



Office of the Chief
Records Officer for the
U.S. Government

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May 31, 2022

Tracee Taylor
Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service
Records & Information Management
1111 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20224

Dear Tracee Taylor,

The National Archives and Records Administration has received information that the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) destroyed 30 million taxpayer documents in March 2021 according to an audit report by the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA). In the section titled, "Why TIGTA Did This Audit" on page 1 of the TIGTA audit report, *A Service-Wide Strategy is Needed to Address Challenges Limiting Growth in Business Tax Return Electronic Filing*, dated May 4, 2022, stated that the audit was initiated "because the IRS's continued inability to process backlogs of paper-filed tax returns contributed to management's decision to destroy an estimated 30 million paper-filed information return documents in March 2021. The IRS uses these documents to conduct post-processing compliance matches to identify taxpayers who do not accurately report their income."

In accordance with 36 CFR 1230.16, NARA is requesting a report documenting the destruction of these records. Your report should include a description of the records; the records schedule disposition citation that covers the files; details regarding the records destruction incident and recovery efforts; and a statement of the safeguards that have been or will be implemented to prevent future unauthorized disposals of such records.

I appreciate your attention to this important matter. If you have any questions or wish to discuss further, please contact me at laurence.brewer@nara.gov.

Sincerely,

LAURENCE BREWER
Chief Records Officer
for the U.S. Government