Alabama Department of Revenue

News Release Dec. 6, 2002

Free Electronic Filing Now an Option for Business Taxes

Montgomery—"Free electronic filing is now an option for businesses filing certain state and local tax returns with the Alabama Department of Revenue," announced State Revenue Commissioner Cynthia Underwood.

The free online Internet filing service is available to business taxpayers filing Alabama sales, use, rental, lodgings, and income tax withholding returns. The department's free online filing option also includes all county and city sales, consumer's use, seller's use, lodgings, and rental taxes administered by the Alabama Department of Revenue.

"This is indeed a milestone in customer service for the department," said Underwood. "Beginning with the November 2002 state and local returns, due December 15 or December 20—depending on the type of tax return required, businesses can prepare, file and pay many of their state and local taxes online," explained Underwood.

By logging onto the department's Web site at www.ador.state.al.us, business taxpayers can access the free electronic tax-filing option, complete necessary electronic filing registration requirements, and begin to prepare the returns.

The department's online filing service will calculate the taxes due for the reporting period, electronically submit the tax return information to the Alabama Department of Revenue, and provide confirmation to the business taxpayer that the return information has been received. The actual payment of the taxes will be handled through electronic funds transfer—a process that allows tax payments to be electronically debited from the taxpayer's bank account, upon approval, and electronically transferred to the Alabama Department of Revenue.

In addition to the obvious filing benefits offered to business taxpayers, Underwood noted several cost-saving benefits of electronic filing.

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"As more and more business taxpayers take advantage of electronic filing, the department's printing, data entry, and mailing costs will be significantly reduced or even eliminated in some areas, resulting in greater overall savings to taxpayers," explained Underwood.

For more information concerning the free state and local business tax online filing option, contact the department's Sales, Use, and Business Tax Division at (334) 242-1491, or visit the department's Web site at www.ador.state.al.us.

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