.242 through 70.245 of this part.

(10) *Certain service-connected disability payments.* Any amount payable to an individual as a service-connected (within the meaning of 38 U.S.C. 101(16)) disability benefit under:

(i) 38 U.S.C. chapter 11, subchapter II, III, IV, V, or VI, or

(ii) 38 U.S.C. chapter 13, 21, 23, 31, 32, 34, 35, 37, or 39 shall be exempt from levy.

(11) *Certain public assistance payments.* Any amount payable to an individual as a recipient of public assistance under:

(i) Title 42 U.S.C. subchapter IV (relating to aid to families with dependent children) or 42 U.S.C. subchapter XVI (relating to supplemental security income for the aged, blind, and disabled), or

(ii) State or local government public assistance or public welfare programs for which eligibility is determined by a needs or income test shall be exempt from levy.

(12) *Assistance under job training partnership act.* Any amount payable to a participant under the Job Training Partnership Act (29 U.S.C. 1501 *et seq.*) from funds appropriated pursuant to such Act shall be exempt from levy.

(13) *Principal residence exempt in absence of certain approval or jeopardy.* Except to the extent provided in § 70.166 of this part, the principal residence of the taxpayer (within the meaning of 26 U.S.C. 1034) is exempt from levy.

(b) *Appraisal.* The ATF officer seizing property of the type described in 26 U.S.C. 6334(a) shall appraise and set aside to the owner the amount of such property declared to be exempt. If the taxpayer objects at the time of the seizure to the valuation fixed by the officer making the seizure, such officer shall summon three disinterested individuals who shall make the valuation.

(c) *Other property.* No other property or rights to property are exempt from levy except the property specifically exempted by 26 U.S.C. 6334(a). No provisions of a State law may exempt

property or rights to property from levy for the collection of any Federal tax. Thus, property exempt from execution under State personal or homestead exemption laws is, nevertheless, subject to levy by the United States for collection of its taxes.

(26 U.S.C. 6334)

§ 70.242 Wages, salary and other income.

(a) *In general.* Under 26 U.S.C. 6334(a)(9) and (d) certain amounts payable to or received by a taxpayer as wages, salary or other income are exempt from levy. This section describes the income of a taxpayer that is eligible for the exemption from levy (paragraph (b) of this section) and how exempt amounts are to be paid to the taxpayer (paragraph (c) of this section). Section 70.243 of this part describes the sum which will be exempt from levy for each of the taxpayer's payroll periods. Payroll periods are described in § 70.244 of this part. Amounts exempt from levy are determined in part by the number of persons claimed by the taxpayer as dependents. Section 70.245 of this part describes the manner in which the taxpayer is to claim any dependent exemptions and the manner in which the employer is to compute the exempt amount and pay the balance to the Chief, Tax Processing Center.

(b) *Eligible taxpayer income.* Only wages, salary or other income payable to the taxpayer after the levy is made on the payor may be exempt from levy under 26 U.S.C. 6334 (a)(9). No amount of wages, salary or other income which is paid to the taxpayer before levy is made on the payor will be so exempt from levy.

(c) *Payment of exempt amounts to taxpayer—(1) From wages, salary or other income not subject to levy.* In the case of a taxpayer who has more than one source of wages, salary or other income, the Chief, Tax Processing Center may elect to levy on only one or more such source while leaving other sources of salary or other income free from levy. If those wages, salary or other income which the Chief, Tax Processing Center leaves free from levy equal or exceed the amount to which the taxpayer is entitled as an exemption from levy under 26 U.S.C. 6334(a)(9) and (d) and § 70.243 of this part (and is not otherwise exempt), then no amount of the taxpayer's wages, salary or other income on which the Chief, Tax Processing Center elects to levy is exempt from levy. The Chief, Tax Processing Center shall notify the employer or other person subject to levy that no amount of the taxpayer's wages,

salary or other income is exempt from levy.

(2) *From wages, salary or other income subject to levy.* If the taxpayer's income upon which the Chief, Tax Processing Center does not levy is less than that amount to which the taxpayer is entitled as an exemption, then an amount determined pursuant to § 70.243 of this part is to be paid to the taxpayer from those wages, salary or other income which are subject to levy. The Chief, Tax Processing Center will designate those wages, salary or other income subject to levy from which such amount will be paid to the taxpayer. The Chief, Tax Processing Center will generally make this designation by delivering to the employer, or other person levied upon, the form upon which the taxpayer is to claim any dependent exemption. The form will accompany the notice of levy. The person receiving the form from the Chief, Tax Processing Center must promptly deliver it to the taxpayer. In the case of some employers having a large number of employees, however, the Chief, Tax Processing Center will send the form upon which an employee is to claim any dependent exemption directly to the employee. In such a case, the notice of levy will indicate that the form for claiming dependent exemptions has been sent to the taxpayer. If a notice of levy is not accompanied by the form for claiming dependent exemptions and does not indicate that the form was sent directly to the taxpayer, then the person levied upon must make payment to the Chief, Tax Processing Center without regard to amounts prescribed by § 70.243 of this part as exempt from levy. If a notice of levy is accompanied by the form for claiming dependent exemptions or indicates that the form was sent directly to the taxpayer, then the person levied upon is to pay over to the taxpayer, amounts determined to be exempt from levy pursuant to § 70.243 and § 70.245 (b) and (c) of this part (relating to the requirement that the taxpayer submit a claim for any dependent exemption). Amounts not exempt from levy are to be paid to the Chief, Tax Processing Center in accordance with the terms of the levy.

(26 U.S.C. 6334)

§ 70.243 Exempt amount.

Amount payable to the taxpayer as wages, salary, or other income for each payroll period described in § 70.244 of this part are exempt from levy as follows:

(a) If the payroll period is weekly, an amount equal to:

- (1) The sum of:
- (i) The standard deduction, and

(ii) The aggregate amount of the deductions for personal exemption allowed the taxpayer under 26 U.S.C. 151 in the taxable year in which such levy occurs, divided by

(2) 52.

(b) If the payroll period is not weekly, the amount exempt from levy shall be an amount which as nearly as possible will result in the same total exemption from levy for such individual over a period of time as such individual would have under paragraph (a) of this section if (during such period of time) the individual were paid or received such wages, salary or other income on a regular weekly basis.

(26 U.S.C. 6334)

§ 70.244 Payroll period.

For purpose of determining the amount of wages, salary or other income exempt from levy under 26 U.S.C. 6334(a)(9):

(a) *Regularly used calendar periods.* In the case of wages, salary or other income paid to the taxpayer on the basis of an established calendar period regularly used by the employer or other person levied upon for payroll or payment purpose (e.g., daily, weekly, biweekly, semimonthly, or monthly), that period is the taxpayer's payroll period.

(b) *Amounts paid on recurrent but irregular basis.* In the case of wages, salary, or other income paid to the taxpayer on a recurrent but irregular basis, the first day of the taxpayer's payroll period is that day following the day upon which the wages, salary, or other income were last paid to the taxpayer. The last day of the payroll period is that day upon which the current payment becomes payable to him or her. However, in any case in which:

(1) Amounts are paid to the taxpayer on a recurrent but irregular basis, and

(2) the last payment was paid to the taxpayer more than 60 days before the current payment becomes payable, the current payment will be deemed a one-time payment (see paragraph (c) of this section).

(c) *Nonrecurrent payments.* In the case of wages, salary or other income paid to the taxpayer on a one-time basis, the taxpayer's payroll period is deemed to be weekly (i.e., the 1-week period ending on the day of payment).

(26 U.S.C. 6334)

§ 70.245 Computation of exempt amount and payment of amounts not exempt from levy to the Chief, Tax Processing Center.

(a) *General.* Unless advised by the Chief, Tax Processing Center that no

part of the money due to the taxpayer is exempt from levy, the employer or other person levied upon will compute the exempt amount, using the formula in § 70.243 of this part and the taxpayer's statement of exemptions and filing status described in paragraph (b) of this section.

(b) *Statement of exemptions and filing status.* Unless the taxpayer submits a statement of exemptions and filing status to the employer or other person levied upon, the exempt amount will be applied as if the taxpayer were a married individual filing a separate return with only 1 personal exemption. A statement of exemptions and filing status shall be made by either:

(1) Completion of the form provided for this purpose by the Bureau, or

(2) A written statement that:

(i) Gives the taxpayer's filing status for income tax purposes,

(ii) Shows any additional standard deduction if the taxpayer or the taxpayer's spouse is at least 65 and/or blind,

(iii) Identified by name and by relationship to the taxpayer each person for whom a dependent exemption is claimed,

(iv) Is signed by the taxpayer, and

(v) Contains a declaration that it is made under the penalties of perjury.

(c) *Time for submission of statement.* The taxpayer must submit the statement of exemptions and filing status to the employer or other person levied upon no later than the later of:

(1) The third day before the last day of the payroll period for which the exemption is claimed (that is, the third day before payday), or

(2) If the Chief, Tax Processing Center delivers the forms for the statement of exemption and filing status to the employer or other person levied upon (see § 70.242(c)(2) of this part), the second day after the date the taxpayer receives the form.

For purposes of paragraphs (c) (1) and (2) of this section, the term "day" does not include Saturdays, Sunday or a legal holiday within the meaning of 26 U.S.C. 7503. Failure on the part of the taxpayer to submit a timely statement of exemptions and filing status will result in the computation of the exempt amount as if the taxpayer were a married individual filing a separate return with only 1 personal exemption for the applicable pay period, except that the employer or other person levied upon may accept a statement of exemptions and filing status not timely submitted in accordance with this paragraph, and may prepare a disbursement to the taxpayer based

upon the information properly verified therein, if payment to the Chief, Tax Processing Center in accordance with the levy is not thereby delayed.

(d) *Payment of amounts not exempt from levy to the Chief, Tax Processing Center—(1) In General.* Wages, Salary, or other income the subject of a levy are payable to the Chief, Tax Processing Center on the date the payor is otherwise obligated to pay the taxpayer (see § 70.242(c) of this part).

(2) *Delayed payment in certain cases.* If, however, as described in paragraph (c)(2) of this section, the taxpayer may submit a statement of exemptions and filing status after the third day before payday, amounts payable to the taxpayer on that payday, to the extent not exempt from levy, are payable to the Chief, Tax Processing Center on the third day following the date on which the taxpayer may timely submit the statement of exemptions and filing status under paragraph (c)(2) of this section. For purposes of this rule, the term "day" does not include Saturday, Sunday or a legal holiday within the meaning of 26 U.S.C. 7503.

(26 U.S.C. 6334)

Par. 62. An undesignated centerheading is added immediately preceding § 70.251 and that section is amended by revising the second sentence of (a)(2) and the last sentence of (b), to read as follows:

Periods of Limitation in Judicial Proceedings

§ 70.251 Periods of limitation on suits by taxpayers.

(a) * * *

(2) * * * Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, no suit or proceeding for the recovery of any tax, penalty, or other sum imposed under the provision of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau may be brought after the expiration of 2 years from the date of mailing, by either registered or certified mail, by a regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center, to a taxpayer of a statutory notice of disallowance of the part of the claim to which the suit or proceeding relates.

(b) * * * The agreement will not be effective until signed by a regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center.

Par. 63. Section 70.253 and an undesignated centerheading immediately following are added to read as follows:

§ 70.253 Periods of limitation on suits by persons other than taxpayers.

(a) *General rule.* No suit or proceeding, except as otherwise provided in 26 U.S.C. 6532(c)(2) and paragraph (b) of this section, under 26 U.S.C. 7426 and § 70.207 of this part relating to civil actions by persons other than taxpayers, shall be begun after the expiration of 9 months from the date of levy or agreement under 26 U.S.C. 6325(b)(3) giving rise to such action.

(b) *Period when claim is filed.* The 9-month period described in 26 U.S.C. 6532(c)(1) and paragraph (a) of this section shall be extended to the shorter of

(1) 12 months from the date of filing by a third party of a written request under § 70.67(b)(2) of this part for the return of property wrongfully levied upon, or

(2) 6 months from the date of mailing by registered or certified mail by the regional director (compliance) to the party claimant of a notice of disallowance of the part of the request to which the action relates. A request which, under § 70.67(b)(3) of this part, is not considered adequate does not extend the 9-month period described in paragraph (a) of this section.

(26 U.S.C. 6532)

Limitations on Credit or Refund

Par. 64. Section 70.262(c)(2) is amended by revising the first sentence to read as follows:

§ 70.262 Limitations on allowance of credits and refunds.

(c) * * *

(2) If no claim is filed, the amount of the credit or refund allowed or made by the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center shall not exceed the portion of the tax paid within the 3 years immediately preceding the allowance of the credit or refund. * * *

Par. 65. Section 70.271 and an undesignated centerheading preceding it are added to read as follows:

Transferees

§ 70.271 Procedure in the case of transferred assets.

(a) *Method of collection.* (1) The liability, at law or in equity, of a transferee of property of any person liable in respect of any tax imposed under provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau, in any case where the liability of the transferee arises on the liquidation of a corporation or partnership, or a corporate reorganization within the meaning of 26

U.S.C. 368(a), shall be assessed against such transferee and paid and collected in the same manner and subject to the same provisions and limitations as in the case of the tax with respect to which such liability is incurred, except as hereinafter provided.

(2) *Applicable provisions.* The provisions of 26 U.S.C. made applicable by 26 U.S.C. 6901(a) to the liability of a transferee referred to in paragraph (a)(1) of this section, include the provisions relating to:

(i) Delinquency in payment after notice and demand and the amount of interest attaching because of such delinquency;

(ii) The authorization of distraint and proceedings in court for collection; and

(iii) The prohibition of claims and suits for refund.

For detailed provisions relating to assessments, collections, and refunds, see 26 U.S.C. chapters 63, 64, and 65, respectively.

(b) *Definition of transferee.* As used in this section, the term "transferee" includes the shareholder of a dissolved corporation, the assignee or donee of an insolvent person, the successor of a corporation, a party to a reorganization as defined in 26 U.S.C. 368, and all other classes of distributees.

(c) *Period of limitations on assessment.* The period of limitations for assessment of the liability of a transferee is as follows:

(1) *Initial transferee.* In the case of the liability of an initial transferee, 1 year after the expiration of the period of limitations for assessment against the transferor.

(2) *Transferee of transferee.* In the case of the liability of a transferee of a transferee, 1 year after the expiration of the period of limitations for assessment against the preceding transferee, or 3 years after the expiration of the period of limitations for assessment against the taxpayer, whichever of such periods first expires.

(3) *Court proceeding against taxpayer or last preceding transferee.* If, before the expiration of the period specified in paragraph (c)(1) or (2) of this section, (whichever is applicable), a court proceeding against the taxpayer or last preceding transferee for the collection of the tax or liability in respect thereof, respectively, has been begun within the period of limitation for the commencement of such proceeding, then within 1 year after the return of execution in such proceeding.

(d) *Extension by agreement—(1) Extension of time for assessment.* The time prescribed by 26 U.S.C. 6901 for the assessment of the liability of a

transferee may, prior to the expiration of such time, be extended for any period of time agreed upon in writing by the transferee and the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center. The extension shall become effective when the agreement has been executed by both parties. The period agreed upon may be extended by subsequent agreements in writing made before the expiration of the period previously agreed upon.

(2) *Extension of times for credit or refund.* (i) For the purposes of determining the period of limitations on credit or refund to the transferee of overpayments made by such transferee or overpayments made by the taxpayer to which such transferee may be legally entitled to credit or refund, an agreement and any extension thereof referred to in paragraph (d)(1) of this section, shall be deemed an agreement and extension thereof for purposes of 26 U.S.C. 6511(c) (relating to limitations on credit or refund in case of extension of time by agreement).

(ii) For the purpose of determining the limit specified in 26 U.S.C. 6511(c)(2) on the amount of the credit or refund, if the agreement is executed after the expiration of the period of limitations for assessment against the taxpayer with reference to whom the liability of such transferee arises, the periods specified in 26 U.S.C. 6511(b)(2) shall be increased by the period from the date of such expiration to the date the agreement is executed.

(e) *Period of assessment against taxpayer.* For the purpose of determining the period of limitations for assessment against a transferee, if the taxpayer is deceased, or, in the case of a corporation, has terminated its existence, the period of limitations for assessment against the taxpayer shall be the period that would be in effect had the termination of existence not occurred.

(26 U.S.C. 6901)

Par. 66. Sections 70.281 and 70.282 and a related undesignated center heading are added to read as follows:

Bonds

§ 70.281 Form of bond and security required.

(a) *In general.* Any person required to furnish a bond under the provisions of this part shall execute such bond:

(1) On the appropriate form prescribed by the Bureau (which may be obtained from the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center), and

(2) With satisfactory surety.

For provisions as to what will be considered "satisfactory surety", see paragraph (b) of this section. The bonds referred to in this paragraph shall be drawn in favor of the United States.

(b) *Satisfactory surety—(1) Approved surety company or bonds or notes of the United States.* For purposes of paragraph (a) of this section, a bond shall be considered executed with satisfactory surety if:

(i) It is executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the Secretary as an acceptable surety on Federal bonds; or

(ii) It is secured by bonds or notes of the United States as provided in by 31 U.S.C. 9303.

(2) *Other surety acceptable in discretion of ATF officials.* Unless otherwise expressly provided in 26 U.S.C. or this part, a bond may, in the discretion of the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center, be considered executed with satisfactory surety if, in lieu of being executed or secured as provided in paragraph (b)(1) of this section, it is:

(i) Executed by a corporate surety (other than a surety company) provided such corporate surety establishes that it is within its corporate powers to act as surety for another corporation or an individual;

(ii) Executed by two or more individual sureties, provided such individual sureties meet the conditions contained in paragraph (b)(3) of this section;

(iii) Secured by a mortgage on real or personal property;

(iv) Secured by a certified, cashier's, or treasurer's check drawn on any bank or trust company incorporated under the laws of the United States or any State, Territory, or possession of the United States, or by a U.S. postal, bank, express or telegraph money order;

(v) Secured by corporate bonds or stocks, or by bonds issued by a State or political subdivision thereof, of recognized stability; or

(vi) Secured by any other acceptable collateral. Collateral shall be deposited with the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center or, in that official's discretion, with a responsible financial institution acting as escrow agent.

(3) *Conditions to be met by individual sureties.* If a bond is executed by two or more individual sureties, the following conditions must be met by each such individual surety:

(i) The surety must reside within the State in which the principal place of

business or legal residence of the primary obligor is located;

(ii) The surety must have property subject to execution of a current market value, above all encumbrances, equal to at least the penalty of the bond;

(iii) All real property which the surety offers as security must be located in the State in which the principal place of business or legal residence of the primary obligor is located;

(iv) The surety must agree not to mortgage, or otherwise encumber, any property offered as security while the bond continues in effect without first securing the permission of the official with whom the bond is filed; and

(v) The surety must file with the bond, and annually thereafter so long as the bond continues in effect, an affidavit as to the adequacy of the security, executed on the appropriate form furnished by the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center.

Partners may not act as sureties upon bonds of their partnership. Stockholders of a corporate principal may be accepted as sureties provided their qualifications as such are independent of their holdings of the stock of the corporation.

(4) *Adequacy of surety.* No surety or security shall be accepted if it does not adequately protect the interest of the United States.

(26 U.S.C. 7101)

§ 70.282 Single bond in lieu of multiple bonds.

In the case of bonds required under this part, a single bond will not be accepted in lieu of two or more bonds.

(26 U.S.C. 7102)

Par. 67. Sections 70.301 through 70.306 and an undesignated centerheading preceding them are added to read as follows:

Miscellaneous Provisions

§ 70.301 Reproduction of returns and other documents.

(a) *In general.* The Director may contract with any Federal agency or any person to have such agency or person process films and other photoimpressions of any return, statement, document, or of any card, record, or other matter required under the provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau, and make reproductions from such films and photoimpressions.

(b) *Safeguards—(1) By private contractor.* Any person entering into a contract with the Bureau for the performance of any of the services described in paragraph (a) of this

section shall agree to comply, and to assume responsibility for compliance by that person's employees, with the following requirements:

(i) The films or photoimpressions, and reproductions made therefrom, shall be used only for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of the contract, and information contained in such material shall be treated as confidential and shall not be divulged or made known in any manner to any person except as may be necessary in the performance of the contract;

(ii) All the services shall be performed under the supervision of the person with whom the contract is made or that person's responsible employees;

(iii) All material received for processing and all processed and reproduced material shall be kept in a locked and fireproof compartment in a secure place when not being worked upon;

(iv) All spoilage of reproductions made from the film or photoimpressions supplied to the contractor shall be destroyed, and a statement under the penalties of perjury shall be submitted to the Bureau that such destruction has been accomplished; and

(v) All film, photoimpressions, and reproductions made therefrom, shall be transmitted to the Bureau by personal delivery, first-class mail, parcel post, or express.

(2) *By Federal agency.* Any Federal agency entering into a contract with the Bureau for the performance of any services described in paragraph (a) of this section, shall treat as confidential all material processed or reproduced pursuant to such contract.

(3) *Inspection.* The Bureau shall have the right to send its officers and employees into the office and plants of Federal agencies and other contractors for inspection of the facilities and operations provided for the performance of any work contracted or to be contracted for under this section.

(4) *Criminal sanctions.* For penalty provisions relating to the unauthorized use and disclosure of information in violation of the provisions of this section, see 26 U.S.C. 7213(c).

(26 U.S.C. 7513)

§ 70.302 Fees and costs for witnesses.

(a) *Introduction.* Title 26 U.S.C. 7610 provides that the Bureau may make payments to certain persons who are summoned to give information to the Bureau under 26 U.S.C. 7602 and § 70.22 of this part. Under 26 U.S.C. 7610 witnesses generally will not be reimbursed for actual expenses incurred but instead will be paid in accordance with the payment rates established by

regulations. Paragraph (b) of this section contains elaborations of certain terms found in 26 U.S.C. 7610 and definitions of other terms used in the regulations under 26 U.S.C. 7610 (a) and (b); and paragraphs (c) and (d) of this section contain rules and rates applicable to payments under 26 U.S.C. 7610.

(b) *Definitions—(1) Directly incurred costs.* Directly incurred costs are costs incurred solely, immediately, and necessarily as a consequence of searching for, reproducing, or transporting records in order to comply with a summons. They do not include a proportionate allocation of fixed costs, such as overhead, equipment depreciation, etc. However, where a third party's records are stored at an independent storage facility that charges the third party a search fee to search for, reproduce, or transport particular records requested, these fees are considered to be directly incurred by the summoned third party.

(2) *Reproduction cost.* Reproduction costs are costs incurred in making copies or duplicates of summoned documents, transcripts, and other similar material.

(3) *Search costs.* Search costs include only the total cost of personnel time directly incurred in searching for records or information and the cost of retrieving information stored by computer. Salaries of persons locating and retrieving summoned material are not included in search costs. Also, search costs do not include salaries, fees, or similar expenditures for analysis of material or for managerial or legal advice, expertise, or research, or time spent for these activities.

(4) *Third party.* A third party is any person served with a summons, other than a person with respect to whose liability a summons is issued, or an officer, employee, agent, accountant, or attorney of that person.

(5) *Third party records.* Third party records are books, papers, records, or other data in which the person with respect to whose liability a summons is issued does not have a proprietary interest at the time the summons is served.

(6) *Transportation costs.* Transportation costs include only costs incurred to transport personnel to search for records or information requested and costs incurred solely by the need to transport the summoned material to the place of examination. These costs do not include the cost of transporting the summoned witness for appearance at the place of examination. See paragraph (c)(2) of this section for payment of travel expenses.

(c) *Conditions and rates of payments*—(1) *Basis for payment.*

Payment for search, reproduction, and transportation costs will be made only to third parties served with a summons to produce third party records or information and only for material requested by the summons. Payment will be made only for those costs both directly incurred and reasonably necessary. No payment will be made until the third party has satisfactorily complied with the summons and has submitted an itemized bill or invoice showing specific details concerning the costs to the Bureau employee before whom the third party was summoned. If a third party charges any other person for any cost for which the third party is seeking payment from the Bureau, the amount charged to the other person must be subtracted from the amount the Bureau must pay.

(2) *Payment rates.* The following rates are established.

(i) *Search costs.* (A) For the total amount of personnel time required to locate records or information, \$8.50 per person hour.

(B) For retrieval of information stored by computer in the format in which it is normally produced, actual costs, based on computer time and necessary supplies, except that personnel time for computer search is payable only under paragraph (c)(2)(i)(A) of this section.

(ii) *Reproduction costs.* (A) For copies of documents \$.20 per page.

(B) For photographers, films and other materials, actual cost, except that personnel time is payable only under paragraph (a)(2)(i)(A) of this section.

(iii) *Transportation costs.* For transportation costs, actual cost, except that personnel time is payable only under paragraph (c)(2)(i)(A) of this section.

(d) *Appearance fees and allowances*—(1) *In general.* Under 26 U.S.C. 7610(a)(1) and this paragraph, the Bureau shall pay a summoned person certain fees and allowances. No payments will be made until after the party summoned appears and has submitted any necessary receipts or other evidence of costs to the Bureau employee before whom the person was summoned.

(2) *Attendance fees.* A summoned person shall be paid an attendance fee for each day's attendance. A summoned person shall also be paid the attendance fee for the time necessarily occupied in going to and returning from the place of attendance at the beginning and end of the attendance or at any time during the attendance. The attendance fee is the higher of \$30 per day or the amount paid under 28 U.S.C. 1821(b) to witnesses in

attendance at courts of the United States at the time of the summoned person's appearance.

(3) *Travel allowances.* A summoned person who travels by common carrier shall be paid for the actual expenses of travel on the basis of the means of transportation reasonably utilized and the distance necessarily traveled to and from the summoned person's residence by the shortest practical route in going to and returning from the place of attendance. Such a summoned person shall utilize a common carrier at the most economical rate reasonably available. A receipt or other evidence of actual cost shall be furnished. A travel allowance equal to the mileage allowance which the Administrator of General Services has prescribed, under 5 U.S.C. 5704, for official travel of employees of the Federal Government shall be paid to each summoned person who travels by privately owned vehicle. Computation of mileage under this paragraph shall be made on the basis of a uniform table of distances adopted by the Administrator of General Services. Toll charges for toll roads, bridges, tunnels and ferries, taxicab fares between places of lodging and carrier terminals, and parking fees (upon presentation of a valid parking receipt) shall be paid in full to a summoned person incurring those expenses.

(4) *Subsistence allowances.* A subsistence allowance shall be paid to a summoned person (other than a summoned person who is incarcerated) when an overnight stay is required at the place of attendance because the place is so far removed from the residence of the summoned person as to prohibit return thereto from day to day. A subsistence allowance for a summoned person shall be paid in an amount not to exceed the maximum allowance prescribed by the Administrator of General Services, under 5 U.S.C. 5702(a), for official travel in the area of attendance by employees of the Federal Government. An alien who has been paroled into the United States by the Attorney General, under 8 U.S.C. 1182(d)(5)(A), or an alien who either has admitted belonging to a class of aliens who are deportable or has been determined under 8 U.S.C. 1252(b) to be deportable, shall be ineligible to receive the fees or allowances provided for under 26 U.S.C. 7610(a)(1).

(26 U.S.C. 7610)

§ 70.303 Rules and regulations.

(a) *Issuance.* The Director, with the approval of the Secretary, shall prescribe all needful rules and regulations for the enforcement of provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and

administered by the Bureau (except where this authority is expressly given by 26 U.S.C. to any other person other than an officer or employee of the Treasury Department), including all rules and regulations as may be necessary by reason of any alteration of law in relation to taxes within the Director's jurisdiction.

(b) *Retroactivity.* The Director, with the approval of the Secretary, may prescribe the extent, if any, to which any regulation or Treasury decision relating to the laws within the Director's jurisdiction shall be applied without retroactive effect. The Director may prescribe the extent, if any, to which any ruling relating to the laws within the Director's jurisdiction, issued by or pursuant to authorization from the Director, shall be applied without retroactive effect.

(c) *Preparation and distribution of regulations, forms, stamps, and other matters.* The Director, under the direction of the Secretary, shall prepare and distribute all the instructions, regulations, directions, forms, blanks, stamps, and other matters pertaining to the assessment and collection of taxes within the Director's jurisdiction.

(26 U.S.C. 7805)

§ 70.304 Place for filing documents other than returns.

(a) If a document, other than a return, is required to be filed with a regional office, such document may be hand delivered to such office.

(b) For purposes of this section, a return or document will be considered to be hand carried if it is brought to the regional director (compliance) or designated delegate by the person required to file the return or other document, or by the person's agent. Examples of persons who will be considered to be agents, for purposes of the preceding sentence, are: Members of the taxpayer's family, an employee of the taxpayer, the taxpayer's attorney, accountant, or tax advisor, and messengers employed by the taxpayer. A return or document will not be considered to be hand carried if it is sent to the Bureau through the U.S. Mail.

(26 U.S.C. 6091)

§ 70.305 Timely mailing treated as timely filing.

(a) *General rule.* Title 26 U.S.C. 7502 provides that, if the requirements of such section are met, a document shall be deemed to be filed on the date of the postmark stamped on the cover in which such document was mailed. Thus, if the cover containing such document bears a timely postmark, the document will be

considered filed timely although it is received after the last date, or the last day of the period, prescribed for filing such document. Title 26 U.S.C. 7502 is applicable only to those documents which come within the definition of such term provided by paragraph (b) of this section and only if the document is mailed in accordance with paragraph (c) of this section and is delivered in accordance with paragraph (d) of this section.

(b) *Document defined.* The term "document," as used in this section, means any return, claim, statement, or other document required to be filed within a prescribed period or on or before a prescribed date under authority of any provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau.

(c) *Mailing requirements.* (1) Title 26 U.S.C. 7502 is not applicable unless the document is mailed in accordance with the following requirements:

(i) The document must be contained in an envelope or other appropriate wrapper, properly addressed to the agency, officer, or office with which the document is required to be filed.

(ii) The document must be deposited within the prescribed time in the mail in the United States with sufficient postage prepaid. For this purpose, a document is deposited in the mail in the United States when it is deposited with the domestic mail service of the U.S. Postal Service, as defined by the postal regulations (39 CFR Part 2). Title 26 U.S.C. 7502 does not apply to any document which is deposited with the mail service of any other country.

(iii)(A) If the postmark on the envelope or wrapper is made by the U.S. Postal Service, such postmark must bear a date on or before the last date, or the last day of the period, prescribed for filing the document. If the postmark does not bear a date on or before the last date, or the last day of the period, prescribed for filing the document, the document will be considered not to be filed timely, regardless of when the document is deposited in the mail. Accordingly, the sender who relies upon the applicability of 26 U.S.C. 7502 assumes the risk that the postmark will bear a date on or before the last date, or the last day of the period, prescribed for filing the document, but see paragraph (c)(2) of this section, with respect to the use of registered mail or certified mail to avoid this risk. If the postmark on the envelope or wrapper is not legible, the person who is required to file the document has the burden of proving the time when the postmark was made. Furthermore, in case the cover containing a document bearing a timely postmark made by the U.S. Postal

Service is received after the time when a document postmarked and mailed at such time would ordinarily be received, the sender may be required to prove that it was timely mailed.

(B) If the postmark on the envelope or wrapper is made other than by the U.S. Postal Service, the postmark so made must bear a date on or before the last date, or the last day of the period, prescribed for filing the document, and the document must be received by the agency, officer, or office with which it is required to be filed not later than the time when a document contained in an envelope or other appropriate wrapper which is properly addressed and mailed and sent by the same class of mail would ordinarily be received if it were postmarked at the same point of origin by the U.S. Postal Service on the last date, or the last day of the period, prescribed for filing the document.

However, in case the document is received after the time when a document so mailed and so postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service would ordinarily be received, such document will be treated as having been received at the time when a document so mailed and so postmarked would ordinarily be received, if the person who is required to file the document establishes that it was actually deposited in the mail before the last collection of the mail from the place of deposit which was postmarked (except for the metered mail) by the U.S. Postal Service on or before the last date, or the last day of the period, prescribed for filing the document, that the delay in receiving the document was due to a delay in the transmission of the mail, and the cause of such delay. If the envelope has a postmark made by the U.S. Postal Service in addition to the postmark not so made, the postmark which was not made by the U.S. Postal Service shall be disregarded, and whether the envelope was mailed in accordance with this section shall be determined solely by applying the rules of paragraph (c)(1)(iii)(A) of this section.

(2) If the document is sent by U.S. registered mail, the date of registration of the document shall be treated as the postmark date. If the document is sent by U.S. certified mail and the sender's receipt is postmarked by the postal employee to whom such document is presented, the date of the U.S. postmark on such receipt shall be treated as the postmark date of the document. Accordingly, the risk that the document will not be postmarked on the day that it is deposited in the mail may be overcome by the use of registered mail or certified mail.

(3) As used in this section, the term "the last date, or the last day of the period, prescribed for filing the document" includes any extension of time granted for such filing. Except as provided in 26 U.S.C. 5061 for the filing of returns and payment of a tax under 26 U.S.C. subtitle E, when the last date, or the last day of the period, prescribed for filing the document falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, 26 U.S.C. 7503 is also applicable, so that, in applying the rules of this paragraph, the next succeeding day which is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, shall be treated as the last date, or the last day of the period, prescribed for filing the document.

(d) *Delivery.* (1) Title 26 U.S.C. 7502 is not applicable unless the document is delivered by U.S. mail to the agency, officer, or office with which it is required to be filed. However, if the document is sent by registered mail or certified mail, proof that the document was properly registered or that a postmarked certified mail sender's receipt was properly issued therefor, and that the envelope or wrapper was properly addressed to such agency, officer or office shall constitute prima facie evidence that the document was delivered to such agency, officer or office.

(2) Title 26 U.S.C. 7502 is applicable only when the document is delivered after the last date, or the last day of the period, prescribed for filing the document.

(e) *Exceptions.* This section shall not apply with respect to:

(1) The filing of a document in, or the making of a payment to, any court,

(2) Currency or other medium of payment unless actually received and accounted for, or

(3) Returns, claims, statements, or other documents, or payments, which are required under any provision of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau or the regulations thereunder to be delivered by any method other than by mailing.

(26 U.S.C. 5061 and 7503)

§ 70.306 Time for performance of acts other than payment of tax or filing of any return where last day falls on Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday.

(a) *In general.* Title 26 U.S.C. 7503 provides that when the last day prescribed under provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau, for the performance of any act falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, such act shall be considered performed timely if performed on the next succeeding day which is not a

Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday. For this purpose, any authorized extension of time shall be included in the determining of the last day for performance of any act. Title 26 U.S.C. 7503 is not applicable to the filing of returns and payment of tax under 26 U.S.C. subtitle E. Title 26 U.S.C. 7503 is applicable only in case an act is required under authority of any provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau to be performed on or before a prescribed date or within a prescribed period. Title 26 U.S.C. 7503 applies to acts to be performed by the taxpayer (such as the filing of a claim for credit or refund of tax) and acts to be performed by the Director, the Chief, Tax Processing Center, or a regional director (compliance), (such as, the giving of any notice with respect to, or making any demand for the payment of, any tax; the assessment or collection of any tax). For rules concerning the payment of any tax or filing of any return required under the authority of 26 U.S.C. subtitle E, relating to alcohol, tobacco, and certain other excise taxes, see 26 U.S.C. 5061 and the regulations covering the specific commodity.

(b) *Legal holidays.* (1) For the purpose of 26 U.S.C. 7503, the term "legal holiday" includes the legal holidays in the District of Columbia. Such legal holidays found in 5 U.S.C. 6103(a), as enacted and made effective by the Act of November 2, 1983 (97 Stat. 917), are:

- (i) January 1, New Year's Day,
- (ii) Third Monday in January, Birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr.,
- (iii) January 20, when such day is Inauguration Day,
- (iv) Third Monday in February, Washington's Birthday,
- (v) Last Monday in May, Memorial Day,
- (vi) July 4, Independence Day,
- (vii) First Monday in September, Labor Day,
- (viii) Second Monday in October, Columbus Day,
- (ix) November 11, Veterans' Day,
- (x) Fourth Thursday in November, Thanksgiving Day, and
- (xi) December 25, Christmas Day.

When a legal holiday in the District of Columbia falls on a Sunday, the next day is a legal holiday in the District of Columbia. For the purpose of 26 U.S.C. 7503, when a legal holiday in the District of Columbia (other than Inauguration Day) falls on a Saturday it shall be treated as falling on the preceding Friday.

(2) In the case of any statement or other document required to be filed, or any other act required under the

authority of provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau to be performed at any office of the Bureau or any other office or agency of the United States, located outside the District of Columbia, but within an ATF region, the term "legal holiday" includes, in addition to the legal holidays enumerated in paragraph (b)(1) of this section, any statewide legal holiday of the State where the act is required to be performed. If the act is performed in accordance with law at an office of the Bureau or any other office or agency of the United States located in a Territory or possession of the United States, the term "legal holiday" includes, in addition to the legal holidays described in paragraph (b)(1) of this section, any legal holiday which is recognized throughout the Territory or possession in which the office is located. (26 U.S.C. 5061 and 7503)

Par. 68. An undesignated centerheading is added immediately preceding § 70.311 to read as follows:

General Provisions Relating to Stamps, Marks or Labels

Par. 69. An undesignated centerheading is added immediately preceding § 70.321 to read as follows:

Registration

Par. 70. Section 70.321 is amended by adding the OMB control number immediately following the informational cite at the end of the section to read as follows:

§ 70.321 * * *

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 1512-0472)

Par. 71. Sections 70.331 through 70.333 and a related undesignated centerheading are added to read as follows:

Crimes, Other Offenses and Forfeitures

§ 70.331 Fraudulent returns, statements, or other documents.

Any person who willfully delivers or discloses to any officer or employee of the Bureau any list, return, account, statement, or other document, known by him to be fraudulent or to be false as to any material matter, shall be fined not more than \$10,000 (\$50,000 in the case of a corporation) or imprisoned not more than 1 year, or both.

(26 U.S.C. 7207)

§ 70.332 Unauthorized use or sale of stamps.

Any person who buys, sells, offers for sale, uses, transfers, takes or gives in exchange, or pledges or gives in pledge,

except as authorized in the Internal Revenue Code or in regulations made pursuant thereto, any stamp, coupon, ticket, book, or other device prescribed by the Director under provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau for the collection or payment of any tax imposed thereunder, shall, upon conviction thereof, be fined not more than \$1,000, or imprisoned not more than 6 months, or both.

(26 U.S.C. 7209)

§ 70.333 Offenses by officers and employees of the United States

Any officer or employee of the United States acting in connection with any provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau required to make a written report under the provisions of 26 U.S.C. 7214(a)(8) shall submit such report to the Director, or to a regional director (compliance) or to the Chief, Tax Processing Center.

(26 U.S.C. 7214)

Par. 72. Subpart F is redesignated as subpart E.

Par. 73. Section 70.411 is amended by adding the OMB control number immediately following the end of the section to read as follows:

§ 70.411 Imposition of taxes, qualification requirements, and regulations.

* * * * *

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 1512-0472)

Par. 74. Section 70.412 is amended by removing the reference to "§ 70.111(c)" in the last sentence of paragraph (a) and replacing it with "§ 70.411(c)" and by adding the OMB control number immediately following the end of the section to read as follows:

§ 70.412 Excise taxes.

* * * * *

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 1512-0472)

Par. 75. Section 70.413 is amended by revising paragraph (b) and revising the first sentence of paragraph (c)(1) and by adding the OMB control number immediately following the end of the section to read as follows:

§ 70.413 Claims.

* * * * *

(b) *Claims for abatement.* When the tax on distilled spirits, wines, or beer is assessed and the taxpayer thinks that the tax is not due under the law, such taxpayer may file a claim for abatement of the tax on ATF Form 5620.8 with the official who made demand for the tax. ATF Form 5620.8 may be procured from the regional director (compliance) or the

Chief, Tax Processing Center. The regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center may call upon the taxpayer to file a bond in double the amount of the tax in order to insure collection of the tax if the claim is rejected. When the claim is acted upon, the taxpayer is notified of the allowance or rejection of the claim. If the claim is rejected, the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center, will initiate action to collect the tax.

(c) *Claims for refund—(1) Taxes illegally, erroneously, or excessively collected.* A claim for refund of taxes illegally, erroneously, or excessively collected may be filed by the taxpayer with the official who collected the tax.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 1512-0141)

Par. 76. Section 70.414 is amended by revising the first sentence of paragraph (k) and by adding the OMB control number immediately following the end of the section to read as follows:

§ 70.414 Preparation and filing of claims.

(k) *Reopening claims.* A claimant who wishes to have a rejected claim reopened must, within the applicable statutory period of limitations, submit a written application to the official who originally rejected the claim for reconsideration of the claim.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 1512-0141)

Par. 77. Section 70.415 is revised to read as follows:

§ 70.415 Offers in compromise.

Procedure in the case of offers in compromise of liabilities under 26 U.S.C. chapter 51 and of penalties for violation of the Federal Alcohol Administration Act, is set forth in §§ 70.482 through 70.484.

Par. 78. Section 70.417 is revised to read as follows:

§ 70.417 Rulings.

The procedure for rulings in alcohol tax matters is set forth in § 70.471.

Par. 79. Section 70.418 is revised to read as follows:

§ 70.418 Conferences.

Any person desiring a conference in the office of the regional director (compliance) of the region in which such person is located, the Chief, Tax Processing Center, in Cincinnati, or of the Director, in Washington, relative to any matter arising in connection with such person's operations, will be

accorded such a conference upon request. No formal requirements are prescribed for such conference.

Par. 80. Section 70.419 is revised to read as follows:

§ 70.419 Representatives.

Title 31 CFR part 8 is applicable to all representatives of the taxpayer, in the office of the Director, the Chief, Tax Processing Center, or the regional director (compliance).

Par. 81. Section 70.420 is revised to read as follows:

§ 70.420 Forms.

For forms to be used, see § 70.411(c).

Par. 82. Section 70.431 is amended by adding the OMB control number immediately following the end of the section to read as follows:

§ 70.431 Imposition of taxes, regulations.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 1512-0472)

Par. 83. Section 70.432(e) is amended by revising the second sentence and § 70.432(f) is revised to read as follows:

§ 70.432 Qualification and bonding requirements.

(e) *Drawback of tax.* Drawback may be allowed only to the person who paid the tax on such articles and who files a claim and otherwise complies with the provisions contained in the applicable regulations referred to in § 70.431.

(f) *General.* Detailed information relating to the qualification and bonding requirements, including the forms to be used and the procedure to be followed, is fully set forth in the regulations referred to in § 70.431.

Par. 84. Section 70.433 is amended by revising paragraph (d) and by adding the OMB control number immediately following the end of the section to read as follows:

§ 70.433 Collection of taxes.

(d) *General.* Detailed information about the payment of taxes on tobacco products, and cigarette papers and tubes, including the forms to be used, records to be kept, and reports and inventories to be filed, is contained in the respective regulations referred to in § 70.431.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 1512-0472)

Par. 85. Section 70.435(a) is revised to read as follows:

§ 70.435 Claims.

(a) *General.* Detailed requirements, including the procedure to be followed in the filing of a claim, the form to be used, the supporting documents which must be submitted, the time within which a claim must be filed, and any other limitations or instructions are contained in the applicable regulations referred to in § 70.431.

Par. 86. Section 70.436 is revised to read as follows:

§ 70.436 Offers in compromise.

Procedure in the case of offers in compromise of liabilities under 26 U.S.C. chapter 52 is set forth in §§ 70.482 through 70.484.

Par. 87. Section 70.437 is revised to read as follows:

§ 70.437 Rulings.

The procedure for rulings in tobacco tax matters is set forth in § 70.471.

Par. 88. Section 70.446 is revised to read as follows:

§ 70.446 Rulings.

The procedure for rulings in the firearms and explosives area is set forth in § 70.471.

Par. 89. Section 70.447 is revised to read as follows:

§ 70.447 Assessments.

Where the evidence disclosed by investigation establishes that additional or delinquent tax liability has been incurred and not paid, the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center will list the tax as an assessment. Notification and demand for payment of assessed taxes will be issued to the taxpayer by the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center.

Par. 90. Section 70.448 (b) and (c) are revised to read as follows:

§ 70.448 Claims.

(b) Claims for abatement of making and transfer taxes, and claims for abatement of occupational taxes and penalties erroneously assessed, are prepared and filed in accordance with the procedures set forth in § 70.413(b).

(c) Claims may be reopened or amended in accordance with the provisions of § 70.414 (k) and (l).

Par. 91. Section 70.449 is revised to read as follows:

§ 70.449 Offers in compromise.

Procedure in the case of offers in compromise of liabilities under 26 U.S.C. chapter 53 is set forth in §§ 70.482 through 70.484.

Par. 92. An undesignated centerheading is added immediately preceding § 70.450 to read as follows:

Seized Property

Par. 93. An undesignated centerheading is added immediately preceding § 70.461 to read as follows:

Possessions

Par. 94. Section 70.471 is amended by revising (a)(3) to read as follows:

§ 70.471 Rulings.

(a) * * *

(3) The taxes relating to machine guns, destructive devices, and certain other firearms imposed by chapter 53 of the Internal Revenue Code; the registration by importers and manufacturers of, and dealers in, such firearms; the registration of such firearms; the licensing of importers and manufacturers of, and dealers in, firearms and ammunition, and collectors of firearms and ammunition curios and relics under chapter 44 of title 18 of the United States Code; the licensing of manufacturers, importers, limited manufacturers of, and dealers in, explosives and issuance of permits for users of explosives under chapter 40 of title 18 of the United States Code; and registration of Importers of, and permits to import, arms, ammunition, and implements of war, under section 38 of the Arms Export Control Act of 1976, may request a ruling thereon by addressing a letter to the Director, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Washington, DC 20226, to the Chief, Tax Processing Center, or to the regional director (compliance) of the ATF region in which the inquirer's business is located. Since a ruling can issue only from the Bureau Headquarters, any such request made to the Chief, Tax Processing Center or to the regional director (compliance) will be referred to the Director for reply unless the issues involved are clearly covered by currently effective rulings or come within the plain intent of the statutes or regulations. * * *

Par. 95. Section 70.481 and an undesignated centerheading preceding it are added to read as follows:

Administrative Remedies

§ 70.481 Agreements for payment of liability in installments.

(a) *Authorization of agreements.* The regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center, is authorized to enter into written agreements with any taxpayer under which such taxpayer is allowed to satisfy liability for payment of any tax

in installment payments if the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center determines that such agreement will facilitate collection of such liability.

(b) *Extent to which agreements remain in effect.*—(1) *In general.* Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph (b), any agreement entered into by an authorized ATF official under paragraph (a) of this section shall remain in effect for the term of the agreement.

(2) *Inadequate information or jeopardy.* The official who entered into an installment agreement under paragraph (a) of this section may terminate such agreement if:

(i) Information which the taxpayer provided prior to the date such agreement was entered into was inaccurate or incomplete, or

(ii) The regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center believes that collection of any tax to which an agreement under this section relates is in jeopardy.

(3) *Subsequent change in financial conditions.*—(i) *In general.* If the official who entered into an installment agreement under paragraph (a) of this section makes a determination that the financial condition of the taxpayer has significantly changed, the official may alter, modify, or terminate such agreement.

(ii) *Notice.* Action may be taken by the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center under paragraph (b)(3)(i) of this section only if:

(A) Notice of such determination is provided to the taxpayer no later than 30 days prior to the date of such action, and

(B) Such notice includes the reasons why the official believes a significant change in the financial condition of the taxpayer has occurred.

(4) *Failure to pay an installment or any other tax liability when due or to provide requested financial information.* The official who entered into an installment agreement under paragraph (a) of this section may alter, modify, or terminate such agreement in the case of the failure of the taxpayer:

(i) To pay an installment at the time such installment payment is due under such agreement,

(ii) To pay any other tax liability at the time such liability is due, or

(iii) To provide a financial condition update as requested by the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center.

(26 U.S.C. 6159)

Par. 96. Section 70.482 is revised to read as follows:

§ 70.482 Offers in compromise of liabilities (other than forfeiture) under 26 U.S.C.

(a) *In general.* The Director may compromise any civil or criminal liability arising under the provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by ATF prior to reference of a case involving such liability to the Department of Justice for prosecution or defense. (For compromise of forfeiture liability, see § 70.484 of this part.) Any such liability may be compromised only upon one or both of the following two grounds:

(1) Doubt as to liability; or

(2) Doubt as to collectibility.

No such liability will be compromised if the liability has been established by a valid judgment or is certain, and there is no doubt as to the ability of the Government to collect the amounts owing with respect to such liability.

(b) *Scope of compromise agreement.* A compromise agreement may relate to civil or criminal liability for taxes, interest, ad valorem penalties, or specific penalties. However, a criminal liability may be compromised only if it involves a violation of a regulatory provision of 26 U.S.C., or a related statute, and then only if such violation was not deliberately committed with an intent to defraud.

(c) *Effect of compromise agreement.* A compromise agreement relates to the entire liability of the taxpayer (including taxes, ad valorem penalties, and interest) with respect to which the offer in compromise is submitted and all questions of such liability are conclusively settled thereby. Specific penalties, however, shall be compromised separately and not in connection with taxes, interest, or ad valorem penalties. Neither the taxpayer nor the Government shall, upon acceptance of an offer in compromise, be permitted to reopen the case except by reason of falsification or concealment of assets by the taxpayer, or mutual mistake of a material fact sufficient to cause a contract to be reformed or set aside. However, acceptance of an offer in compromise of a civil liability does not remit a criminal liability, nor does acceptance of an offer in compromise of a criminal liability remit a civil liability.

(d) *Procedure with respect to offers in compromise.*—(1) *Submission of offers.* Offers in compromise under this section shall be submitted on Form 5640.1, along with any additional information required by the official authorized to accept or reject the offer. If the offer in compromise is based on inability to pay, the proponent must submit any financial statement required by such official. Each

regional director (compliance) has the authority to accept or reject offers in compromise of:

(i) Tax liabilities arising from:

(A) The illegal production of untaxed distilled spirits, wines, or beer.

(B) The failure to file returns of, or to pay, occupational taxes with respect to distilled spirits, wines, beer, tobacco products, cigarette papers and tubes, or firearms.

(C) The failure to pay firearms making or transfer taxes; and

(ii) Criminal liabilities of retail dealers in liquor arising from violations of the internal revenue laws relating to liquor, including the reuse or refilling of liquor bottles. The Associate Director (Compliance Operations) has the authority to accept or reject offers in compromise of civil liability (of less than \$100,000) and criminal liability arising under 26 U.S.C. chapters 51, 52, and 53 in cases not subject to compromise by regional directors (compliance). The Director accepts or rejects all other offers in compromise except those in compromise of liabilities listed in §§ 70.483 and 70.484 of this part. In civil cases involving liability of \$500 or over and in criminal cases the functions of the General Counsel under 26 U.S.C. 7122(b) are performed by the Chief Counsel of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms. The offer should generally be accompanied by a remittance representing the amount of the compromise offer or a deposit if the offer provides for future installment payments. When final action has been taken, the regional director (compliance), when applicable, and the proponent are notified of the acceptance or rejection of the offer.

(2) *Stay of collection.* The submission of an offer in compromise shall not automatically operate to stay the collection of any tax liability. However, enforcement of collection may be deferred if the interests of the United States will not be jeopardized thereby.

(3) *Acceptance.* An offer in compromise shall be considered accepted only when the proponent thereof is so notified in writing. As a condition to accepting an offer in compromise, the taxpayer may be required to enter into any collateral agreement or to post any security which is deemed necessary for the protection of the interests of the United States. If the final payment on an accepted offer is contingent upon the immediate or simultaneous release of a tax lien in whole or in part, such payment must be in cash, or in the form of a certified, cashier's, or treasurer's check drawn on any bank or trust company incorporated

under the laws of the United States or any State, Territory, or possession of the United States, or by a U.S. postal, bank, express, or telegraph money order.

(4) *Withdrawal or rejection.* An offer in compromise may be withdrawn by the proponent at any time prior to its acceptance. In the event an offer is rejected, the proponent shall be promptly notified in writing. Frivolous offers or offers submitted for the purpose of delaying the collection of tax liabilities shall be immediately rejected. If an offer in compromise is withdrawn or rejected, the amount tendered with the offer, including all installments paid, shall be refunded without interest, unless the taxpayer has stated or agreed that the amount tendered may be applied to the liability with respect to which the offer was submitted.

(e) *Record.* Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, if an offer in compromise is accepted, there shall be placed on file the opinion of the Chief Counsel for the Bureau with respect to such compromise, with that official's reason therefor, and including a statement of:

(1) the amount of tax assessed,

(2) The amount of interest, additional amount, addition to the tax, or assessable penalty, imposed by law on the person against whom the tax is assessed, and

(3) The amount actually paid in accordance with the terms of the compromise.

However, no such opinion shall be required with respect to the compromise of any civil case in which the unpaid amount of tax assessed (including any interest, additional amount, addition to the tax, or assessable penalty) is less than \$500.

(f) *Requirement with respect to statute of limitations.* No offer in compromise shall be accepted unless the taxpayer waives the running of the statutory period of limitations on both or either assessment or collection of the tax liability involved for the period during which the offer is pending, or the period during which any installment remains unpaid, and for one year thereafter.

(g) *Inspection with respect to accepted offers in compromise.* For provisions relating to the inspection of returns and accepted offers in compromise, see 26 U.S.C. 6103(k)(1).

(26 U.S.C. 7122)

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 1512-0472)

Par. 97. Sections 70.483 through 70.484 are revised to read as follows:

§ 70.483 Offers in compromise of violations of Federal Alcohol Administration Act.

The Federal Alcohol Administration Act provides penalties for violations of its provisions. The Associate Director (Compliance Operations), Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms is authorized to compromise such liabilities. Persons desiring to submit offers in compromise may submit such offers on Form 5640.2 to the regional director (compliance) or an ATF officer. Such offers are considered by the regional director (compliance) and are forwarded to the Associate Director (Compliance Operations) for final action. When the offer is acted upon, the proponent and the regional director (compliance) are notified of the acceptance or rejection of the offer. If the offer is rejected, the sum submitted with the offer in compromise is returned to the proponent. If the offer is accepted, the proponent is notified and the case is closed.

§ 70.484 Offers in compromise of forfeiture liabilities.

The Director or designated delegate is authorized to compromise liabilities to administrative forfeiture of personal property seized under the laws administered and enforced by the Bureau. Persons desiring to submit offers in compromise of such liabilities may submit such offers on Form 656-E to the Director or designated delegate. When the offer is acted upon, the proponent is notified of the acceptance or rejection of the offer. If the offer is rejected, the sum submitted with the offer in compromise is returned to the proponent. If the offer is accepted, the proponent is notified and the case is closed. Acceptance of an offer in compromise of civil liabilities does not remit criminal liabilities, nor does acceptance of an offer in compromise of criminal liabilities remit civil liabilities.

Par. 98. Sections 70.485 through 70.487 are added to read as follows:

§ 70.485 Closing agreements.

(a) *In general.* The Director may enter into a written agreement with any person relating to the liability of such person (or of the person or estate for whom the person acts) in respect of any tax imposed under the provisions of 26 U.S.C. enforced and administered by the Bureau for any taxable period ending prior or subsequent to the date of such agreement. A closing agreement may be entered into in any case in which there appears to be an advantage in having the case permanently and conclusively closed, or if good and sufficient reasons

are shown by the taxpayer for desiring a closing agreement and it is determined by the Director that the United States will sustain no disadvantage through consummation of such an agreement.

(b) *Scope of closing agreement*—(1) *In general.* A closing agreement may be executed even though under the agreement the taxpayer is not liable for any tax for the period to which the agreement relates. There may be a series of closing agreements relating to the tax liability for a single period.

(2) *Taxable periods ended prior to date of closing agreement.* Closing agreements with respect to taxable periods which ended prior to the date of the agreement may relate to the total tax liability of the taxpayer or to one or more separate items affecting the tax liability of the taxpayer.

(3) *Taxable periods ending subsequent to date of closing agreement.* Closing agreements with respect to taxable periods ending subsequent to the date of the agreement may relate to one or more separate items affecting the tax liability of the taxpayer.

(c) *Finality.* A closing agreement which is approved within such time as may be stated in such agreement, or later agreed to, shall be final and conclusive, and, except upon a showing of fraud or malfeasance, or misrepresentation of a material fact:

(1) The case shall not be reopened as to the matters agreed upon or the agreement modified by any officer, employee, or agent of the United States, and

(2) In any suit, action, or proceeding, such agreement, or any determination, assessment, collection, payment, abatement, refund, or credit made in accordance therewith, shall not be annulled, modified, set aside, or disregarded.

However, a closing agreement with respect to a taxable period ending subsequent to the date of the agreement is subject to any change in, or modification of, the law enacted subsequent to the date of the agreement and made applicable to such taxable period, and each closing agreement shall so recite.

(d) *Procedure with respect to closing agreements*—(1) *Submission of request.* A request for a closing agreement which relates to a prior taxable period may be submitted at any time before a case with respect to the tax liability involved is filed with a court of the United States. The procedure with respect to requests for closing agreements shall be under such rules as may be prescribed from time to time by the Director in

accordance with the regulations under this section.

(2) *Collection, credit, or refund.* Any tax or deficiency in tax determined pursuant to a closing agreement shall be assessed and collected, and any overpayment determined pursuant thereto shall be credited or refunded, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.

(26 U.S.C. 7121)

§ 70.486 Managerial review.

If at any step in the collection process a taxpayer does not agree with an ATF employee under the authority of the regional director (compliance) or the Chief, Tax Processing Center, the taxpayer has the right to discuss the matter with the employee's immediate supervisor. The ATF employee will give the taxpayer the name and telephone number of the person to be contacted.

§ 70.487 Taxpayer assistance orders.

(a) *Authority to issue.* Upon application filed by a taxpayer, the Chief, Revenue Programs Division or the Assistant Chief, Revenue Programs Division may issue a Taxpayer Assistance Order, if, in the determination of that official, the taxpayer is suffering or about to suffer a significant hardship as a result of the manner in which provisions of 26 U.S.C. are being administered by the Bureau. Applications for Taxpayer Assistance Orders shall be prepared and filed in accordance with instructions available from the Revenue Programs Division, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Washington, DC 20226.

(b) *Terms of a taxpayer assistance order.* The terms of a Taxpayer Assistance Order may require ATF

(1) To release any property of the taxpayer levied upon, or

(2) To cease any action, or refrain from taking any action with respect to the taxpayer under any provision of law which is specifically described by the Chief, Revenue Programs Division or the Assistant Chief, Revenue Programs Division in the Taxpayer Assistance Order.

(c) *Authority to modify or rescind.* Any Taxpayer Assistance Order issued by an ATF official under this section may be modified or rescinded only by that official, or by any superior of such person.

(d) *Suspension of running of period of limitation.* The running of any period of limitation with respect to any action described in paragraph (b) of this section shall be suspended for:

(1) The period beginning on the date of the taxpayer's application under paragraph (a) of this section and ending

on the date of ATF's decision with respect to such application, and

(2) Any period specified by ATF in a Taxpayer Assistance Order issued pursuant to such application.

(e) *Independent action by ATF official.* Nothing in this section shall prevent the Chief, Revenue Programs Division or the Assistance Chief, Revenue Programs Division taking any action in the absence of an application under paragraph (a) of this section. (26 U.S.C. 7811)

PART 170—[AMENDED]

Par. 99. The authority citation for Part 170 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 26 U.S.C. 5001, 5002, 5064, 5111, 5121, 5171, 5205, 5291, 5301, 5362, 7805; 31 U.S.C. 9304, 9306.

§ 170.91 [Amended]

Par. 100. Section 170.91 is amended by removing the reference to "26 CFR 301.6091-1(b)" in the second sentence and replacing it with "§ 70.304 of this chapter".

PART 179—[AMENDED]

Par. 101. The authority citation for part 179 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 552a; 18 U.S.C. 926; 22 U.S.C. 2778; 26 U.S.C. Chapter 53, 6091, 6511, 6676, 6805, 7805; 27 U.S.C. 205; 44 U.S.C. 3504(h), unless otherwise noted.

§ 179.35 [Amended]

Par. 102. Section 179.35(a) is amended by removing the reference to "§ 70.105" and replacing it with "§ 70.113".

PART 194—[AMENDED]

Par. 103. The authority citation for part 194 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 26 U.S.C. 5001, 5002, 5025, 5111-5117, 5121-5124, 5142, 5143, 5145, 5146, 5205-5207, 5301, 5352, 5555, 5613, 5681, 5691, 6001, 6011, 6051, 6061, 6065, 6071, 6091, 6109, 6311, 6314, 6402, 6601, 6657, 6676, 6511, 7011, 7805.

§ 194.106a [Amended]

Par. 104. Section 194.106a is amended by removing the reference to "§ 70.105" and replacing it with "§ 70.113".

PART 197—[AMENDED]

Par. 105. The authority citation for part 197 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 552; 26 U.S.C. 5131-5134, 5511, 6676, 7213, 7805; 31 U.S.C. 9301, 9303, 9304, 9306.

§ 197.5 [Amended]

Par. 106. Section 197.5 is amended by removing the reference to "26 CFR 301.7502 through 301.7503-1" and replacing it with "§§ 70.305 and 70.306 of

this chapter" under the definition of "Filed".

§ 197.29 [Amended]

Par. 107. Section 197.29(a) is amended by removing the reference to "§ 70.105" and replacing it with "§ 70.113".

PART 250—[AMENDED]

Par. 108. The authority citation for part 250 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 19 U.S.C. 81(c); 26 U.S.C. 5001, 5007, 5008, 5041, 5051, 5061, 5081, 5111, 5112, 5114, 5121, 5122, 5124, 5131-5134, 5141, 5146, 5207, 5232, 5271, 5276, 5301, 5314, 5555, 6001, 6301, 6302, 6804, 7101, 7102, 7651, 7652, 7805; 27 U.S.C. 203, 205; 31 U.S.C. 9301, 9303, 9304, 9306.

§ 250.112 [Amended]

Par. 109. Section 250.112(c)(3) is amended by removing the reference to "§ 70.66" and replacing it with "§ 70.61 of this chapter".

PART 270—[AMENDED]

Par. 110. The authority citation for part 270 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 26 U.S.C. 5142, 5143, 5146, 5701, 5703-5705, 5711-5713, 5721-5723, 5731, 5741, 5751, 5753, 5761-5763, 6061, 6065, 6109, 6151, 6301, 6302, 6311, 6313, 6402, 6404, 6423, 6676, 6806, 7011, 7212, 7325, 7342, 7502, 7503, 7606, 7805; 31 U.S.C. 9301, 9303, 9304, 9306.

§ 270.34 [Amended]

Par. 111. Section 270.34(a) is amended by removing the reference to "§ 70.105" and replacing it with "§ 70.113".

§ 270.166 [Amended]

Par. 112. Section 270.166 is amended by removing the reference to "§ 70.66"

and replacing it with "§ 70.61 of this chapter".

§ 270.168 [Amended]

Par. 113. Section 270.168 is amended by removing the reference to "§ 70.66" and replacing it with "§ 70.61 of this chapter".

§ 270.169 [Amended]

Par. 114. Section 270.169 is amended by removing the reference to "26 CFR 301.6676-1" and replacing it with "§ 70.113 of this chapter".

PART 275—[AMENDED]

Par. 115. The authority citation for part 275 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 26 U.S.C. 5142, 5143, 5146, 5701, 5703, 5704, 5705, 5708, 5722, 5723, 5741, 5761, 5762, 5763, 6301, 6302, 6313, 6404, 7101, 7212, 7342, 7606, 7652, 7805; 31 U.S.C. 9301, 9303, 9304, 9306.

§ 275.115 [Amended]

Par. 116. Section 275.115 is amended by removing the reference to "§ 70.66" and replacing it with "§ 70.61 of this chapter".

PART 285—[AMENDED]

Par. 117. The authority citation for part 285 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 26 U.S.C. 5142, 5143, 5146, 5701, 5703-5705, 5711, 5721-5723, 5741, 5751, 5753, 5761-5763, 6061, 6065, 6109, 6302, 6402, 6404, 6676, 6806, 7011, 7212, 7325, 7342, 7606, 7805; 31 U.S.C. 9301, 9303, 9304, 9306.

§ 285.29 [Amended]

Par. 118. Section 285.29 is amended by removing the reference to "26 CFR 301.6676-1" and replacing it with "§ 70.113 of this chapter".

§ 285.30 [Amended]

Par. 119. Section 285.30(d)(1) is amended by removing the reference to "§ 70.105" and replacing it with "§ 70.113".

PART 290—[AMENDED]

Par. 120. The authority citation for part 290 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 26 U.S.C. 5142, 5143, 5146, 5701, 5703-5705, 5711-5713, 5721-5723, 5731, 5741, 5751, 6061, 6065, 6151, 6402, 6404, 7011, 7212, 7342, 7606, 7805; 31 U.S.C. 9301, 9302, 9304, 9306.

§ 290.34 [Amended]

Par. 121. Section 290.34(a) is amended by removing the reference to "§ 70.105" and replacing it with "§ 70.113".

PART 296—[AMENDED]

Par. 122. The authority citation for part 296 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 31 U.S.C. 9304, 9306; 18 U.S.C. 2341-2346; 26 U.S.C. 5708, 5751, 5761-5763, 7805; 44 U.S.C. 3504(h); 49 U.S.C. 782.

§ 296.7 [Amended]

Par. 123. Section 296.7 is amended by removing the reference to "26 CFR 301.6901-1(b)" and replacing it with "§ 70.304 of this chapter".

Signed: August 8, 1990.

Stephen E. Higgins,
Director.

Approved: August 29, 1990.

John P. Simpson,
Acting Assistant Secretary (Enforcement).
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