

DANGER!

YOUR BANK ACCOUNT IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY MAY GET YOU INTO TROUBLE

The recent agreement between the Swiss government and the US Justice Department has grabbed headlines throughout the country and has caused very wealthy tax cheats to worry about whether they will be spending some time in a federal prison. While most people are rightfully offended that people who have more than enough money do not pay their taxes, **most people are not aware that they could end up in the same federal prison if the IRS has their way.** Unknown to many Americans, if a U.S. taxpayer owns or controls an account in a foreign country with more than a \$10,000 balance at any time during the tax year, then the U.S. taxpayer must check the block on the bottom of Schedule B **and** file Treasury Form TD F 90-22.1 before June 30 of the following year. If the failure to file this form is discovered, it will almost certainly result in substantial penalties and a possible criminal investigation.

THERE IS A LIMITED TIME OFFER FROM THE IRS - On March 23, 2009, the IRS initiated a six month voluntary disclosure initiative with the objective of bringing taxpayers that have undisclosed foreign accounts and undisclosed foreign entities into compliance with the United States tax laws. This voluntary disclosure, **which expires September 23, 2009,** provides noncompliant taxpayers the opportunity to avoid devastating **civil penalties in excess of the balance of the account** and generally eliminate the risk of criminal prosecution that might otherwise occur.

IT DOES NOT MATTER IF YOU MADE AN INNOCENT MISTAKE - You might have inherited the money from a relative in another country. You may be involved in a legitimate business in another country. **It does not matter if your failure to disclose was innocent and it does not matter that your accountant did not tell you disclosure was required.**

ACT NOW!! - If you have any foreign bank account or own part of a any foreign company, please make sure you have properly disclosed these accounts to the government every year. If there is any question then please call us or your tax preparer. **While the law firm of Webb & Graves, PLLC will be available to represent you if the IRS comes after you later for not properly disclosing, it will be much less expensive and scary to act now!**

This important information provided by:

WEBB & GRAVES, P.L.L.C.

Attorneys and Counselors at Law

5700 Oleander Drive, Wilmington, NC 28403

Tel: (910) 790-9944, Toll Free: (800) 213-4168

e-mail: rick.graves@webbandgraves.com

www.webbandgraves.com

CAVEAT

*This discussion paper is for educational purposes only and should not be relied upon as legal advice. Legal advice can only be rendered after all the relevant facts are known to the attorney and only after many complex alternatives are considered. Seek out competent help **before** proceeding.*