# **RESELLER APPLICATION**

## OWNER(S)/OFFICER(S) INFORMATION

NAME	TITLE		_SS#	
HOME STREET ADDRESS				
CITY		STATE		_ZIP
HOME PHONE	CELL _			
DL#	_E-MAIL			
OWNER/OFFICER #2				
NAME	TITLE		_SS# _	
HOME STREET ADDRESS				
CITY		STATE		_ZIP
HOME PHONECELL			_DL#	
IF APPLICABLE ↓				
BUSINESS NAME		FED	tax id	
BUSINESS STREET ADDRESS				
CITY		STATE		_ZIP
BUSINESS PHONE		FAX		
WEBSITE				
YEARS IN BUSINESS# OF EMPLOYEES	SINDUST	RY TYPE		
BUSINESS TYPE (CHECK ONE): CORPORATION	IPARTNE	RSHIP	SOLE	PROPRIETORSHIP

I (we) certify that the information contained in this application is correct to the best of my knowledge and understand that falsification of any information is grounds for refusal or severance of Reseller status. I further understand that I (we) cannot represent myself as a representative of America's Best Companies (ABC) until I have been approved by America's Best Companies. I (we) authorize and instruct any person or consumer reporting agency to make inquiries and compile such reports as may be requested by ABC and I (we) also authorize ABC to make whatever inquiries and investigations necessary in connection with this application. I am aware that pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act, that I may make a written request within a reasonable time for disclosure of any information received from any consumer reporting agency as authorized herein.

### ALL OWNERS AND/OR OFFICERS MUST SIGN THIS APPLICATION

SIGNATURE	TITLE	DATE
SIGNATURE	TITLE	DATE

DELIVER TO: AMERICA'S BEST COMPANIES, INC., 1 TOWER LANE, SUITE 1900 • OAKBROOK TERRACE, IL 60181 • PH (877) 885-2378 • FAX (877) 519-2378

### REFERRAL AGREEMENT

This Referral Agreement (this "Agreement"	) by and between America's Best Compar	ies Inc.,	, an Illinois Corporation
("ABC"), and	, а		_ (type of business)
("Reseller") located at	is entered into as of	, 200_	("Effective Date").

WHEREAS, ABC has created a Membership Program in which the members of the program receive certain benefits and discounts in exchange for a membership fee (the "Membership Program");

WHEREAS, Reseller will offer to the Membership Program to ABC customers, clients, members and others (collectively, the "Referrals") the Membership Program on the terms and conditions set forth herein;

WHEREAS, ABC will pay to Reseller a Referral Fee (as defined in Appendix A) for every Referral that ABC accepts into the Membership Program on the terms and conditions set forth herein; and

NOW, THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is acknowledged by the parties hereto, the parties agree as follows:

1. Reseller Obligations. Reseller shall provide to ABC a signed New Member Application with complete payment information in the manner and format designated by ABC (the "Application"). A Reseller ID number will be provided by ABC to Reseller and that Reseller ID number must be printed clearly on the New Member Application.

2. Referral Fee. For each new registration that was referred by Reseller who has been accepted by ABC into Membership Program and paid to ABC the membership fee for the Membership Program, ABC shall pay to Reseller a Referral Fee as described in Appendix A from such Referrals in a particular calendar month less any refunds given to any Referrals in a particular calendar month (the "Referral Fee"). The Referral Fee is payable to Reseller for Referrals who join the Membership Program only if such Referrals pay their monthly or annual fee. Payment of the Referral Fee for the previous month's activity shall be paid within THIRTY (30) days of the end of each calendar month. All decisions as to payments by ABC shall be final and binding on Reseller unless there is a showing of bad faith or gross negligence on behalf of ABC.

3. Right to Reject. ABC has the right in its sole discretion to reject any of the Referrals from joining the Membership Program, in which case, no amounts will be due to Reseller.

4. Term. The initial term of this Agreement shall commence on the Effective Date and shall continue for a period of ONE (1) year, unless terminated earlier by either party. This Agreement shall automatically renew for consecutive ONE (1) year periods unless either party terminates this Agreement as set forth herein. Each party has the right to terminate this Agreement with or without cause at any time upon SIXTY (60) days' prior written notice. In the event of termination, other than for cause, ABC shall continue to pay to Reseller the Referral Fee due and owing for the Referrals who joined the Membership Program prior to the effective date of termination for a period of one year, payment to be made at the time specified in paragraph 2 above.

5. Termination for Cause. At ABC, our priority is establishing long-term relationships with our Members and Resellers. It is equally important that our Resellers establish these same types of relationships. Because the Members perceive the Resellers as a direct extension of ABC, it is imperative that Resellers maintain honest sales practices. A substantiated finding of forgery, altering documents, fraudulent information written on a New Member Application, non-disclosure of fees or stating that there are no fees, receiving money from a New Member and not forwarding money and New Member Application to ABC within TEN (10) business days, or gross misrepresentation of programs and/or services offered by ABC will allow ABC to terminate for cause effective immediately upon sending of written notice to Reseller.

6. Governing Law. This Agreement shall be governed and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Illinois, without regard to conflicts of law rules. Reseller irrevocably submits to the original jurisdiction of those state or federal courts located within DuPage or Cook County, Illinois, with regard to any controversy arising out of, relating to, or in any way concerning the execution or performance of the Agreement.

7. Amendment. No provisions of this Agreement may be amended except by a writing executed by both parties.

8. Entire Agreement. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement and understanding of the parties hereto with regard to the subject matter contained herein and supersedes all prior agreements and understandings between the parties dealing with such subject matter, whether written or oral. This Agreement may not be modified by custom, usage of trade, or course of dealing or performance.

RESELLER (LEGAL BUSINESS NAME)	TYPE OF BUSINESS (SOLE PROPRIETO	RSHIP OR TYPE OF ENTITY)
ADDRESS	CITY/STATE/ZIP	
SIGNATURE	PRINT NAME	DATE

### APPENDIX A

### ATTACHMENT TO REFERRAL AGREEMENT

Effective Date: January 25th, 2008

The following is a statement of the current payment structure for the ABC Reseller program. This program is subject to change at any time without prior notice solely at the discretion of ABC and does not change any of the stipulations in the "Referral Agreement." Any change in this Appendix will become immediately binding upon the Reseller, his or heirs, successors and assigns, any and all representatives that may and will be utilized by Reseller and any other persons that will be involved in the representation of Reseller.

### REFERRAL FEE INCOME

In order to qualify to receive Referral Fee income Reseller must meet all of the requirements of the Referral Agreement. Referral Fee income and commissions are paid according to the following schedule starting with the first Billed merchant submitted.

### REFERRAL FEE/ COMMISSION PAYMENT SCHEDULE

### MONTHLY ENROLLMENT PLAN

ABC pays Resellers an upfront commission of \$150.00 for all approved monthly enrollments. Our Referral Fee, which is an ongoing monthly residual paid on all active accounts, is determined by the total monthly payment we receive from the Referrals.

For example, when a merchant (a "Referral") enrolls in ABC (\$29.95/mo.) as well as myABCspace (for \$10.00/mo.), the total commission payable to the Reseller is \$150.00 with a monthly Referral Fee of \$12.00.

The following pricing structure outlines how both commissions and Referral Fees are determined based on ABC enrollment with and without myABCspace.

ABC Monthly Enrollment			Including myABCspace (\$10.00/mo. additional)		
Monthly Payment	Commission	Referral Fee	Total Monthly Payment	Referral Fee	Total Referral Fee
\$29.95	\$150.00	\$10.00	\$39.95	(+) \$2.00	\$12.00
\$39.95	\$150.00	\$15.00	\$49.95	(+) \$2.00	\$17.00

### ANNUAL ENROLLMENT PLAN

As illustrated below, ABC pays Resellers an upfront commission of \$150.00 for a \$299.50 annual enrollment. The Annual Referral Fee is determined by the total annual payment we receive.

For example, when a Referral enrolls annually with ABC (\$299.50/yr.), the Referral Fee will be \$100.00. If myABCspace is included (for an additional \$100.00/yr.), the total Referral Fee will be \$120.00.

ABC Annual Enrollment			Including myABCspace (\$100.00/yr. additional)		
Annual Payment	Commission	Referral Fee*	Total Annual Payment	Referral Fee*	Total Referral Fee*
\$299.50	\$150.00	\$100.00	\$399.50	(+) \$20.00	\$120.00
\$399.50	\$200.00	\$100.00	\$499.50	(+) \$20.00	\$120.00

\* Annual Referral Fee to be payed to Reseller within THIRTY (30) days of payment of the Annual Renewal Fee by the Referral upon successful Membership Program renewal.

### AGREED AND ACCEPTED BY RESELLER

SIGNATURE

PRINT NAME & TITLE

DATE

### AGREED AND ACCEPTED BY AMERICA'S BEST COMPANIES, INC.

PRINT TITLE

Name (as shown on your income tax return)

e			
page	Business name, if different from above		
pe Ins on	Check appropriate box: Individual/Sole proprietor Corporation Partnership		– Exempt
or type tructions	Limited liability company. Enter the tax classification (D=disregarded entity, C=corporation, P=pa Other (see instructions) ►	artnership) 🕨	payee
Print o ic Instru	Address (number, street, and apt. or suite no.)	Requester's name and a	ddress (optional)
P Specific	City, state, and ZIP code		
See	List account number(s) here (optional)		
Pari	Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)		

Enter your TIN in the appropriate box. The TIN provided must match the name given on Line 1 to avoid backup withholding. For individuals, this is your social security number (SSN). However, for a resident alien, sole proprietor, or disregarded entity, see the Part I instructions on page 3. For other entities, it is your employer identification number (EIN). If you do not have a number, see *How to get a TIN* on page 3.

Social security number

Employer identification number

**Note.** If the account is in more than one name, see the chart on page 4 for guidelines on whose number to enter.

### Part II Certification

Under penalties of perjury, I certify that:

- 1. The number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me), and
- 2. I am not subject to backup withholding because: (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding, and
- 3. I am a U.S. citizen or other U.S. person (defined below).

**Certification instructions.** You must cross out item 2 above if you have been notified by the IRS that you are currently subject to backup withholding because you have failed to report all interest and dividends on your tax return. For real estate transactions, item 2 does not apply. For mortgage interest paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, contributions to an individual retirement arrangement (IRA), and generally, payments other than interest and dividends, you are not required to sign the Certification, but you must provide your correct TIN. See the instructions on page 4.

-		
Here	U.S. person ►	Date ►
Sign	Signature of	
0:		

# **General Instructions**

Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted.

# **Purpose of Form**

A person who is required to file an information return with the IRS must obtain your correct taxpayer identification number (TIN) to report, for example, income paid to you, real estate transactions, mortgage interest you paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, or contributions you made to an IRA.

Use Form W-9 only if you are a U.S. person (including a resident alien), to provide your correct TIN to the person requesting it (the requester) and, when applicable, to:

1. Certify that the TIN you are giving is correct (or you are waiting for a number to be issued),

2. Certify that you are not subject to backup withholding, or

3. Claim exemption from backup withholding if you are a U.S. exempt payee. If applicable, you are also certifying that as a U.S. person, your allocable share of any partnership income from a U.S. trade or business is not subject to the withholding tax on foreign partners' share of effectively connected income.

**Note.** If a requester gives you a form other than Form W-9 to request your TIN, you must use the requester's form if it is substantially similar to this Form W-9.

**Definition of a U.S. person.** For federal tax purposes, you are considered a U.S. person if you are:

• An individual who is a U.S. citizen or U.S. resident alien,

• A partnership, corporation, company, or association created or organized in the United States or under the laws of the United States,

• An estate (other than a foreign estate), or

• A domestic trust (as defined in Regulations section 301.7701-7).

**Special rules for partnerships.** Partnerships that conduct a trade or business in the United States are generally required to pay a withholding tax on any foreign partners' share of income from such business. Further, in certain cases where a Form W-9 has not been received, a partnership is required to presume that a partner is a foreign person, and pay the withholding tax. Therefore, if you are a U.S. person that is a partner in a partnership conducting a trade or business in the United States, provide Form W-9 to the partnership to establish your U.S. status and avoid withholding on your share of partnership income.

The person who gives Form W-9 to the partnership for purposes of establishing its U.S. status and avoiding withholding on its allocable share of net income from the partnership conducting a trade or business in the United States is in the following cases:

• The U.S. owner of a disregarded entity and not the entity,

 $\bullet\,$  The U.S. grantor or other owner of a grantor trust and not the trust, and

• The U.S. trust (other than a grantor trust) and not the beneficiaries of the trust.

**Foreign person.** If you are a foreign person, do not use Form W-9. Instead, use the appropriate Form W-8 (see Publication 515, Withholding of Tax on Nonresident Aliens and Foreign Entities).

Nonresident alien who becomes a resident alien. Generally, only a nonresident alien individual may use the terms of a tax treaty to reduce or eliminate U.S. tax on certain types of income. However, most tax treaties contain a provision known as a "saving clause." Exceptions specified in the saving clause may permit an exemption from tax to continue for certain types of income even after the payee has otherwise become a U.S. resident alien for tax purposes.

If you are a U.S. resident alien who is relying on an exception contained in the saving clause of a tax treaty to claim an exemption from U.S. tax on certain types of income, you must attach a statement to Form W-9 that specifies the following five items:

1. The treaty country. Generally, this must be the same treaty under which you claimed exemption from tax as a nonresident alien.

2. The treaty article addressing the income.

3. The article number (or location) in the tax treaty that contains the saving clause and its exceptions.

4. The type and amount of income that qualifies for the exemption from tax.

5. Sufficient facts to justify the exemption from tax under the terms of the treaty article.

**Example.** Article 20 of the U.S.-China income tax treaty allows an exemption from tax for scholarship income received by a Chinese student temporarily present in the United States. Under U.S. law, this student will become a resident alien for tax purposes if his or her stay in the United States exceeds 5 calendar years. However, paragraph 2 of the first Protocol to the U.S.-China treaty (dated April 30, 1984) allows the provisions of Article 20 to continue to apply even after the Chinese student becomes a resident alien of the United States. A Chinese student who qualifies for this exception (under paragraph 2 of the first protocol) and is relying on this exception to claim an exemption from tax on his or her scholarship or fellowship income would attach to Form W-9 a statement that includes the information described above to support that exemption.

If you are a nonresident alien or a foreign entity not subject to backup withholding, give the requester the appropriate completed Form W-8.

What is backup withholding? Persons making certain payments to you must under certain conditions withhold and pay to the IRS 28% of such payments. This is called "backup withholding." Payments that may be subject to backup withholding include interest, tax-exempt interest, dividends, broker and barter exchange transactions, rents, royalties, nonemployee pay, and certain payments from fishing boat operators. Real estate transactions are not subject to backup withholding.

You will not be subject to backup withholding on payments you receive if you give the requester your correct TIN, make the proper certifications, and report all your taxable interest and dividends on your tax return.

# Payments you receive will be subject to backup withholding if:

1. You do not furnish your TIN to the requester,

2. You do not certify your TIN when required (see the Part II instructions on page 3 for details),

3. The IRS tells the requester that you furnished an incorrect TIN,  $% \left( {{\rm{TIN}}_{\rm{T}}} \right)$ 

4. The IRS tells you that you are subject to backup withholding because you did not report all your interest and dividends on your tax return (for reportable interest and dividends only), or

5. You do not certify to the requester that you are not subject to backup withholding under 4 above (for reportable interest and dividend accounts opened after 1983 only).

Certain payees and payments are exempt from backup withholding. See the instructions below and the separate Instructions for the Requester of Form W-9.

Also see Special rules for partnerships on page 1.

# Penalties

**Failure to furnish TIN.** If you fail to furnish your correct TIN to a requester, you are subject to a penalty of \$50 for each such failure unless your failure is due to reasonable cause and not to willful neglect.

#### Civil penalty for false information with respect to

withholding. If you make a false statement with no reasonable basis that results in no backup withholding, you are subject to a \$500 penalty.

**Criminal penalty for falsifying information.** Willfully falsifying certifications or affirmations may subject you to criminal penalties including fines and/or imprisonment.

**Misuse of TINs.** If the requester discloses or uses TINs in violation of federal law, the requester may be subject to civil and criminal penalties.

# **Specific Instructions**

### Name

If you are an individual, you must generally enter the name shown on your income tax return. However, if you have changed your last name, for instance, due to marriage without informing the Social Security Administration of the name change, enter your first name, the last name shown on your social security card, and your new last name.

If the account is in joint names, list first, and then circle, the name of the person or entity whose number you entered in Part I of the form.

**Sole proprietor.** Enter your individual name as shown on your income tax return on the "Name" line. You may enter your business, trade, or "doing business as (DBA)" name on the "Business name" line.

Limited liability company (LLC). Check the "Limited liability company" box only and enter the appropriate code for the tax classification ("D" for disregarded entity, "C" for corporation, "P" for partnership) in the space provided.

For a single-member LLC (including a foreign LLC with a domestic owner) that is disregarded as an entity separate from its owner under Regulations section 301.7701-3, enter the owner's name on the "Name" line. Enter the LLC's name on the "Business name" line.

For an LLC classified as a partnership or a corporation, enter the LLC's name on the "Name" line and any business, trade, or DBA name on the "Business name" line.

**Other entities.** Enter your business name as shown on required federal tax documents on the "Name" line. This name should match the name shown on the charter or other legal document creating the entity. You may enter any business, trade, or DBA name on the "Business name" line.

**Note.** You are requested to check the appropriate box for your status (individual/sole proprietor, corporation, etc.).

### Exempt Payee

If you are exempt from backup withholding, enter your name as described above and check the appropriate box for your status, then check the "Exempt payee" box in the line following the business name, sign and date the form. Generally, individuals (including sole proprietors) are not exempt from backup withholding. Corporations are exempt from backup withholding for certain payments, such as interest and dividends.

**Note.** If you are exempt from backup withholding, you should still complete this form to avoid possible erroneous backup withholding.

The following payees are exempt from backup withholding:

1. An organization exempt from tax under section 501(a), any IRA, or a custodial account under section 403(b)(7) if the account satisfies the requirements of section 401(f)(2),

2. The United States or any of its agencies or instrumentalities,

3. A state, the District of Columbia, a possession of the United States, or any of their political subdivisions or instrumentalities,

4. A foreign government or any of its political subdivisions, agencies, or instrumentalities, or

5. An international organization or any of its agencies or instrumentalities.

Other payees that may be exempt from backup withholding include:

6. A corporation,

7. A foreign central bank of issue,

8. A dealer in securities or commodities required to register in the United States, the District of Columbia, or a possession of the United States,

9. A futures commission merchant registered with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission,

10. A real estate investment trust,

11. An entity registered at all times during the tax year under the Investment Company Act of 1940,

12. A common trust fund operated by a bank under section 584(a),

13. A financial institution,

14. A middleman known in the investment community as a nominee or custodian, or

15. A trust exempt from tax under section 664 or described in section 4947.

The chart below shows types of payments that may be exempt from backup withholding. The chart applies to the exempt payees listed above, 1 through 15.

IF the payment is for	THEN the payment is exempt for
Interest and dividend payments	All exempt payees except for 9
Broker transactions	Exempt payees 1 through 13. Also, a person registered under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 who regularly acts as a broker
Barter exchange transactions and patronage dividends	Exempt payees 1 through 5
Payments over \$600 required to be reported and direct sales over \$5,000 <sup>1</sup>	Generally, exempt payees 1 through 7

See Form 1099-MISC, Miscellaneous Income, and its instructions.

<sup>2</sup>However, the following payments made to a corporation (including gross proceeds paid to an attorney under section 6045(f), even if the attorney is a corporation) and reportable on Form 1099-MISC are not exempt from backup withholding: medical and health care payments, attorneys' fees, and payments for services paid by a federal executive agency.

# Part I. Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)

**Enter your TIN in the appropriate box.** If you are a resident alien and you do not have and are not eligible to get an SSN, your TIN is your IRS individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN). Enter it in the social security number box. If you do not have an ITIN, see *How to get a TIN* below.

If you are a sole proprietor and you have an EIN, you may enter either your SSN or EIN. However, the IRS prefers that you use your SSN.

If you are a single-member LLC that is disregarded as an entity separate from its owner (see *Limited liability company* (*LLC*) on page 2), enter the owner's SSN (or EIN, if the owner has one). Do not enter the disregarded entity's EIN. If the LLC is classified as a corporation or partnership, enter the entity's EIN.

**Note.** See the chart on page 4 for further clarification of name and TIN combinations.

**How to get a TIN.** If you do not have a TIN, apply for one immediately. To apply for an SSN, get Form SS-5, Application for a Social Security Card, from your local Social Security Administration office or get this form online at *www.ssa.gov*. You may also get this form by calling 1-800-772-1213. Use Form W-7, Application for IRS Individual Taxpayer Identification Number, to apply for an ITIN, or Form SS-4, Application for Employer Identification Number, to apply for an EIN. You can apply for an EIN online by accessing the IRS website at *www.irs.gov/businesses* and clicking on Employer Identification Number (EIN) under Starting a Business. You can get Forms W-7 and SS-4 from the IRS by visiting *www.irs.gov* or by calling 1-800-TAX-FORM (1-800-829-3676).

If you are asked to complete Form W-9 but do not have a TIN, write "Applied For" in the space for the TIN, sign and date the form, and give it to the requester. For interest and dividend payments, and certain payments made with respect to readily tradable instruments, generally you will have 60 days to get a TIN and give it to the requester before you are subject to backup withholding on payments. The 60-day rule does not apply to other types of payments. You will be subject to backup withholding on all such payments until you provide your TIN to the requester.

**Note.** Entering "Applied For" means that you have already applied for a TIN or that you intend to apply for one soon.

**Caution:** A disregarded domestic entity that has a foreign owner must use the appropriate Form W-8.

### Part II. Certification

To establish to the withholding agent that you are a U.S. person, or resident alien, sign Form W-9. You may be requested to sign by the withholding agent even if items 1, 4, and 5 below indicate otherwise.

For a joint account, only the person whose TIN is shown in Part I should sign (when required). Exempt payees, see *Exempt Payee* on page 2.

**Signature requirements.** Complete the certification as indicated in 1 through 5 below.

1. Interest, dividend, and barter exchange accounts opened before 1984 and broker accounts considered active during 1983. You must give your correct TIN, but you do not have to sign the certification.

2. Interest, dividend, broker, and barter exchange accounts opened after 1983 and broker accounts considered inactive during 1983. You must sign the certification or backup withholding will apply. If you are subject to backup withholding and you are merely providing your correct TIN to the requester, you must cross out item 2 in the certification before signing the form. **3. Real estate transactions.** You must sign the certification. You may cross out item 2 of the certification.

4. Other payments. You must give your correct TIN, but you do not have to sign the certification unless you have been notified that you have previously given an incorrect TIN. "Other payments" include payments made in the course of the requester's trade or business for rents, royalties, goods (other than bills for merchandise), medical and health care services (including payments to corporations), payments to a nonemployee for services, payments to certain fishing boat crew members and fishermen, and gross proceeds paid to attorneys (including payments to corporations).

5. Mortgage interest paid by you, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, qualified tuition program payments (under section 529), IRA, Coverdell ESA, Archer MSA or HSA contributions or distributions, and pension distributions. You must give your correct TIN, but you do not have to sign the certification.

#### What Name and Number To Give the Requester

For this type of account:	Give name and SSN of:
	The individual
account)	The actual owner of the account or, if combined funds, the first individual on the account <sup>1</sup>
Custodian account of a minor (Uniform Gift to Minors Act)	The minor <sup>2</sup>
a. The usual revocable savings trust (grantor is also trustee)	The grantor-trustee <sup>1</sup>
b. So-called trust account that is not a legal or valid trust under state law	The actual owner <sup>1</sup>
Sole proprietorship or disregarded entity owned by an individual	The owner <sup>3</sup>
For this type of account:	Give name and EIN of:
Disregarded entity not owned by an individual	The owner
A valid trust, estate, or pension trust	Legal entity 4
Corporate or LLC electing corporate status on Form 8832	The corporation
Association, club, religious, charitable, educational, or other tax-exempt organization	The organization
Partnership or multi-member LLC	The partnership
A broker or registered nominee	The broker or nominee
Agriculture in the name of a public entity (such as a state or local government, school district, or prison) that receives agricultural program payments	The public entity
	Individual Two or more individuals (joint account) Custodian account of a minor (Uniform Gift to Minors Act) a. The usual revocable savings trust (grantor is also trustee) b. So-called trust account that is not a legal or valid trust under state law Sole proprietorship or disregarded entity owned by an individual <b>For this type of account:</b> Disregarded entity not owned by an individual A valid trust, estate, or pension trust Corporate or LLC electing corporate status on Form 8832 Association, club, religious, charitable, educational, or other tax-exempt organization Partnership or multi-member LLC A broker or registered nominee Account with the Department of Agriculture in the name of a public entity (such as a state or local government, school district, or prison) that receives agricultural

List first and circle the name of the person whose number you furnish. If only one person on a joint account has an SSN, that person's number must be furnished.

<sup>2</sup>Circle the minor's name and furnish the minor's SSN.

<sup>3</sup>You must show your individual name and you may also enter your business or "DBA" name on the second name line. You may use either your SSN or EIN (if you have one), but the IRS encourages you to use your SSN.

<sup>4</sup> List first and circle the name of the trust, estate, or pension trust. (Do not furnish the TIN of the personal representative or trustee unless the legal entity itself is not designated in the account title.) Also see Special rules for partnerships on page 1.

Note. If no name is circled when more than one name is listed, the number will be considered to be that of the first name listed.

# Secure Your Tax Records from Identity Theft

Identity theft occurs when someone uses your personal information such as your name, social security number (SSN), or other identifying information, without your permission, to commit fraud or other crimes. An identity thief may use your SSN to get a job or may file a tax return using your SSN to receive a refund.

To reduce your risk:

- Protect your SSN,
- · Ensure your employer is protecting your SSN, and
- Be careful when choosing a tax preparer.

Call the IRS at 1-800-829-1040 if you think your identity has been used inappropriately for tax purposes.

Victims of identity theft who are experiencing economic harm or a system problem, or are seeking help in resolving tax problems that have not been resolved through normal channels, may be eligible for Taxpayer Advocate Service (TAS) assistance. You can reach TAS by calling the TAS toll-free case intake line at 1-877-777-4778 or TTY/TDD 1-800-829-4059.

#### Protect yourself from suspicious emails or phishing

schemes. Phishing is the creation and use of email and websites designed to mimic legitimate business emails and websites. The most common act is sending an email to a user falsely claiming to be an established legitimate enterprise in an attempt to scam the user into surrendering private information that will be used for identity theft.

The IRS does not initiate contacts with taxpayers via emails. Also, the IRS does not request personal detailed information through email or ask taxpayers for the PIN numbers, passwords, or similar secret access information for their credit card, bank, or other financial accounts.

If you receive an unsolicited email claiming to be from the IRS, forward this message to *phishing@irs.gov*. You may also report misuse of the IRS name, logo, or other IRS personal property to the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration at 1-800-366-4484. You can forward suspicious emails to the Federal Trade Commission at: *spam@uce.gov* or contact them at *www.consumer.gov/idtheft* or 1-877-IDTHEFT(438-4338).

Visit the IRS website at *www.irs.gov* to learn more about identity theft and how to reduce your risk.

### **Privacy Act Notice**

Section 6109 of the Internal Revenue Code requires you to provide your correct TIN to persons who must file information returns with the IRS to report interest, dividends, and certain other income paid to you, mortgage interest you paid, the acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, or contributions you made to an IRA, or Archer MSA or HSA. The IRS uses the numbers for identification purposes and to help verify the accuracy of your tax return. The IRS may also provide this information to the Department of Justice for civil and criminal litigation, and to cities, states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. possessions to carry out their tax laws. We may also disclose this information to other countries under a tax treaty, to federal and state agencies to enforce federal not activity of the act

You must provide your TIN whether or not you are required to file a tax return. Payers must generally withhold 28% of taxable interest, dividend, and certain other payments to a payee who does not give a TIN to a payer. Certain penalties may also apply.