



NATIONAL
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Mr. Daniel W. Bennett
Chief, Office of Records and Information Management
Internal Revenue Service
1111 Constitution Avenue, NW
Park 4 - Suite 400 (OS:A:RE:MA)
Washington, DC 20224-0001

Dear Mr. Bennett:

Late last week the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) learned of an alleged unauthorized disposal of Federal records by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

In a June 13, 2014, letter from the IRS to Senator Ron Wyden and Senator Orrin Hatch of the Senate Committee on Finance, the IRS reported the loss of emails. According to the correspondence, the emails of Lois Lerner, the former head of the IRS' Exempt Organization Division, dated between 2009 and 2011, were lost due to a hard-drive failure.¹

In accordance with 44 USC 2905(a), NARA requests that the IRS investigate the alleged disposal of the items in question and whether the alleged disposal was broader than what was reported in the June 13, 2014, letter.

A report of the investigation into this matter is required within 30 days of the date of this letter as stated in 36 CFR 1230.16(b). If an investigation determines that an unauthorized disposal did occur, as required by 36 CFR 1230.14, a final report must include the following:

- (1) A complete description of the records with volume and dates if known;
- (2) The office maintaining the records;
- (3) A statement of the exact circumstances surrounding the removal, defacing, alteration, or destruction of records;
- (4) A statement of the safeguards established to prevent further loss of documentation; and
- (5) When appropriate, details of the actions taken to salvage, retrieve, or reconstruct the records.

Please mail the report to National Archives and Records Administration, Office of the Chief Records Officer (AC), 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740.

¹ The correspondence is available online from the website of the U.S. House of Representatives, Committee on Ways and Means, at http://waysandmeans.house.gov/UploadedFiles/6_13_14_IRS_Letter.pdf

If you have any questions, please contact [REDACTED] at 301-[REDACTED] or
[REDACTED]@nara.gov .

Sincerely,



PAUL M. WESTER, JR.
Chief Records Officer
for the U.S. Government