

September 29, 2021

### **IRS To Scrutinize EIN Holders' Information**

The Internal Revenue Service, citing security issues, intends to “step up” awareness efforts toward businesses, partnerships, trusts and estates, charities and other entities that hold Employer Identification Numbers. In particular, the IRS wants those entities to update their applications if there has been a change in responsible party or contact information. This data, the IRS said, is often outdated or wrong and can delay the reporting of ID theft.

IRS regulations require EIN holders to update this information within 60 days of any change using Form 8822-B “Change of Address or Responsible Party - Business”.

Starting in August, the IRS will send letters to approximately 100,000 EIN holders with information the agency thinks is outdated. All EIN applications must have the name and Taxpayer Identification Number of the true principal officer, general partner, grantor, owner or trustee.

Entities with unused EINs should close their account at the page on the IRS website for cancelling an EIN. *Accounting Today Daily Brief* 8/2/21.

### **How Your Cell Phone Spies On You**

Recently, I listened to a YouTube video by Edward Snowden, the former NSA employee who fled to Russia who discussed this. If you turned off your phone and think the government cannot find you, think again - think how the FBI found the thousands of people who were present several thousand feet from the U.S. Capitol on 1/6/21. Extremely detailed and technical and not political. Listen for a discussion of the Third Party Doctrine and how the government can obtain your information legally and get around the Fourth Amendment. <https://youtu.be/efs3QRr8LWw> Edward Snowden on Joe Rogan 10/23/19.

### **When Cancel Culture Comes For The Jews**

I was expecting this but did not know when it would happen.

The cancel culture soldiers are on the warpath and in addition to destroying many people's careers and lives through social media, they have also begun to target people for their identity in a trend that resembles Stalinist Russia. Somehow, being proudly Jewish has become the opposite of “woke” and social justice warriors are doing their best to cancel people simply for supporting the indigenous rights of the Jewish people.

Recently, anti-semites erupted in a digital tantrum over pop star Billie Eilish and her comments on Israel. Eilish's “crime” was saying “Hi Israel.....” in a targeted video message to promote her newly released album. The response was thousands of hate messages across multiple social media platforms cancelling Eilish for her “support for genocide against Palestinians” among other outlandish claims.

In another horrific incident, April Powers, who was the Chief Equity and Inclusion Officer at the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators (SCBWI), was forced to leave her position after she issued a statement on behalf of the society condemning the sharp rise in antisemitic attacks. Her crime? Not also including “Islamophobia” in the same statement. Not only has it become normalized to minimize antisemitism, but it has become somehow progressive to attack those who fight against one of the oldest forms of prejudice in the world.

I am acutely aware of the progression of this “disease”. I was born approximately 5 years after the death of Adolf Hitler and the liberation of extermination camps. The 83<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of Kristallnacht, the night of the broken glass when the destruction of the Jewish community in Germany, started is barely two months away.

Martin Niemoller, the German Lutheran Pastor who is best known for his quote “.....then they came for the Jews and I did not speak out - because I was not a Jew.....” is relevant again.

Draw your own conclusions as to the consequences of remaining silent.

While this is not a matter of financial, investment, accounting or tax interest, it may be of legal interest.

In any event, I felt the need to speak out and thought you should know.

As always, if you have any questions about these or any other matters, do not hesitate to call us.