

**From the desk of  
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# **IRS Increases Visits to High-Income Taxpayers who have not Filed Tax Returns or Owe Taxes**

The Internal Revenue Service has announced that it will step up efforts to visit high-income taxpayers who have failed to file their tax returns.

The IRS has increased their hiring of additional enforcement personnel.

IRS Revenue Officers (Collection Officers) will be making face-to-face visits with high-income taxpayers who have not filed their tax returns.

The “official” announcement states that the visits are primarily aimed at informing these taxpayers of their tax filing and paying obligations and bringing these taxpayers into compliance.

Revenue Officers, the collection division of the IRS are those who can file liens, garnish wages, access and take bank accounts, homes, and any other assets that the IRS can seize. These are the members of the IRS that can make a taxpayer’s life literally hell.

Sending these RO’s to “inform” taxpayers of their filing responsibilities is a euphemism for all hell will break loose when they come to visit.

Taxpayers having delinquent filing or payment obligations are urged by the IRS to consult a competent tax advisor before IRS RO pays a visit.

The targeted group are high-income non-filers taxpayers who generally have income in excess of \$100,000.

The IRS has stated that taxpayers who exercise their best efforts in filing their tax returns and paying or entering into agreements to pay their taxes deserve to know that

the IRS is aggressively pursuing others who have failed to satisfy their filing and payment obligations.

The public announcement states that IRS RO's will share information and work with the taxpayer to hopefully resolve the tax issue.

Our experience is that when a RO shows up, it is anything but a friendly encounter, and generally leaves taxpayers terrorized.

The IRS announcement goes on to mildly state that "It is better to work on these issues up front rather than ignoring it and ultimately getting to the point of the IRS taking more serious action".

The announcement ominously further states that coupled with the use of ever-changing technologies, and with additional enforcement personnel that waiting is not a viable option for delinquent taxpayers.

### **What's a revenue officer's job?**

Revenue officers are trained IRS enforcement employees who work to resolve compliance issues, such as missing returns or taxes owed.

Revenue officers conduct interviews to gather financial information and provide taxpayers with the necessary steps to become and remain compliant with the law.

When necessary they will take the appropriate enforcement actions to collect the amount owed.

The emphasis is on the word enforcement.

With the launching of this new initiative taxpayers have typically received numerous letters from the IRS over an extended period of time.

Should you get a "visit" from an IRS Revenue Officer, call us immediately.

Do not engage with them before calling us.

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