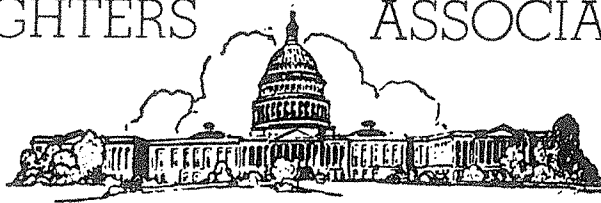


# FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION



LOCAL No. 36  
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION  
OF FIRE FIGHTERS



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
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Treasurer  
JAMES E. GORDON  
Secretary

November 1, 2016

Anita K. Blair  
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Human  
Resources and Chief Human Capital Officer  
U.S. Department of the Treasury  
1500 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20220

Re: Office of D.C. Pensions Federal Benefits Corrections

Dear Ms. Blair:

Responding to your letter dated September 15, 2016 in which you indicated that the Treasury Department, after careful consideration, has adopted an age-of error standard for past overpayments that have had an adverse effect on our retired members. Your decision has provided a glimmer of hope amongst our membership that the other potential unjust issues associated with this audit can be corrected.

Most of, if not all of the affected members who have been notified by the Department of Treasury that their overpayments were being forgiven received notices that they were going to be issued an IRS Form 1099-C. Some members received notices for the 2015 tax year and it is expected that the remaining affected members will receive the 1099 for the 2016 tax year.

Treasury included the following statement to all members whose debt was forgiven:

"ODCP is required by law to report your discharged debt to the IRS on Form 1099-C. However, this is only a tax reporting requirement; it does not necessarily mean you will be required to pay taxes on the discharged debt. The IRS will make a taxation determination based on your individual tax circumstances. We urge you to consult with a professional tax advisor about how this tax reporting requirement may affect you."

All retirees were affected in the same manner. They were issued by-weekly pay checks from which local and federal taxes were withheld.


Anita K. Blair  
November 1, 2016  
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Based on the facts presented above, we believe that all Firefighters, as a group – not individuals be afforded the opportunity of representation before you or your representative to further discuss this issue. It is obvious that written correspondence is not getting the job accomplished.


Further, we are requesting that any action that would have a negative/adverse impact on pensions be held in abeyance until such time we receive a response to the questions presented above.

We look forward to hearing from you in regards to the questions and meeting.

Sincerely,



Joseph L. O'Neil  
President  
Retired Fighters Assn.



Charles S. Hottinger  
President  
D.C. Fire Fighters Assn., Local 36

Attachment 1

cc: Congressman Jason Chaffetz  
Congressman Steny Hoyer  
Congressman Christopher Van Hollen  
Nancy Ostrowski, Director of ODCP  
Eric Stanchfield, Executive Director, DCRB



Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

IRS

AUSTIN TX 73301-0025

EXHIBIT #1

In reply refer to: 0546673418  
Aug. 29, 2016 LTR 916C 0  
01512 30

00007245

BODC: WI

Taxpayer identification number: 777  
Kind of tax: Federal Income Tax  
Date claims received: Apr. 19, 2016  
Tax periods: Dec. 31, 2015

Dear Taxpayer:

We can't process your claim for the tax periods listed above.

The Internal Revenue Service) cannot override how income is reported. The issue is therefore one between the taxpayer and the payer who issued the 1099C. Be advised that you could ultimately be taxed on the 1099C if IRS systems compare the income on the original return with that on record.

You can get any of the forms or publications you need from our website at [www.irs.gov/formspubs](http://www.irs.gov/formspubs) or by calling 1-800-TAX-FORM (1-800-829-3676).

If you have questions, you can call us at 1-800-829-0922.

If you prefer, you can write to us at the address shown at the top of the first page of this letter.

When you write, include this letter and provide in the spaces below, your telephone number with the hours we can reach you. Keep a copy of this letter for your records.

Telephone number ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Hours \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your cooperation.

*an abstr. w...*