Date of Approval: **April 02, 2021**

PIA ID Number: **5829**

**SYSTEM DESCRIPTION**

*Enter the full name and acronym for the system, project, application and/or database.*

PDC-Pioneer Credit Recovery Inc., PDC-PCR

*Is this a new system?*

No

*Is there a PCLIA for this system?*

Yes

*What is the full name, acronym and milestone of the most recent PCLIA?*

PDC-Pioneer Credit Recovery Inc, PDC-PCR, (PCLIA #4316)

*What is the approval date of the most recent PCLIA?*

8/15/2019

*Changes that occurred to require this update:*

Expiring PCLIA

*Were there other system changes not listed above?*

No

*What governance board or Executive Steering Committee (ESC) does this system report to? Full name and acronym.*

Small Business/Self Employed (SBSE) Private Debt Collection Governance Board

*Current ELC (Enterprise Life Cycle) Milestones:*

Operations & Maintenance (i.e. system is currently operational)

*Is this a Federal Information Security Management Act (FISMA) reportable system?*

No
GENERAL BUSINESS PURPOSE

What is the general business purpose of this system? Provide a clear, concise description of the system, application or database, the reason for the system, and the benefits to the IRS to use the information, and how the information will be used.

The primary data system is used for debt recovery. The vendor contacts taxpayers on behalf of the IRS and collect defaulted tax amounts. This system includes both debt collections and debt accounting. The system is a general purpose, multi-user system used throughout their locations, which could include telework.

PII DETAILS

Does the system use, collect, receive, display, store, maintain, or disseminate IR Code 6103 taxpayer information; or any other type of Sensitive but Unclassified (SBU) information or PII such as information about IRS employees or outside stakeholders?

Yes

Does the system use, collect, receive, display, store, maintain, or disseminate Social Security Numbers (SSN's) or tax identification numbers (i.e. last 4 digits, etc.)?

Yes

What types of tax identification numbers (TIN) apply to this system?

Social Security Number (SSN)

List the approved Treasury uses of the SSN:

Interfaces with external entities that require the SSN

Legal/statutory basis (e.g. where collection is expressly required by statute)

Explain why the authorized use(s) above support the new or continued use of SSNs (or tax identification numbers).

This is required for tax debt collection and due to Federal legislation titled Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act was enacted in December 2015.

Describe the planned mitigation strategy and forecasted implementation date to mitigate or eliminate the use of SSN's (or tax identification numbers).

The Office of Management and Budget Circular A-130, Managing Information as a Strategic Resource requires that federal agencies develop a mitigation or elimination strategy for systems that use SSNs, which the Service continues to develop strategies to meet. An exception to that requirement is when the SSN is uniquely needed to identify a user's record. PDC-PRC requires the use of SSN's because no other
identifier can be used to uniquely identify a taxpayer at this time. SSNs are permissible from Internal Revenue Code (IRC) 6109, which requires individual taxpayers to include their SSNs on their income tax returns.

Employer Identification Number

Other Taxpayer Identification Number

Does this system use, collect, receive, display, store, maintain or disseminate other (non-SSN) PII (i.e. names, addresses, etc.)?

Yes

Specify the PII Elements:

Name
Mailing address
Phone Numbers
Date of Birth
Financial Account Numbers
Tax Account Information

Does this system use, collect, receive, display, store, maintain, or disseminate SBU information that is not PII?

Yes

Specify the types of SBU from the SBU Types List:

Agency Sensitive Information Information which if improperly used or disclosed could adversely affect the ability of the agency to accomplish its mission.

Proprietary data Business information that does not belong to the IRS.

Protected Information Information which if modified, destroyed or disclosed in an unauthorized manner could cause: loss of life, loss of property or funds by unlawful means, violation of personal privacy or civil rights, gaining of an unfair procurement advantage by contractors bidding on government contracts, or disclosure of proprietary information entrusted to the Government.

Are there other types of SBU/PII used in the system?

Yes

Describe the other types of SBU/PII that are applicable to this system.

Federal Tax Information and Communication from taxpayers which could possibly contain SBU/PII information for debt collection.
Cite the authority for collecting SBU/PII (including SSN if relevant).

PII for federal tax administration is generally Internal Revenue Code Sections 6001, 6011, & 6012e(a)

SSN for tax returns and return information is Internal Revenue Code Section 6109

Has the authority been verified with the system owner?

Yes

BUSINESS NEEDS AND ACCURACY

Explain the detailed business needs and uses for the SBU/PII, and how the SBU/PII is limited only to that which is relevant and necessary to meet the mission requirements of the system. If SSNs (or tax identification numbers) are used, explicitly explain why use of SSNs meets this criteria. Be specific.

Social Security Numbers (SSN) are required to identify individual accounts and Employee Identification Numbers (EIN) are required for related business accounts to meet the needs of the mission and relevant to cases worked by Private Collection Agencies. They use the SBU/PII information received from the IRS, together with additional PII information received from the taxpayer and other third parties during the ordinary course of collections activities, in order to contact the taxpayer and increase the recovery of IRS tax debts and resolve IRS tax receivables by collection or other case resolutions. They only collect that PII (including SSN, which is used by the IRS and/or other third parties to assist in uniquely identifying a taxpayer) which is necessary for those purposes. Phase III implementation of preauthorized direct debit will offer taxpayers a convenient option to make payments to their federal tax debts while working with the Private Collection Agencies (PCAs). Direct debit reduces burden on taxpayers by providing them the convenience of allowing the PCAs or their approved subcontractor to send checks to the IRS lockbox on their behalf. This process will entail the taxpayer providing financial account information to the PCA or their subcontractor to facilitate making payment on their behalf to the IRS lockbox.

How is the SBU/PII verified for accuracy, timeliness and completion?

The collection system is designed with logic checks to ensure data accuracy and integrity. Data from third party vendor is used to verify and enrich the client's data. In addition, protection of the integrity and availability of Personally Identifiable Information is reviewed at least every quarter by a series of automated and manual review processes. Databases are updated and validated and are redundant allowing for the availability of the information. The security controls for the database is constantly reviewed to ensure safeguards are in place to protect the data. PCAs are authorized to accept payments from a taxpayer via preauthorized debit only with the express verbal authorization that confirms the taxpayer's consent. The taxpayer must clearly state their verbal authorization for the PCAs to draft checks on their behalf. This verbal authorization must be audio recorded and made available upon request to the taxpayer or the IRS. The verbal authorization must include all of the following information: Date(s) the debit(s) will be submitted for payment; Amount(s) of each debit;
Taxpayer's name; Taxpayer's billing information; Bank account information. Written confirmation of the transaction will be provided to the taxpayer via first class mail within 1-business day of the verbal authorization. The written confirmation letter should list the bank account information in masked format (Bank Name and last 4 digits of account and routing numbers) and include all the information provided during the verbal authorization.

**PRIVACY ACT AND SYSTEM OF RECORDS**

The Privacy Act requires Federal agencies that maintain a system of records to publish systems of records notices (SORNs) in the Federal Register for records from which information is retrieved by any personal identifier for an individual who is a US citizen or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence. The Privacy Act also provides for criminal penalties for intentional noncompliance.

*Does your application or this PCLIA system pertain to a group of any record from which information is retrieved by any personal identifier for an individual who is a US citizen, or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence? An identifier may be a symbol, voiceprint, SEID, or other personal identifier that is used to retrieve information.*

Yes

*Identify the Privacy Act SORN(s) that cover these records.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IRS 26.019</th>
<th>Taxpayer Delinquent Account Files</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IRS 34.037</td>
<td>Audit Trail and Security Records</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**RESPONSIBLE PARTIES**

*Identify the individuals for the following system roles:*

## Official Use Only

**INCOMING PII INTERFACES**

*Does the system receive SBU/PII from other systems or agencies?*

Yes

*Does the system receive SBU/PII from IRS files and databases?*

Yes
Enter the files and databases:

System Name: Private Debt Collection Data Transfer
Current PCLIA: Yes
Approval Date: 5/28/2020
SA&A: Yes
ATO/IATO Date: 5/28/2020

Does the system receive SBU/PII from other federal agency or agencies?

No

Does the system receive SBU/PII from State or local agency (ies)?

No

Does the system receive SBU/PII from other sources?

Yes

Identify the source that sends the SBU/PII, how the SBU/PII is transmitted and if there is an Inter-Agency Agreement (ISA) /Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

Organization Name: 4 Skip Tracing Vendors
Transmission Method: SFTP
ISA/MOU: Yes

Organization Name: Skip Tracing Vendor
Transmission Method: Secure Web Portal
ISA/MOU: No

Organization Name: Skip Tracing Vendor
Transmission Method: Encrypted Email
ISA/MOU: No

Organization Name: Skip Tracing Vendor
Transmission Method: Connected SFTP
ISA/MOU: No

Organization Name: Print Vendor
Transmission Method: SFTP
ISA/MOU: Yes

Organization Name: Skip Tracing Vendor
Transmission Method: Secure Web Portal on Vendor Side
ISA/MOU: No
Does the system receive SBU/PII from Taxpayer forms?

Yes

Please identify the form number and name:

- Form Number: 941
  Form Name: Employer’s Quarterly Federal Tax Return

- Form Number: 1120
  Form Name: U.S. Corporation Income Tax Return

- Form Number: 720
  Form Name: Quarterly Federal Excise Tax Return

- Form Number: 1040
  Form Name: U.S. Income Tax Return (for Estates and Trusts)

- Form Number: 1065
  Form Name: U.S. Return of Partnership Income (Publicly Traded Partnerships)

- Form Number: 8804
  Form Name: Annual Return for Partnership Withholding Tax (Section 1446)

- Form Number: CT-1
  Form Name: Employer’s Annual Railroad Retirement Tax Return

- Form Number: 940
  Form Name: Employer’s Annual Federal Unemployment Tax Return

- Form Number: 943
  Form Name: Employer’s Annual Federal Tax Return for Agricultural Employees

- Form Number: 1042
  Form Name: Annual Withholding Tax Return for US Source Income of Foreign Persons

- Form Number: 8278
  Form Name: Computation and Assessment of Miscellaneous Penalties

- Form Number: 944
  Form Name: Employer’s Annual Federal Employment Tax Return

- Form Number: 8752
  Form Name: Required Payment or Refund Under Section 7519
Form Number: 945
Form Name: Annual Return Of Withheld Federal Income Tax

Form Number: 8288
Form Name: Statement of Withholding on Dispositions by Foreign Persons of U.S. Real Property Interests

Form Number: 990T
Form Name: Exempt Organization Business Income Tax Return

Form Number: 1041A
Form Name: U.S. Information Return-Trust Accumulation of Charitable Amounts

Form Number: 5227
Form Name: Split-Interest Trust Information Return

Form Number: 990PF
Form Name: Private Foundation or Section 4947(a)(1) Non-Exempt Charitable Trust

Form Number: 4720
Form Name: Return of Certain Excise Taxes on Charities and Other Persons Under Chapters 41 and 42 of the Intern

Form Number: 709
Form Name: United States Gift (and Generation Skipping Transfer) Tax Return

Form Number: 706, 706B, 706NA
Form Name: United States Estate (and Generation Skipping Transfer) Tax Return

Form Number: 2290
Form Name: Heavy Highway Vehicle Use Tax Form

Form Number: 11-C
Form Name: Occupational Tax and Registration Return for Wagering

Form Number: 730
Form Name: Monthly Tax Return for Wagers

Form Number: 990
Form Name: Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax

Form Number: 3520
Form Name: Annual Return to Report Transactions with Foreign Trusts and Receipt of Foreign Gifts

Form Number: 5500
Form Name: Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan (100 or more participants)
Form Number: 8955  
Form Name: SSA Annual Registration Statement Identifying Separated Participants with Deferred Vested Benefits

Form Number: 5330  
Form Name: Return of Initial Excise Taxes Related to Employee Benefit Plans

Form Number: 706GS(T)  
Form Name: Estate and Trust- Generation Skipping Transfer Tax Return for Terminations

Form Number: 706GS(D)  
Form Name: Trust- United States Additional Estate Tax Return Under Code Section 2057

Does the system receive SBU/PII from Employee forms (e.g. the I-9)?

No

DISSEMINATION OF PII

Does this system disseminate SBU/PII?

Yes

Does this system disseminate SBU/PII to other IRS Systems?

Yes

Identify the full name and acronym of the IRS system(s) that receive SBU/PII from this system.

System Name: Private Debt Collection Data Transfer Component-PDTC 
Current PCLIA: Yes 
Approval Date: 5/28/2020 
SA&A: Yes 
ATO/IATO Date: 5/28/2020

Identify the authority.

Federal legislation titled Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act was enacted in December 2015.

For what purpose?

This requires the U.S. Department of the Treasury, Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to proceed with a Private Debt Collection initiative. The IRS began implementing this initiative in a phased approach which began in Fiscal Year 2017. Pursuant to section 6103(h)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC)6103(h)(1) provides for disclosure of returns and return information to officers and employees of the Department of the Treasury (including IRS) whose official duties require access for tax administration.
Does this system disseminate SBU/PII to other Federal agencies?

No

Does this system disseminate SBU/PII to State and local agencies?

No

Does this system disseminate SBU/PII to IRS or Treasury contractors?

No

Does this system disseminate SBU/PII to other Sources?

Yes

Identify the other source(s) that receive SBU/PII from this system, and if there is an Inter-Agency Agreement (ISA) /Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

Organization Name: 4 Skip Tracing Vendors
Transmission Method: 4 Skip Tracing Vendors SFTP
ISA/MOU: Yes

Organization Name: Skip Tracing Vendor
Transmission Method: Secure Web Portal
ISA/MOU: No

Organization Name: Print Vendor
Transmission Method: SFTP
ISA/MOU: Yes

Organization Name: Telephony System Vendor
Transmission Method: Data logs - with Pioneer supervision
ISA/MOU: Yes

Organization Name: IT System Vendor
Transmission Method: Screen Share
ISA/MOU: Yes

Organization Name: IT Contractor
Transmission Method: Logs into PDC-PCR System
ISA/MOU: Yes

Identify the authority.

Federal legislation titled Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act was enacted in December 2015.
Identify the Routine Use in the applicable SORN (or Privacy Act exception).

There will be Inter-Agency Agreements (ISA) and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in place where possible and as needed for the contract.

For what purpose?

The purpose of this legislation is to require the U.S. Department of the Treasury, Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to proceed with a Private Debt Collection initiative. The IRS implemented this initiative in a phased approach beginning in Fiscal Year 2017 with IMF workstreams and is now including BMF workstreams. Pursuant to section 6103(h)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC). IRC 6103(h)(1) provides for disclosure of returns and return information to officers and employees of the Department of the Treasury (including IRS) whose official duties require access for tax administration.

PRIVACY SENSITIVE TECHNOLOGY

Does this system use social media channels?

No

Does this system use privacy-sensitive technologies such as mobile, global position system (GPS), biometrics, RFID, etc.?

No

Does the system use cloud computing?

No

Does this system/application interact with the public?

No

INDIVIDUAL NOTICE AND CONSENT

Was/is notice provided to the individual prior to collection of information?

Yes

How is notice provided? Was the individual notified about the authority to collect the information, whether disclosure is mandatory or voluntary, the purpose for which the information will be used, with whom the information may be shared, and the effects on the individual, if any, if they decide not to provide all or any of the requested information?

The IRS notifies all individuals who file tax returns of such collection via the Privacy Act Notice in tax return instructions. Notice is provided to individuals and business by other IRS application or through forms that interact directly with the taxpayer at the time of collection.
Due Process is provided pursuant to 5 United States Code (USC). Also, a notice CP 40 and or CP140 is sent to the taxpayer advising that their case is being worked by a Private Collection Agency and they may be contacting the taxpayer directly.

**Do individuals have the opportunity to decline from providing information and/or from consenting to particular uses of the information?**

Yes

**Describe the mechanism by which individuals indicate their consent choice(s):**

Taxpayers assigned to this Private Collection Agency to collect taxes owed will be provided an option to opt-out of the Private Debt Collection Private Collection Agency process. If taxpayer exercises their right to opt-out the case(s) will be recalled and worked by IRS.

**How does the system or business process ensure 'due process' regarding information access, correction and redress?**

The entire Private Collection Agency process and procedures are dictated by the Internal Revenue Service and outlined in the Private Collection Agency Policy and Procedures guide. This guide directs the Private Collection Agency to allow the taxpayer due process to file a tax return, the right to opt-out of working with the Private Collection Agency, directs the Private Collection Agency to offer the taxpayer right to appeal, offers guidance to accept disputes to allow appropriate determinations to be made and covers privacy and policy statements to ensure due process for the taxpayer.

**INFORMATION PROTECTION**

*Identify the owner and operator of the system (could be IRS owned and Operated; IRS owned, contractor operated; contractor owned and operated).*

Contractor Owned and Operated

*The following people have access to the system with the specified rights:*  

**IRS Employees**

Users: Read Only

**IRS Contractor Employees**

Contractor Users: Read Write

Contractor Managers: Read Only

Contractor System Administrators: Administrator

Contractor Developers: Read Only
How is access to SBU/PII determined and by whom?

System access is governed by roles and privileges using the 'least privilege' concept with the requisite approvals, reviews, and separation of duties. Use of the system data (with regard to who sees what data and what external vendors are approved to receive data) is covered in the Operational Plan. Vendor's employees go through a moderate risk level background check and are not allowed to work on work related to the contract until they have received interim access and have completed all required training. Non-privileged access is based off the user's role and responsibility. This access is then verified by the user's manager and sent to the Pioneer Help Desk to implement access. If the access requested is privileged based, then a ticket is submitted to internal Security for review and approval. Once the approval has been accepted a ticket is generated to the Help Desk for implementation. Access is reviewed monthly. Automatic scripts deactivate users after 60 days of nonuse.

RECORDS RETENTION SCHEDULE

Are these records covered under a General Records Schedule (GRS, IRS Document 12829), or has the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) approved a Records Control Schedule (RCS, IRS Document 12990) for the retention and destruction of official agency records stored in this system?

Yes

How long are the records required to be held under the corresponding GRS or RCS, and how are they disposed of? In your response, please provide the GRS or RCS chapter number, the specific item number, and records series title.

On June 25, 2020 PGLD provided a Records Management Virtual Train-the-Trainer overview to the PCAs to ensure recordkeeping compliance with 44 U.S. Code, 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), and other Records Management policies, including those in Private Debt Collection Records Control Schedule (RCS) Job No. DAA-0058-2017-0016. All IRS records generated and maintained by the PCA system will be managed according to Record Control Schedule (RCS) 28, PART VII Private Debt Collection (PDC) Program Records and IRM 1.15.1 thru 13.15.7. Records are destroyed in accordance with the Records Control Schedule 28, Items 200-239 Document 12990, and General Records Schedule, Document 12829.

SA&A OR ASCA

Has the system been through SA&A (Security Assessment and Authorization) or ASCA (Annual Security Control Assessment)?

Yes

What date was it completed?

5/28/2020
Describe the system's audit trail.

The system is capable of auditing the following events: Any action that affects, modifies or changes the security settings of the system, functions of an application program; Security-related administration activity and security functions that affect user profiles or user access privileges; Changes that are made to selected and designated applications, programs and database tables; Clearing of the audit log file; Startup and shutdown of audit functions; Changes made to an application or database by a batch file; All system and data interactions concerning FTI. The system provides audit record generation capability for the auditable events listed above, allows the IT System Owner to select which auditable events are to be audited by specific components of the information system, and generates audit records for the events and with the content defined within our internal policies and standards. Audit logs for the following events are created and reviewed daily: log onto system, log off of system, creation or modification of super user groups, use or attempted usage of privileged access, sub-set of security administrator commands, while logged on in the security administrator role, sub-set of system administrator commands, while logged on in the user role, changes made to an application or database by a batch file, application critical record changes, changes to database or application records, where the application has been bypassed to produce the change (via a file or other database utility) and all system and data interactions concerning Taxpayer Data. Automated mechanisms, such as defined criteria reporting, and our security information and event manager tool are used to monitor security events for suspicious behavior. Monitoring of activity is increased as necessary or if there is an indication of increased risk.

PRIVACY TESTING

Does the system require a System Test Plan?

Yes

Is the test plan completed?

Yes

Where are the test results stored (or documentation that validation has occurred confirming that requirements have been met)?

IRS Contractor Security Assessment Team Data Collection Instrument (DCI) and final report based on May 28, 2020 PCA virtual review. IRS Cyber print vendor review completed virtually on August 20, 2020.

Were all the Privacy Requirements successfully tested?

Yes
Are there any residual system privacy, civil liberties, and/or security risks identified that need to be resolved?

No

Describe what testing and validation activities have been conducted or are in progress to verify and validate that the applicable Privacy Requirements (listed in header) have been met?

The system performs "anti-browsing" measures that deter collectors from searching and looking up taxpayers and all files, once received, are stored encrypted at rest while being processed. All activities performed by system users are logged and stored in a tamper proof central log repository and archived for 7 years. All logged activities are included in a report that is reviewed on an ongoing basis to ensure the adherence to the Privacy Requirements.

SBU DATA USE

Does this system use, or plan to use SBU Data in Testing?

No

NUMBER AND CATEGORY OF PII RECORDS

Identify the number of individual records in the system for each category:

- IRS Employees: Not Applicable
- Contractors: Not Applicable
- Members of the Public: 100,000 to 1,000,000
- Other: Yes

Identify the category of records and the number of corresponding records (to the nearest 10,000).

- Business: 50,000-100,000

CIVIL LIBERTIES

Does the system maintain any information describing how any individual exercises their rights guaranteed by the First Amendment?

No

Is the system information used to conduct 'data-mining' as defined in the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007, Public Law 110-53, Section 804?

No
Will this system have the capability to identify, locate, and monitor individuals or groups of people?

No

Does computer matching occur?

No

**ACCOUNTING OF DISCLOSURES**

Does the system include or require disclosure of tax or employee information to anyone other than IRS employees in the performance of their duties, or to the person to whom the information pertains or to a 3rd party pursuant to a Power of Attorney, tax or Privacy Act consent?

Yes

Does the system have a process in place to account for such disclosures in compliance with IRC §6103(p) (3) (A) or Subsection (c) of the Privacy Act? Contact Disclosure to determine if an accounting is required.

Not Applicable