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How to Hire a Trustworthy Tax Resolution Team

The tax relief business has skyrocketed in the last five years. This is primarily due to the increased efforts of the Internal Revenue Service to bring the hammer down on taxpayers. As a result, there are many firms flooding the market offering tax resolution solutions for beleaguered taxpayers.

You will want to be very selective when choosing a tax resolution firm to handle your problems with the Internal Revenue Service. Not all of these firms are as skilled at representing your interests as others. Here are a few things to take into account when making your decision.

- The firm's performance in resolving tax disputes, of course, should be the first and foremost concern. How many clients have they successfully represented? What is the total dollar amount settled against the total dollar amount of back taxes, penalties, and fines assessed? Check the resolution firm out with your state attorney general's office, and the Better Business Bureau to make certain that they have resolved any complaints against them and that there is no pending legislation involving the company. Find out if the company is certified as a Tax Resolution Specialist.

- Do not hire on with a company who wants full payment up front. A good faith retainer should be adequate to get them started working on your case.

- Be very careful of any tax resolution team who promises to get results. No good company will tell you that they can guarantee anything. They will need to scrutinize your situation in detail before they can give you some idea of what the end result might be. Not everyone applying for an Internal Revenue Service Offer in Compromise gets one. An honest company will confirm that right off the bat.

- Ask for information about the company officers or owners. This is a legitimate question and should not be met with vacillation or avoidance.

- Find out how long the company has been in business. If the answer is less than five years, you probably want to look elsewhere.

- Don't give in to high-pressure tactics. A reputable tax resolution firm won't try to fill you with dread in order to get you to sign on.

- Find out how soon after you retain their services you will be contacted about your case.

- Ask if they return emails and phone calls without delay.

- Ask who will be specifically assigned to your case so you know there is a trail of accountability.

All in all, it shouldn't be too difficult to weed out the people you want to handle your tax resolution problems from the ones with whom you decide not to work. Just be sure and go through the effort. It is very important that the people representing you before the Internal Revenue Service be professional and of good character.

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