# In the Supreme Court of the United States

BOECHLER, P.C.,

Petitioner,

V.

COMMISSIONER OF INTERNAL REVENUE,

Respondent.

ON WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE EIGHTH CIRCUIT

#### **JOINT APPENDIX**

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PETITION FOR CERTIORARI FILED APRIL 16, 2021 CERTIORARI GRANTED SEPTEMBER 30, 2021

<sup>\*</sup> The Solicitor General is no longer recused in this case.

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#### ITEMS PREVIOUSLY REPRODUCED

In accordance with Supreme Court Rule 26.1, the following items have been omitted in printing this joint appendix because they appear on the following pages of the appendix to the Petition for a Writ of Certiorari (April 16, 2021):

Opinion of the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit, Boechler, P.C. v. Commissioner, 967 F.3d 760 (8th Cir. 2020)	1a
Order of the United States Tax Court Granting Motion to Dismiss, Boechler, P.C. v. Commissioner, No. 18578-17 L (T.C. Feb. 15, 2019)	13a
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#### RELEVANT DOCKET ENTRIES

### U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit Case No. 19-2003

Date Fileu	DUCKET TEXT
05/17/2019	Agency case docketed [4788532] [19-2003] (AEV) [Entered: 05/17/2019 09:23 AM]
05/17/2019	Originating court document filed consisting of notice of appeal, Order of Dismissal 2/15/19, [4788533] [19-2003] (AEV) [Entered: 05/17/2019 09:27 AM]
05/17/0010	DECODD FILED TAY COLDT

05/17/2019 RECORD FILED - TAX COURT RECORD electronically filed. [4788539] [19-2003] (RU) [Entered: 05/17/2019 09:31 AM]

\* \* \*

Date Filed Docket Text

07/19/2019 APPELLANT brief of Boechler, P.C. submitted for review. The time for filing the subsequent brief (if any) does not begin to run until the brief has been approved and filed. To open/view this brief, you must first login to CM/ECF and then open the document link in your Notice of Docket Activity. Only direct recipients on accounts can open this document. [4809997] [19-2003] (DCT) [Entered: 07/19/2019 02:37 PM]

07/19/2019 Addendum of APPELLANT submitted for review by Boechler, P.C.. To open/view this addendum, you must

first login to CM/ECF and then open the document link in your Notice of Docket Activity. [4810001] [19-2003] (DCT) [Entered: 07/19/2019 02:40 PM]

07/19/2019 **ADDENDUM** of APPELLANT FILED by Appellant Boechler, P.C., w/service 07/19/2019 [4810021] [19-2003] (YML) [Entered: 07/19/2019 03:05 PM]

07/19/2019 BRIEF FILED - APPELLANT BRIEF filed by Boechler, P.C.. w/service 07/19/2019, Length: 11,371 words 10 COPIES OF PAPER BRIEFS (WITHOUT THE APPELLATE PDF FOOTER) FROM Boechler, P.C. due 07/24/2019 WITH certificate of service for paper briefs. Brief of Commissioner of Internal Revenue due on 08/19/2019 [4810029] [19-2003] (YML) [Entered: 07/19/2019 03:13 PM]

07/22/2019 AMICUS/INTERVENOR brief of The Federal Tax Clinic of the Legal Services Center of Harvard Law School submitted for review. The time for filing the subsequent brief (if any) does not begin to run until the brief has been approved and filed. [4810130] [19-2003] (CMS) [Entered: 07/22/2019 06:24 AM]

07/23/2019 **BRIEF FILED** - AMICUS BRIEF filed by Federal Tax Clinic of the Legal Services Center of Harvard Law School w/service 07/23/2019, Length: 5,947 words

10 COPIES OF PAPER BRIEFS (WITHOUT THE APPELLATE PDF FOOTER) FROM **Federal** Clinic of the Legal Services Center Harvard Law School 07/29/2019 WITH certificate paper service for briefs [4810784] [19-2003] (YML) [Entered: 07/23/2019 10:30 AM]

\* \* \*

07/29/2019 Paper copies Appellant/Petitioner Brief, [4810029-2] filed by Boechler, P.C. 10 paper copies received. w/Addendum attached [4813226] [19-2003] (YML) [Entered: 07/29/2019 03:19 PM]

07/29/2019 RECORD FILED - APLNT/PET APPENDIX, 1 volumes, Location STL, Comments: 3 Copies [4813229] [19-2003] (YML) [Entered: 07/29/2019 03:21 PM]

07/29/2019 Paper copies Amicus Brief, [4810784-2] filed by Federal Tax Clinic of the Legal Services Center of Harvard Law School, 10 paper copies received. [4813257] [19-2003] (YML) [Entered: 07/29/2019 03:42 PM]

\* \* \*

09/27/2019 APPELLEE brief of CIR submitted for review. The time for filing the subsequent brief (if any) does not begin

to run until the brief has been approved and filed. To open/view this brief, you must first login to CM/ECF and then open the document link in your Notice of Docket Activity. Only direct recipients on accounts can open this document. [4835474] [19-2003] (JAB) [Entered: 09/27/2019 11:45 AM]

09/27/2019

BRIEF FILED - APPELLEE BRIEF filed by CIR, w/service 09/27/2019 , Length: 10,340 words

10 COPIES OF PAPER BRIEFS (WITHOUT THE APPELLATE PDF FOOTER) FROM Commissioner of Internal Revenue due 10/02/2019 WITH certificate of service for briefs. Reply brief of paper P.C. Boechler. due on **10/18/2019.** [4835658] [19-2003] (JPP) [Entered: 09/27/2019 03:34 PM]

10/02/2019

Paper copies Appellee/Respondent brief, [4835658-2] filed by CIR 10 paper copies received. [4837827] [19-2003] (JPP) [Entered: 10/03/2019 03:05 PM]

\* \* \*

11/22/2019

19 REPLY brief of Boechler, P.C. submitted for review. The time for filing the subsequent brief (if any) does not begin to run until the brief has been approved and filed. To open/view this

brief, you must first login to CM/ECF and then open the document link in your Notice of Docket Activity. Only direct recipients on accounts can open this document. [4855051] [19-2003] [4855051] [19-2003]--[Edited 11/27/2019 by JPP] (DCT) [Entered: 11/22/2019 12:55 PM]

11/27/2019 **BRIEF FILED** - PETITIONER REPLY BRIEF filed by Boechler, P.C.. w/service 11/22/2019 , Length: 6,311 words

10 COPIES OF PAPER BRIEFS (WITHOUT THE APPELLATE PDF FOOTER) FROM Boechler, P.C. due 12/02/2019 WITH certificate of service for paper briefs [4856670] [19-2003] (JPP) [Entered: 11/27/2019 01:13 PM]

12/05/2019 Paper copies Reply brief, [4856670-2] filed by Boechler, P.C. 10 paper copies received.
[4858841] [19-2003] (JPP) [Entered: 12/05/2019 04:02 PM]

\* \* \*

05/26/2020 SET **ARGUMENT** - CASE FOR PLACED ON CALENDAR - for Argument viaTele/Video Conference on Wednesday, June 17, 2020. To be heard before Judges Jane Kelly, Ralph R. Erickson and David Stras in Division III. The

courtroom deputy will be Jeanette McKee. All attorneys presenting oral argument must complete a Response Form. Click Here to Complete the Oral Argument Response Form. Click Here for the Complete Calendar PLEASE REVIEW THE ENTIRE CALENDAR CAREFULLY, PARTICULARLY THE COUNSEL NOTICE PAGE. [4916539] [19-2003] (MR) [Entered: 05/26/2020 02:20 PM]

\* \* \*

06/17/2020

ARGUED & **SUBMITTED** via videoconference to Judges Jane Kelly, Ralph R. Erickson, David R. 06/17/2020. Stras on Ms. Amy M. Feinberg for Appellant Boechler, P.C.; Ms. Janet A. Bradley for Appellee CIR.; Rebuttal by Ms. Amy M. Feinberg for Boechler, P.C. RECORDED. Click Here To Listen to Oral Argument [4924878] [19-2003] (JMM) [Entered: 06/17/2020 04:52 PM]

06/18/2020

28(j) citation filed by Appellee CIR w/service 06/18/2020 - FOR CAL [4925181] [19-2003] (JAB) [Entered: 06/18/2020 02:35 PM]

06/23/2020

Response of Appellant Boechler, P.C. to 28(j) citation filed by CIR, [4925181-3], w/service 06/23/2020 - FOR CAL [4926245] [19-2003]--[Edited

06/23/2020 by MR] (AMF) [Entered: 06/23/2020 09:16 AM]

07/24/2020 OPINION FILED - THE COURT: Jane Kelly, Ralph R. Erickson and David R.

Stras

AUTHORING JUDGE: Ralph R. Erickson (PUBLISHED), CONCUR BY: Jane Kelly [4937521] [19-2003] (AMT) [Entered: 07/24/2020

07:13 AM]

07/24/2020 **JUDGMENT FILED** - The judgment of the Originating Court is AFFIRMED in accordance with the opinion. JANE KELLY, RALPH R. ERICKSON and DAVID R. STRAS Hrg June 2020 [4937522] [19-2003] (AMT) [Entered:

07/24/2020 07:21 AM]

\* \* \*

09/08/2020 PETITION for enbanc rehearing and

also for rehearing by panel filed by Appellant Boechler, P.C. w/service 09/08/2020 [4953563] [19-2003] (MAS)

[Entered: 09/08/2020 04:07 PM]

09/08/2020 MOTION interested party, Federal Tax

Clinic at the Legal Services Center of Harvard Law School, for leave to file amicus brief in support of Boechler, P.C. petition for enbanc rehearing, [4953563-2], petition for rehearing by panel, [4953563-3] w/service

09/08/2020. [4953611] [19-2003] (CMS) [Entered: 09/08/2020 05:28 PM]

09/09/2020 CLERK ORDER:Granting [4953611-2] motion for leave to file amicus brief in support of rehearing. [4954017] [19-2003] (NDG) [Entered: 09/09/2020 03:22 PM]

09/09/2020 BRIEF FILED - AMICUS BRIEF filed by Federal Tax Clinic of the Legal Services Center of Harvard Law School w/service 09/09/2020, Length: 10 pages [4954038] [19-2003] (NDG) [Entered: 09/09/2020 03:49 PM]

CORRECTED/INITIAL certificate of 09/09/2020 for petition for enbanc service rehearing. Doc No. [4953563-2], petition for rehearing by panel, Doc No. [4953563-3]. filed bv Appellant Boechler, P.C. [4954115] [19-2003] (MAS) [Entered: 09/09/2020 06:07 PM]

09/25/2020 **JUDGE** ORDER:A petition rehearing en banc has been filed by the Appellant Boechler, P.C. in the above case. The court requests a response to the petition for rehearing en banc. The response is limited to 3900 words and must contain a word count certificate. should be filed response electronically. Response due on 10/05/2020 by Appellee Commissioner of Internal Revenue. Hrg June 2020

[4959473] [19-2003] (NDG) [Entered: 09/25/2020 10:07 AM]

09/25/2020

RESPONSE with no opposition to judge order request response to petition for rehearing [4959473-2], judge order [4959473-3] filed by Attorney Ms. Joan I. Oppenheimer for Appellee CIR, w/service 09/25/2020. [4959918] [19-2003] Counsel to resubmit using motion filed event in CM/ECF--[Edited 09/28/2020 by LMT] (JIO) [Entered: 09/25/2020 05:04 PM]

\* \* \*

10/16/2020

PETITION for enbanc rehearing and also for rehearing by panel filed by Appellee CIR w/service 10/16/2020 [4966538] [19-2003]--[Edited 10/16/2020 by NDW] This document has been locked as a corrected document has been filed 10/16/2020 (JAB) [Entered: 10/16/2020 03:43 PM]

10/16/2020

RESPONSE in opposition to petition for enbanc rehearing [4953563-2], petition for rehearing by panel [4953563-3] filed by Attorney Ms. Janet A. Bradley for Appellee CIR, w/service 10/16/2020. [4966548] [19-2003] (JAB) [Entered: 10/16/2020 03:52 PM]

11/17/2020

JUDGE ORDER:The petition for rehearing en banc is denied. The petition for panel rehearing is also

#### Date Filed Docket Text

denied. Judges Loken, Colloton and Kelly would grant the petition for rehearing en banc. [4953563-2] [4953563-3] PUBLISHED ORDER. Hrg June 2020 [4976583] [19-2003] (NDG) [Entered: 11/17/2020 12:31 PM]

- 11/25/2020 MANDATE ISSUED. [4979340] [19-2003] (HAG) [Entered: 11/25/2020 11:22 AM]
- 04/21/2021 U.S. Supreme Court Notice of cert filed in the Supreme Court on 04/16/2021, case No. 20-1472 [5028284] [19-2003] (ALK) [Entered: 04/22/2021 02:50 PM]
- 09/30/2021 SUPREME COURT order filed granting cert petition. Order filed on 09/30/2021 in case No.20-1472. [5082369] [19-2003] (AMT) [Entered: 09/30/2021 02:11 PM]

# RELEVANT DOCKET ENTRIES

# United States Tax Court Case No. 17-18578

#	Date	Docket Text
1	09/01/17	PETITION FILED by Petr. Boechler P.C.: FEE PAID
2	09/01/17	REQUEST FOR PLACE OF TRIAL AT ST. PAUL, MN by Petr. Boechler, P.C.
		* * *
5	09/12/17	OWNERSHIP DISCLOSURE STATEMENT by Petr. Boechler, P.C.
6	10/04/17	MOTION TO DISMISS FOR LACK OF JURISDICTION by Resp. (C/S 10/04/17) (EXHIBIT) (OBJECTION)
7	10/10/17	ORDER PETR. BY 10/31/17 FILE AN OBJECTION TO MOTION TO DISMISS.  * * *
9	11/28/17	OBJECTION TO MOTION TO DISMISS FOR LACK OF JURISDICTION by Petr. Boechler, P.C. (EXHIBITS)
11	12/19/17	RESPONSE TO OBJECTION TO MOTION TO DISMISS FOR LACK OF JURISDICTION by Resp.

#	Date	Docket Text
12	01/09/18	ORDER THAT CASE IS ASSIGNED TO S.T. JUDGE CARLUZZO. FOR DISPOSITION.
13	02/15/19	ORDER OF DISMISSAL ENTERED, S.T. JUDGE CARLUZZO. RESP. MOTION TO DISMISS IS GRANTED, AND CASE IS DISMISSED FOR LACK OF JURISDICTION.
14	05/15/19	NOTICE OF APPEAL BY PETR(S). TO U.S.C.A. 8TH CIR. (COA DOCKET NO. 19-2003) * * *
17	05/17/19	RECORD ON APPEAL E-FILED CLERK, U.S.C.A. 8TH CIR.
18	11/25/20	U.S.C.A 8th Circuit mandate issued 11/25/2020 decision affirmed.

JA-13

#### [emblem omitted]

### [barcode omitted]

Department of
the Treasury
Internal Revenue
Service
Cincinnati, OH
45999-0030

5	В
Notice	CP5048
Tax Period	2012
Form Number	CIVPEN
Notice date	July 18, 2016
Employer ID Number	
To contact us	Phone 1-800-
	829-0115

BOECHLER PC c/o JEANETTE T BOECHLER PRES 300 NP AVE N STE 101 FARGO, ND 58102-4871266

[barcode omitted]

Notice of intent to seize ("levy") your property or rights to property

### Amount due immediately: \$19,779.12

As we notified you before, our records show you have unpaid taxes for the tax period ending December 31, 2012 (Form

Billing Summary		
Tax you owe	\$19,250.37	
Interest Charges	528.75	
Amount due immediately	\$19,779.12	

CIVPEN). If you don't call us immediately or pay the amount due by July 28, 2016, we may seize ("levy") your property or rights to property and apply it to the \$19,779.12 you owe.

# What you need to do immediately

#### Pay immediately

to do immediately • Pay the amount due of \$19,779.12 or we may seize ("levy") your property or rights to property (including any employment taxes). If you fail to pay by July 28, 2016, interest will increase and additional penalties may apply. You can pay online now at www.irs.gov/e-pay.

Continued on back...

### [IRS emblem omitted]

BOECHLER PC c/o JEANETTE T BOECHLER PRES 300 NP AVE N STE 101 FARGO, ND 58102-4871266

Notice	CP5048
Notice date	July 18, 2016
Employer	
ID Number	

### **Payment**

- Make your check or money order payable to the United States Treasury.
- Write your Employer ID number ( ), the tax period (December 31, 2012), and the form number (CIVPEN) on your payment and any correspondence.

Amount due immediately

\$19,779.12

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE CINCINNATI, OH 45999-0039

Date

[IRS emblem omitted]

Department of the Treasury

11/03/2016 Internal Revenue

Service

Person to contact: 657 2ND AVE N ANDREW R SEAVER

FARGO, ND 58102-Contact Telephone

4871266 number:

(701)237-8322

Employee ID number:

1000991802

BOECHLER PC c/o JEANETTE T BOECHLER PRES 300 NP AVE N STE 101 FARGO, ND 58102-4871266

We received your Form 12153, Request for a Collection Due Process or Equivalent Hearing, requesting a collection alternative.

Your basis for CDP request for lien filing is premature. Once you receive the lien notice, you may file CDP for Notice of Federal Tax Lien Filing. If you have not received a notice within 10 days, you may request a copy if notice has been mailed.

To be eligible for the collection alternative, you must file all federal tax returns. Our records show that you have not filed the tax returns(s) listed on the next page of this letter. If you've previously filed them, send us signed copies of the return(s). Otherwise, send us original signed return(s) for the tax period listed.

Provide the requested information by 12/01/2016. After, I receive your information and if you agree, I'll work with you to see if we can resolve your issue.

If we can't resolve your issue, I'll forward your information to Appeals for the hearing you requested. Appeals will use the information you provide to consider your collection alternative.

If you have questions or need additional information, you can contact me at the number listed above.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely, s/ Andrew R. Seaver ANDREW R SEAVER REVENUE OFFICER

Letter 5139 (Rev. 7-2013) Catalog Number 61594Z

[IRS emblem omitted]

Department of the Date JUL 28 2017 Treasury Person to contact:

Internal Revenue Name: Curtis M Megyesi Service Employee ID Number.

Appeals Office 1000599299

2415 W. Cornerstone Ct. Phone: 309-621-7205 Peoria, IL 61614 Fax: 855-234-1401

Hours: 7:15 to 3:45

Re:

Collection Due Process Hearing (Tax Court) Taxpayer ID number:

BOECHLER PC 802 1st AVENUE

NORTH

FARGO, ND 58102-

4906

Tax periods ended:

Civil Penalty

12/2012 Form 940 12/2014

Certified Mail: 7015 3010 0002 3440 4277

#### NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

Concerning Collection Action(s) Under Section 6320 and/or 6330 of the Internal Revenue Code

Dear Taxpayer:

We reviewed the completed or proposed collection actions for the tax period(s) shown above. This letter is your Notice of Determination, as required by law. We attached a summary of our determination below. The attached summary shows, in detail, the matters we considered at your Appeals hearing and our conclusions.

If you want to dispute this determination in court, you must file a petition with the United States Tax Court within a 30-day period beginning the day after the date of this letter. To obtain a petition form and the rules for filing a petition, write to:

Clerk, United States Tax Court 400 Second Street NW Washington, DC 20217

You can also visit the Tax Court website at www.ustaxcourt.gov.

The United States Tax Court also has a simplified procedure for an appeal of a collection action if the total unpaid tax (including interest and penalties) for all periods doesn't exceed \$50,000. You can obtain information about this simplified procedure by writing to the Tax Court or visiting their web site as shown above.

The law limits the time for filing your petition to the 30-day period mentioned above. The courts cannot consider your case if you file late. If you file an appeal in an incorrect court (e.g., United States District Court), you won't be able to refile in the United States Tax Court if the period for filing a petition expired.

If you don't petition the court within the period provided by law, we'll return your case to the originating IRS office for action consistent with the determination summarized below and described on the attached pages. If you have questions, please contact the person at the telephone number shown above.

#### **Summary of Determination**

The Notice of Intent to Levy is sustained. Your request for abatement of the intentional disregard penalty for 2012 could not be considered because you failed to provide sufficient information to establish that you qualified for abatement of the penalty. Collection alternatives to the levy action proposed by the IRS could not be considered because you are not in compliance with all filing requirements and did not provide a Collection Information Statement for businesses so your ability to pay could be determined.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely, /s/ Debra A. Dufek Debra A. Dufek Appeals Team Manager

Enclosures: Attachments

Letter 3193 (Rev. 12-2016) Catalog Number 27215L

JA-21

#### Attachment

#### **BOECHLER PC**

Type of	Tax	Date of	Type of	Date used
Tax(es)	Period(s)	CDP	hearing	to
		Notice		determine
				timeliness
Civil	201212	10/13/	6330	11/01/2016
Penalty		2016		
Form	201412	10/13/	6330	11/01/2016
940		2016		

#### SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION

The Notice of Intent to Levy is sustained. Your request for abatement of the intentional disregard penalty for 2012 could not be considered because you failed to provide sufficient information to establish that you qualified for abatement of the penalty. Collection alternatives to the levy action proposed by the IRS could not be considered because you are not in compliance with all filing requirements and did not provide a Collection Information Statement for businesses so your ability to pay could be determined.

#### **BRIEF BACKGROUND**

The IRS issue a Notice of Intent to Levy for the periods listed above on October 13, 2016 to advise you that they intended to begin levy action to secure payment of your outstanding liability for the periods listed above. You responded on November 1, 2016 by requesting a Collection Due Process Levy Hearing. You indicated on your request that disagreed with the proposed levy action because you disagreed with

being assessed a penalty for failing to file W-3/W-2's. You indicated that you previously provided the missing forms and information over a year ago. You further indicated that you believe the penalty and interest are excessive and will cause a significant hardship to your small business.

A letter was sent to you on January 19, 2017 to advise you that your request for a Collection Due Process Levy Hearing was assigned to the Peoria, Illinois Appeals Office and to schedule a telephone conference call with you on February 28, 2017 at 10:00 AM CST. The letter advised you that if the scheduled conference date or time was inconvenient for you or if you preferred another type of conference (face-to-face or correspondence) to please advise the Appeals Office within 14 days from the date of the letter. You did not advise that the scheduled conference date or time was inconvenient for you. The letter asked you to provide the following information:

#### If you want to discuss collection alternatives to the levy action proposed by the IRS:

- 1. Completed Collection Information Statement for businesses, Form 433-B.
- 2. Information to verify your Completed Collection Information Statement for businesses, Form 433-B; bank statements for the past six months for all accounts, profit and loss statement for 2016, and verification of all expenses.
- 3. Signed tax return, Form 941, for 2nd quarter of 2016, 3rd quarter of 2016, and 4th quarter of 2016.
- 4. Signed tax return, Form 1120, for 2015.

5. Proof of timely deposit of all federal employment taxes for the current quarter.

None of this information was provided in advance of the scheduled conference call as request. The Appeals Office assumes that you did not wish to discuss collection alternatives but rather use the Collection Due Process Levy Hearing to challenge the assessment of the Intentional Disregard Penalty assessed against you for 2012.

# If you want to discuss your liability for the Intentional Disregard Penalty assessed against you for 2012:

Attached to your letter was an explanation of the Intention Disregard Penalty. Internal Revenue Code section 6721(a)(2) authorizes a penalty for failure to file an information return with the Secretary on or before the required filing date and any failure to include all information required to be shown on the return or the inclusion of incorrect information.

Internal Revenue Code section 6721(e) authorizes a penalty in the case of intentional disregard. If one or more failure described in subsection (a)(2) are due to intentional disregard of the filing requirement (or the correct information reporting requirement) then, with respect to each such failure-

- the penalty imposed under subsection (a), failure to file an information return with the Secretary on or before the required filing date, shall be \$100.00, or
- 10 percent of the aggregate amount of the items required to be reported correctly.

Under the authority of the Internal Revenue Code sections listed above, you were assessed an intentional disregard penalty in the amount of 10% of the amount of wages the business paid in 2012. The total wages paid by the business in 2012 was \$192,503.76. 10% of this amount is \$19,250.37. This is the amount of the penalty assessed against you.

#### Why were you assessed this penalty?

IRM section 4.19.4.3.1 discusses how the penalty originates. The Service assesses penalties for cases referred by the Social Security Administration (SSA) when there is a discrepancy between wages reported on Forms W2 and what is reported to the Service on Form 941. SSA will make **two** attempts to contact the employer to resolve the discrepancy.

- If SSA is unable to resolve the discrepancy, the cases are sent to the Service. A SSA discrepancy is identified when the employer reports more Social Security wages to the Service than to SSA. An SSA discrepancy is resolved when the employer provided missing Forms W2, amends their Form 941, or submits other information to resolve the discrepancy.
- An agreement between the Service and SSA requires the Service to correspond with the employer in an effort to secure missing Forms W2 from the employer. SSA does not have the authority to assess penalties or enforce collection of the Form W2. SSA refers these cases to the IRS which reviews information on your account. If a discrepancy exists between employment tax returns and W2's/W3 (a discrepancy exists if W2s are missing as wages reported to Social Security Administration will

be zero), a 98C letter is issued to the employer requesting the information necessary to resolve the discrepancy. Review of your account shows that the IRS issued this letter to you on June 5, 2015. You were given 45 days to answer the Letter 98C. If you do not respond to the letter within in 45 days and the discrepancy is not resolved by either the filing of the missing Forms W2, an amended Form 941, or by providing an explanation of the discrepancy, the Service is directed to assess a penalty. The IRS indicates that it did not receive a response to Letter 98C dated June 5, 2015. You were assessed a penalty of \$19,250.37 on September 28, 2015.

# What do you need to do to qualify for abatement or partial abatement of this penalty?

To establish that you didn't intentionally disregard your requirement to timely file W3/W2s and thus qualify for abatement or partial abatement of the penalty you will need to provide the following:

- 1. Provide a copy of the W2s/W3 filed in 2012.
- 2. Proof that you timely filed W2s with the SSA. Most are now filed electronically. You may have a confirmation of delivery from them with electronic filing. Was filing completed by an accountant? He may be able to provide a confirmation of filing to show that they were electronically filed.
- 3. Provide any correspondence between you and your accountant to confirm that W2s was timely prepared for you so that you could give them to your employees.

- 4. As indicated above, the Social Security Administrative sent you two notices requesting the missing W2s/W3. Please provide a copy of this correspondence and proof that you responded to them.
- 5. As indicated above, the IRS sent you letter 98C. Please provide a copy of the letter and proof of your response to the letter.
- 6. Any other information that you feel might be helpful.

None of this requested information was provided to the Appeals Office in advance of the scheduled conference call.

No one called at the scheduled conference call date and time on February 28, 2017 at 10:00 AM CST.

A follow up letter was sent to you on March 1, 2017 to advise you that no one called at the scheduled conference call date and time nor was any of the information requested from you received. The letter advised you that the Appeals Office was preparing to make a determination in your case. Any information that you wanted the Appeals Office to consider when making this determination must be provided within 14 days from the date of the letter.

No response was received to the follow up letter sent on March 1, 2017.

Due to concerns about delivery of the letters sent to you by the Appeals Office, a telephone call was made to Jeanette Boechler on May 19, 2017. A Collection Due Process Levy Hearing was conducted. You explained that you were a small law firm and that the filing of W3/W2s was handled in-house. An explanation of the intentional disregard penalty was

explained to you. You indicated that you responded to the attempts at contact with you by the Social Security Administration and to notices sent to you by the IRS concerning the matter. You indicated that intentionally you did not disregard responsibilities to file W3/W2s and should not have been assessed the Intentional Disregard Penalty. To help you understand why and how the penalty was assessed and what information was needed to consider abatement of the penalty. I faxed you a copy of the letter that was sent to you on January 19, 2017 along with the attachment.

You were advised that to qualify for abatement of the Intentional Disregard Penalty you would have to establish the you didn't intentionally disregard the attempts by the Social Security Administration and the IRS to secure the W3/W2s. This can be done by establishing that you responded to inquiry's. You could also establish that the W3/W2s was timely filed.

On June 6, 2017, the Appeals Office received correspondence from you containing copies of the W3/W2s that were filed for 2012. Your letter indicated that you were providing copies of the W3/W2s that were filed for 2012 along with correspondence you previously sent to the Social Security Administration concerning the matter. assume the correspondence to the Social Security Administration will establish that you intentionally disregard their attempts at securing the W3/W2s information. Unfortunately, correspondence to the Social Security Administration was not included with the information provided to me. I made a telephone call to you on June 6, 2017. I left a message on your voice mail to advise you that the

correspondence to the Social Security Administration that you referenced in your letter was not attached as stated. I asked you to provide this correspondence. Submission of the W3/W2s alone is not sufficient to qualify for abatement of the Intentional Disregard Penalty. You have to establish that the W3/W2s was either timely filed or that you responded to inquiries to provide the information. No further response was received from you.

#### LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW

I, Curtis M Megyesi, verified the requirements of any applicable law or administrative procedure were met. IRS records confirmed the proper issuance of the notice and demand, Notice of Intent to Levy and/or Notice of Federal Tax Lien (NFTL) filing, and notice of a right to a Collection Due Process (CDP) hearing.

An assessment was properly made for each tax and period listed on the CDP notice.

Notice and demand for payment was mailed to your last known address.

There was a balance due when the Notice of Intent to Levy was issued or when the NFTL filing was requested.

I had no prior involvement with respect to the specific tax periods either in Appeals or Compliance.

I reviewed the Collection file, IRS records and information you provided. My review confirmed that the IRS followed all legal and procedural requirements, and the actions taken or proposed were appropriate under the circumstances.

#### **ISSUES YOU RAISED**

#### **Collection Alternatives Requested**

You offered no alternatives to collection. You were asked to file delinquent returns and provide a completed Collection Information Statement for businesses, Form 433-B if you wanted to discuss collection alternatives during the hearing. Collection alternatives to the levy actions proposed by the IRS could not be considered as you did not provide this information.

#### Challenges to the Liability

You indicated that you shouldn't have been assessed the Intentional Disregard Penalty for failing to file W3/W2s for 2012. You indicated that you filed the W3/W2s timely and responded to inquiries from the Social Security Administration and the IRS when the During your W3/W2s were requested from you. Collection Due Process Levy Hearing you were provided with the opportunity to provide information to establish that you responded to inquiries from the Social Security Administration and/or the IRS. You didn't provide this information. You were also given the opportunity to establish that you timely filed W3/W2s. Again you didn't provide this information. Accordingly, your request for abatement of the penalty cannot be considered.

#### You raised no other issues.

#### BALANCING ANALYSIS

Your request for abatement of the Intentional Disregard Penalty for 2012 could not be granted because you failed to provide information to establish that you qualified for abatement of the penalty. The Appeals Office was also unable to consider collection

alternatives to the levy actions proposed by the IRS because you are not in compliance with all filing requirements and failed to provide a Collection Information Statement so your ability to pay could be determined. In light of these two facts, the proposed levy action balances the need for efficient collection of taxes with your legitimate concern that any collection action be no more intrusive than necessary.

[file-stamps omitted]

# UNITED STATES TAX COURT www.ustaxcourt.gov

(FIRST) (MIDDLE) (LAST)	
BOECHLER, P.C.	
(PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT) Petitioner(s)	
v.	Docket
COMMISSIONER OF INTERNAL	No.
REVENUE,	18578-
Respondent	17 "L"

### **PETITION**

1. Please check the app which IRS NOTICE(s) you	÷ , ,
□ Notice of Deficiency	☐ Determination of Worker Classification*
☑ Notice of Determination Concerning Collection Action	☐ Notice of Determination Concerning Your Request for Relief From Joint and Several Liability*
□ Notice of Final Determination Not to Abate Interest*	

\*Please see the Court's Web site, www.ustaxcourt.gov, or information booklet for additional information if (1) you filed a claim for interest abatement or requested relief from joint and several liability, and

the IRS has not made a determination, or (2) the petition involves a worker classification case.

- 2. Provide the date(s) the IRS issued the NOTICE(S) checked above and the city and State of the IRS office(s) issuing the NOTICE(S): <u>July 28, 2017</u>
- 3. Provide the year(s) or period(s) for which the NOTICE(S) was/were issued: 12/2012
- 4. SELECT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

procedures, check here:

If you want your case conducted under small tax case procedures, check here:

If you want your case conducted □

We have a conducted □

We have a conducted □

We have a conducted □

BOX)

NOTE: A decision in a "small tax case" cannot be appealed to a Court of Appeals by the taxpayer or the IRS. If you do not check either box, the Court will file your case as a regular tax case.

5. Explain why you disagree with the IRS determination in this case (please list each point separately):

The entire record of the Collection Due Process (CDP) Hearing and the underlying record contains no evidence that that Petitioner Boechler, P.C. intentionally disregarded the requirement that it timely file W-2 and W-3 forms for the period 12/2012. The W-2 and W-3 forms for the subject period were timely filed when the payroll taxes were timely paid by Boechler, P.C. and being indisputably timely

collected by the Internal Revenue Service. The Appeals Officer erroneously concluded that the record demonstrated that Petitioner had intentionally disregarded the requirement that it timely file W2 and W3 Forms for the period 12/2012. Correspondingly, the Appeals Officer erred by discrediting Petitioner's request for abatement of the "intentional disregard" penalty, where the record clearly showed:

- 6. State the facts upon which you rely (please list each point separately):
- 1. That there was no evidence in the record that the W-2 and W-3 forms had not been timely filed in the first instance; 2. That there was no evidence in the record that Petitioner did not cooperate to re-supply these forms, once Petitioner became aware of the fact that the Social Security Administration did not have these W-2 and W-3 documents on file; 3. Nowhere in the record is there any evidence to show that any payroll withholding taxes were not timely paid; and 4. There exists no evidence in the record that Petitioner had either failed to timely file W-2 and W-3 forms for any other quarterly pay periods, or that Petitioner had failed to timely remit payroll taxes to the Internal Revenue Service for any pay period, at any time. The \$19,000.00 penalty is about two forms relative to payroll taxes which were paid.

You may use additional pages to explain why you disagree with the IRS determination or to state additional facts. Please do not submit tax forms, receipts, or other types of evidence with this petition.

#### **ENCLOSURES:**

Please check the appropriate boxes to show that you have enclosed the following items with this petition:

- ☑ A copy of any NOTICE(S) the IRS issued to you
- ☑ Statement of Taxpayer Identification Number (Form 4) (See PRIVACY NOTICE below)
- ☑ The Request for Place☑ The filing feeof Trial (Form 5)

\*PRIVACY NOTICE: Form 4 (Statement of Taxpayer Identification Number) will <u>not</u> be part of the Court's public files. All other documents filed with the Court, including this Petition and any IRS Notice that you enclose with this Petition, will become part of the Court's public files. To protect your privacy, you are <u>strongly</u> encouraged to omit or remove from this Petition, from any enclosed IRS Notice, and from any other document (other than Form 4) your taxpayer identification number (e.g., your Social Security number) and certain other confidential information as specified in the Tax Court's "Notice Regarding Privacy and Public Access to Case Files", available at www.ustaxcourt.gov.

		(701) 237-3071		
SIGNATURE	DATE	(AREA CODE)		
OF PETITIONER		TELEPHONE NO.		
802 First Avenue		Fargo, North Dakota,		
North		58201		
MAILING ADI	ORESS	CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE		

(701) 997 9071

Address Used By Court State of legal residence (if different from the mailing address):	E-mail address (if any):
SIGNATURE DATE	(AREA CODE)
OF PETITIONER	TELEPHONE NO.
(e.g., SPOUSE)	
MAILING ADDRESS	CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE
State of legal residence	E-mail address (if any):
(if different from the	
mailing address):	
ADMITTED	
/s/ David Clark Thompson	
SIGNATURE OF	NAME OF COUNSEL
COUNSEL, IF	
RETAINED BY	
PETITIONER(S)	
TD0188	
TAX COURT BAR NO.	
321 Kittson Avenue,	
Grand Forks,	A
North Dakota 58201	August 29, 2017
MAILING ADDRESS, CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE	DATE
CITT, STATE, ZIF CODE	

 $\frac{\text{dct@rrv.net}}{\text{E-MAIL ADDRESS}}$ 

(701 775-7012 (AREA CODE) TELEPHONE NO.

#### CERTIFIED MAIL

[barcode omitted]

GRAND FORKS ND AUG 29 2017 UPS 56721

[emblem omitted]
[bar code omitted]

U.S. POSTAGE

**PAID** 

EAST GRAND FORKS, MN

56721 AUG 29 17 AMOUNT

\$7.71

R2304W120412-03

David C. Thompson, P.C.
Attorney at Law
321 Kittson Avenue
PO Box 5235
Grand Forks, ND 58201

### RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

18578 - 17 "L"

Postmark AUG 29 2017 Office of the Clerk

United States Tax Court 400 Second Street, N.W. Washington, D.C., 20217

#### UNITED STATES TAX COURT

#### www.ustaxcourt.gov

FILED
U.S. Tax Court
[illegible] CLERK
2017 SEP - 1 PM 12:02
BY:s/[illegible]
DEPUTY CLERK

RECEIVED
UNITED STATES TAX [illegible]
INTAKE [illegible]
2017 SEP 1 AM 11:56
BY:s/ [illegible]
DEPUTY CLERK

#### BOECHLER, P.C.

Petitioner(s)

v.

Docket No.

COMMISSIONER OF INTERNAL REVENUE,

#### Respondent

18578 - 17 "L"

#### REQUEST FOR PLACE OF TRIAL

PLACE AN "X" IN ONLY ONE BOX TO REQUEST THE PLACE OF TRIAL. IF PETITIONER(S) ELECTED TO HAVE THE CASE CONDUCTED AS A SMALL TAX CASE, REQUEST ANY CITY LISTED BELOW; OTHERWISE, REQUEST ANY CITY NOT MARKED WITH AN ASTERISK (\*).

ALABAMA	KANSAS	OHIO
☐ Birmingham	□ Wichita*	□ Cincinnati
□ Mobile	KENTUCKY	□ Cleveland
ALASKA	☐ Louisville	□ Columbus
☐ Anchorage	LOUISIANA	OKLAHOMA
ARIZONA	□ New Orleans	□ Oklahoma
□ Phoenix	☐ Shreveport*	City
ARKANSAS	MAINE	OREGON
$\square$ Little Rock	□ Portland*	□ Portland
CALIFORNIA	MARYLAND	PENNSYLVANIA
□ Fresno*	□ Baltimore	□ Philadelphia
$\square$ Los Angeles	MASSACHUSETTS	□ Pittsburgh
□ San Diego	□ Boston	SOUTH
□ San	MICHIGAN	CAROLINA
Francisco	□ Detroit	□ Columbia
COLORADO	MINNESOTA	SOUTH
□ Denver	ĭ St. Paul	DAKOTA
CONNECTICUT	MISSISSIPPI	☐ Aberdeen*
☐ Hartford	□ Jackson	TENNESSEE
DISTRICT OF	MISSOURI	☐ Knoxville
COLUMBIA	☐ Kansas City	□ Memphis
□ Washington	☐ St. Louis	□Nashville
FLORIDA	MONTANA	TEXAS
☐ Jacksonville	□ Billings*	□ Dallas
□ Miami	□ Helena	□ El Paso
□ Tallahassee*	NEBRASKA	☐ Houston
□ Tampa	□ Omaha	□ Lubbock
GEORGIA	NEVADA	☐ San Antonio
□ Atlanta	□ Las Vegas	UTAH
HAWAII	□ Reno	□ Salt Lake
□ Honolulu	NEW MEXICO	City

IDAHO	☐ Albuquerque	VERMONT
□ Boise	NEW YORK	☐ Burlington*
□ Pocatello*	□ Albany*	VIRGINIA
ILLINOIS	□ Buffalo	□ Richmond
☐ Chicago	□ New York City	□ Roanoke*
□ Peoria*	☐ Syracuse*	WASHINGTON
INDIANA	NORTH	□ Seattle
☐ Indianapolis	CAROLINA	□ Spokane
IOWA	☐ Winston-Salem	WEST
$\square$ Des Moines	NORTH	VIRGINIA
	DAKOTA	□ Charleston
	□ Bismarck*	WISCONSIN
		☐ Milwaukee
		WYOMING
		□ Cheyenne*
/s/ David Thompson		8/29/17
Signature of Petitioner(s)		Date
or Counsel		