

EARLE LAW OFFICES

A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
19925 STEVENS CREEK BOULEVARD
POST OFFICE BOX 1925
CUPERTINO, CALIFORNIA 95015

WWW.EARLELAW.COM

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408.786.1060

Eight Things to Know If You Receive an IRS Notice

by Anthony F. Earle, Esquire*

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Every year, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) sends millions of letters and notices to taxpayers. Many of these letter and notices are sent during the late summer and fall. Here are eight things you should know about IRS notices – just in case one shows up in your mailbox.

1. Don't panic. Many of these letters can be handled with relative simplicity.
2. There are number of reasons the IRS sends notices to taxpayers. Notices may request payment of taxes, notify you of a change to your account, or request additional information. The notice you receive normally covers a very specific issue about your account or tax return.
3. Each letter or notice contains specific instructions on what the IRS would like you to do to satisfy the inquiry.
4. If you receive a correction notice, you should review the correspondence and compare it with the information on your return.
5. If you agree with the correction to your account, usually no reply is necessary unless a payment is due.
6. If you do not agree with a correction made by the IRS, it is important to respond to the letter or notice.
7. The IRS has lawyers and other tax professionals which represent it in collections matters; you should have a professional representing you, too.

8. If you receive a letter or notice from the IRS with which you disagree, call EARLE LAW OFFICES for a free attorney-client privileged telephone consultation.

Earle Law Offices provides trial and appellate litigation, as well as non-litigation, legal services in the areas of business law, family law, real estate law, tax law, and trusts and estates.

* Mr. Earle is licensed to practice law in all California state trial and appellate courts, the United States Supreme Court, the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth and Ninth Circuits, federal trial courts in the Northern District of California, and the United States Tax Court. He has served as a Judge Pro Tempore for the Santa Clara Superior Court, and is also a licensed Real Estate Broker.

Mr. Earle received his law degree from the Santa Clara University School of Law, where he served as an Editor of the school's Law Review, and where he received awards for academic excellence. He received his undergraduate degree, with honors, in business administration from the University of La Verne.

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