



SOCIAL SECURITY

22, 2011

This letter is in response to your April 7, 2011 inquiry about a person's citizenship status reflected in the Social Security Numident database. We regret the delay in replying.

You expressed concern about how we transmit citizenship information in our records to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) separate from reported wage information. We periodically provide the IRS with a file of our entire Numident database (called a DM-1 file) to assist them in the processing of income tax returns. This includes citizenship information. We also provide "finder files" to the IRS. These files contain our Numident information that the IRS has requested for specific Social Security numbers. These files also include citizenship information.

You also asked whether a person's citizenship election of "U.S. citizen" (Numident CSP Code "A") on our records prevents the issuance of an SS-1042S if the person claimed a non-resident alien status for the purpose of the federal income tax. We do not look at the Numident to determine whether to issue an SSA-1042S or an SSA-1099 to a beneficiary. Therefore, if an individual has a CSP Code "A" ("U.S. citizen") on his Numident record—but claims non-resident alien status for federal income tax purposes—this would not prevent us from sending an SSA-1042S to him.

Sincerely,

Frank Biro
Acting Associate Commissioner
Office of Public Inquiries

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