## IRS Issues Notice Granting Foreign Financial Institutions Temporary U.S. TIN Relief

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Report from our correspondent Joel M DiCicco, Florida Atlantic University

The US Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has issued a notice (Notice 2023-11) providing temporary relief for Foreign Financial Institutions (FFIs) from obtaining Taxpayer Identification Numbers (TIN) for certain pre-existing accounts as defined in an applicable Model 1 Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) (see Note).

If an FFI in an eligible Model 1 IGA jurisdiction complies with the procedures described in the notice, then the US Competent Authority will not determine there is significant non-compliance under the IGA solely as a result of its failure to report US TINs associated with its pre-existing accounts.

Issuing this notice was necessary as each Model 1 IGA jurisdiction is required to obtain and exchange US TINs with respect to each US reportable account. Compliance with the IGA results in the suspension of withholding under US Internal Revenue Code (IRC) sections 1471 and 1472. Without the Notice, the FFI failure to report required US TINs might result in the US Competent Authority advising the Model 1 IGA jurisdiction competent authority that there is significant non-compliance with respect to the reporting Model 1 FFI.

This notice is limited to reporting on pre-existing accounts only and does not:

- apply to US reportable accounts opened after the determination date specified in the applicable
  Model 1 IGA (new accounts), including new accounts held by account holders of pre-existing accounts; and
- prevent the US Competent Authority from finding significant non-compliance for a failure to satisfy any obligation under the applicable Model 1 IGA other than a failure to obtain and report each required US TIN for pre-existing accounts.

*Note:* Model 1 Intergovernmental Agreement states that these Foreign Financial Institutions (FFIs) in those jurisdictions are not required to undertake FATCA reporting and are not subject to the FATCA "stick" of 30% withholding.

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