

IRS**News Release****Media Relations Office****Washington, D.C.****Tel. 202.622.4000****For Release: 9/24/01****Release No: IR-2001-84****IRS CREATES DISASTER RELIEF TOLL-FREE NUMBER**

WASHINGTON – The Internal Revenue Service announced today the establishment of a special toll-free telephone number for taxpayers whose ability to meet their federal tax obligations has been affected by the September 11 terrorist attacks. People with tax issues related to the attacks can call 1-866-562-5227.

“This special number will help people cut through the red tape and get their tax questions answered quickly,” IRS Commissioner Charles O. Rossotti said. “We don’t want lingering tax questions to burden anyone during this challenging time.”

Beginning today, taxpayers can call the number Monday through Friday during the following local times:

- In English, 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.
- In Spanish, 8 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Because of the unusual nature of the tragic events of September 11, it is impossible for the IRS to know every circumstance affecting taxpayers. The IRS encourages taxpayers whose ability to meet their obligations was affected by the terrorist attacks to call 1-866-562-5227.

“We wanted to provide specialized assistance to the people directly impacted by these tragic events,” said Ron Watson, Director, Customer Account Services for the IRS Wage and Investment Division.

The IRS has reached out to help taxpayers during this time. For more information on tax extensions and other tax issues visit www.irs.gov.

Taxpayers with questions not related to the terrorist attacks should visit the IRS web site or call the regular IRS toll-free number at 1-800-829-1040.

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