

FBAR E-Filing - FAQs

What is happening?

Effective July 1, 2013, filers must electronically file the FBAR through the BSA E-File System at <http://bsaefiling.fincen.treas.gov/main.html>.

How does this affect my examination?

Starting on July 1, 2013, you should stop accepting paper FBARs.

What if I receive a paper FBAR on or after July 1, 2013?

Inform the filer of the new electronic filing requirement and direct the filer to use the BSA E-File System to file the FBAR.

Unless FinCEN grants an exemption to the filer, after June 30, 2013, a filer must e-file the FBAR to be in compliance with the FBAR reporting requirements.

How can I verify a person e-filed an FBAR?

After e-filing the FBAR, the filer receives a confirmation message that contains the BSA ID number. The filer can provide you with the BSA ID number. The BSA ID number replaces the Document Control Number (DCN) previously used to identify filed FBARs.

E-filed FBARs accepted by the BSA E-file System appear on the Currency and Banking Retrieval System (CBRS) within 48 hours. Prior to recommending an FBAR penalty (or issuing an FBAR warning letter), research CBRS to confirm the filing.

What if a filer has questions about E-file?

Examiners should provide the following information to the filer:

Help in completing the FBAR is available Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Eastern Time, at (866) 270-0733 (toll-free inside the U.S.) or (313) 234-6146 (not toll-free, for callers outside the U.S.). Filers also may send questions regarding the FBAR to FBARquestions@irs.gov. Filers residing outside the United States may also contact U.S. embassies and consulates for assistance.

For E-Filing system questions, filers should call the FinCEN E-Filing Help Desk at (866) 346-9478, option 1 (M-F, 8-6 Eastern time) or contact the help desk by email at BSAEFilingHelp@fincen.gov.

If unable to E-file, filers may contact the FinCEN Regulatory Helpline at 800-949-2732 to request an exemption.

Examiners should contact an Exam FBAR Analyst with questions:

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