

UNITED STATES TAX COURT
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20217

December 6, 2005

PRESS RELEASE

The Clerk of the United States Tax Court announced today that on Monday, December 19, 2005, the United States Tax Court will begin accepting credit card payments presented in person at the Courthouse. The Tax Court will also begin on that date converting paper checks tendered for Court fees into electronic funds transfers which will be automatically debited from the tenderer's account.

Acceptance of credit card payments is a convenience to individuals purchasing services at the Courthouse. For individuals paying by check, the Court will upon receipt convert paper checks into electronic debits. This speeds the process of depositing Tax Court receipts into the United States Treasury. As the electronic transfer of funds from the payer's account can occur faster than a check is normally processed, it is imperative the payer's account contain sufficient funds available to cover the amount of the check. If an electronic fund transfer cannot be completed because of insufficient funds, the Court will attempt two additional tries, without penalty, to effect a transfer. If, for technical reasons, an electronic fund transfer cannot be processed, payment by check automatically authorizes the Clerk's Office to process a scanned copy of an original check.

Checks presented in person will be scanned, marked void and returned to the tenderer. Checks received through the mail, after being electronically debited, will be destroyed within 14 days of being credited to the Court's account.

The Court is currently working through the Treasury Department to establish online credit card payment for copy fees and other services. Notice will be made when this payment option is operational.

A Privacy Act Statement required by 5 U.S.C. 552a(e)(3) stating the Court's authority for soliciting and collecting the information from a payer's check, and explaining the purposes and routine uses which will be made of the information on a check, is available at www.ustaxcourt.gov or by telephoning (202) 606-8764.