



INSPECTOR GENERAL
FOR TAX
ADMINISTRATION

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005

August 30, 2022

The Honorable Joni Ernst
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Ernst:

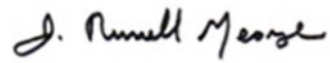
This is to acknowledge your August 24, 2022, letter to the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA). Your letter asks TIGTA to review the Internal Revenue Service's (IRS) "employment practices to determine how many agency employees are not currently fully compliant on their tax debts, and how many rehires on the IRS payroll were previously separated for performance issues, including failure to fully pay their taxes, and what actions the agency is taking, if any, to remedy these compliance issues."

Based on your request, TIGTA is initiating a review to follow up on our previous audit work regarding IRS employee tax compliance and the IRS's rehiring of former employees with conduct and performance issues. The review will provide:

- The number of current IRS employees who are not fully compliant on their Federal tax obligations.
- The number of rehired employees currently on the IRS's payroll that were previously separated or resigned prior to being disciplined for conduct and performance issues, including failure to fully pay their taxes owed.
- A description of the IRS's actions taken, if any, to remedy employee tax compliance issues.
- Recommendations, as appropriate, related to any control weaknesses identified during the review.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (202) 622-6500, or have a member of your staff contact David Barnes, Acting Congressional Liaison, at (202) 281-0214.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "J. Russell George".

J. Russell George
Inspector General