

**INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE**

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We are responding to correspondence submitted to the Atlanta Service Center on your behalf by [REDACTED], concerning the effective date for your S corporation election. The information submitted explains that your business was incorporated in 1997, at which time you believed that your attorney had filed a timely Form 2553. It appears that the Internal Revenue Service failed to receive a timely election for a 1997 effective date. Further, you are ineligible for automatic late S corporation relief under Revenue Procedure 97-48 because the IRS failed to receive a timely Form 1120S for your corporation. Although we are unable to respond to your request as submitted, this letter provides useful information relating to your request.

Based on the *Instructions to Form 2553*, taxpayers are generally notified of acceptance or nonacceptance of their election within three months of date of filing (date mailed). If the IRS questions whether the election was filed, acceptable proof of filing is (a) certified or registered mail receipt; (b) Form 2553 with an accepted stamp; (c) Form 2553 with stamped IRS received date; or (e) an IRS letter stating the election has been accepted. If your attorney can provide proof of filing a timely election, we will assist you immediately.

Announcement 97-4 (copy enclosed) provides guidance on seeking relief for late S corporation elections and inadvertent invalid S corporation elections. Generally, to request relief for a late or invalid S corporation election you must request a private letter ruling from the National Office. The procedures for requesting a private letter ruling are set out in Revenue Procedure 2002-1 (copy enclosed). In addition, Rev. Proc. 2002-1 requires taxpayers to submit a user fee along with their ruling request. The standard user fee for a private letter ruling is \$6,000. However, taxpayers with gross income of less than \$1 million on their last-filed tax return qualify for a **reduced user fee** in the

amount of \$500. If you are eligible to use the reduced fee provision you must include the statement described in § (B)(1)(b) of Appendix A with your request. Please review Appendix B for a sample format for requesting a private letter ruling.

If you decide to submit a formal request for a private letter ruling, please include the proper user fee (if applying under the reduced fee provisions, send a statement certifying gross income), and refer your request to our office by adding the following to the address:

Attn: CC:PA:T  
P.O. Box 7604  
Ben Franklin Station  
Washington, DC 20044

Direct to: CC:PSI:1  
Room 5002

By way of introduction, the IRS has a small business website which provides information and various links to useful sites. Visit this new site at [www.irs.gov/smallbiz](http://www.irs.gov/smallbiz). Additionally, you can order a single, free copy of the *Small Business Resource Guide* CD-ROM by calling 1-800-829-3676. The CD-ROM provides critical tax information including forms, instructions, and publications, as well as valuable business information from a variety of government agencies, non-profit organizations, and educational institutions.

Please keep this letter with your tax records and feel free to provide a copy of it to your authorized representative. We hope that the above information proves helpful.

Sincerely yours,  
**/s/ Dianna K. Miosi**  
DIANNA K. MIOSI  
Chief, Branch 1  
Associate Chief Counsel  
(Passthroughs and Special Industries)

Enclosures:  
Announcement 97-4  
Rev. Proc. 2002-1