



# GMS Flash Alert



2017-136 | September 15, 2017

## United States – Deferred FBAR Filing Deadline for Victims of Hurricane Harvey

On September 7, 2017, the U.S. Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) announced that Hurricane Harvey victims in parts of Texas have until January 31, 2018, to file their Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts (FBAR) for the 2016 calendar year.<sup>1</sup> The FBAR for calendar year 2016 would otherwise be due October 16, 2017.

### WHY THIS MATTERS

Without the relief granted by the FinCEN Notice, affected individuals would be required to file their FBAR very shortly – by October 16, 2017. The relief and extra time granted by this Notice is welcome as affected individuals begin the slow process of recovering from the destruction caused by the severe storms and flooding.

### Due Dates

The original due date for individuals to file their 2016 FBAR was April 18, 2017. However, FinCEN previously announced that all taxpayers are entitled to an automatic extension until October 16, 2017.<sup>2</sup>

Under the recently announced relief, affected individuals will have until January 31, 2018 to file their 2016 FBAR. A similar extension was announced earlier with respect to 2016 U.S. income tax returns due October 16, 2017.<sup>3</sup>

### Affected Counties and Populations

The extended due date is available to individuals in any area designated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as qualifying for individual assistance. Currently, 18 Texas counties are eligible for individual assistance: Aransas, Bee, Brazoria, Calhoun, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Goliad, Harris, Jackson, Kleberg, Liberty, Matagorda,

© 2017 KPMG LLP, a Delaware limited liability partnership and the U.S. member firm of the KPMG network of independent member firms affiliated with KPMG International Cooperative (“KPMG International”), a Swiss entity. All rights reserved. Printed in the U.S.A. NDPPS 53015921

Nueces, Refugio, San Patricio, Victoria, and Wharton. Individuals in any locations added to the list at a later date will automatically receive similar filing relief.<sup>4</sup>

In addition, FinCEN will work with any FBAR filer who lives outside the disaster area but whose records that are required to meet the deadline are located in the affected area, regardless of where the filer resides. The Notice provides details on how such individuals can contact the FinCEN Resource Center to obtain guidance.

---

## KPMG NOTE

Global mobility managers, human resources professionals, and the tax advisers that serve their globally mobile employees, should assess how this relief may impact their mobile workforces and consider communicating this FBAR filing relief to those employees affected by this Notice.

---

## FOOTNOTES:

- 1 For FinCen Notice September 7, 2017, click [here](#).
- 2 For discussion of the FBAR due dates, see GMS [Flash Alert 2016-150](#) (December 21, 2016).
- 3 See [IRS Announcement 2017-11](#) . Also see [IR-2017-135](#) (August 28, 2017); and GMS [Flash Alert 2017-131](#) (September 1, 2017).
- 4 To verify whether a particular address is in an area that has been designated as qualifying for individual assistance, see [www.DisasterAssistance.gov](http://www.DisasterAssistance.gov).

\* \* \* \*

**The above information is not intended to be "written advice concerning one or more Federal tax matters" subject to the requirements of section 10.37(a)(2) of Treasury Department Circular 230 as the content of this document is issued for general informational purposes only.**

**The information contained in this newsletter was submitted by the KPMG International member firm in the United States.**

[www.kpmg.com](http://www.kpmg.com)

[kpmg.com/socialmedia](http://kpmg.com/socialmedia)



The KPMG name and logo are registered trademarks or trademarks of KPMG International.

The KPMG logo and name are trademarks of KPMG International. KPMG International is a Swiss cooperative that serves as a coordinating entity for a network of independent member firms. KPMG International provides no audit or other client services. Such services are provided solely by member firms in their respective geographic areas. KPMG International and its member firms are legally distinct and separate entities. They are not and nothing contained herein shall be construed to place these entities in the relationship of parents, subsidiaries, agents, partners, or joint venturers. No member firm has any authority (actual, apparent, implied or otherwise) to obligate or bind KPMG International or any member firm in any manner whatsoever. The information contained in herein is of a general nature and is not intended to address the circumstances of any particular individual or entity. Although we endeavor to provide accurate and timely information, there can be no guarantee that such information is accurate as of the date it is received or that it will continue to be accurate in the future. No one should act on such information without appropriate professional advice after a thorough examination of the particular situation.

*Flash Alert* is a GMS publication of KPMG LLP's Washington National Tax practice. To view this publication or recent prior issues online, please click [here](#). To learn more about our GMS practice, please visit us on the Internet: click [here](#) or go to <http://www.kpmg.com>.

© 2017 KPMG LLP, a Delaware limited liability partnership and the U.S. member firm of the KPMG network of independent member firms affiliated with KPMG International Cooperative ("KPMG International"), a Swiss entity. All rights reserved. Printed in the U.S.A. NDPPS 530159