



Beneficial Ownership Information Reporting: Know How and When to Report Your Business Information











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### **Today's Guest Speakers**



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## **Assistance for Your Small Business**

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- Business Certification Assistance
  - Advancing Entrepreneurs Ready for Opportunities (AERO)



### To learn more, visit <u>azsbdc.net/where-we-are</u>



State Office

### Disclaimer

The information shared in this webinar is for general informational purposes only. While we strive to keep the information up to date and accurate, we make no representations of any kind, express or implied, about the completeness or accuracy of the information provided.

For additional information, refer to the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, or FinCEN, a bureau within the U.S. Department of the Treasury at <u>www.fincen.gov/boi</u>.



## **Today's Topics**

WHY do businesses need to report?

Who must report?



What information will be reported?

When must reports be submitted?

How does a business submit their information?

Resources to learn more.



## WHY do businesses need to report?

The Corporate Transparency Act (CTA) was enacted by Congress in 2021.

This law creates a beneficial ownership information reporting requirement designed to make it harder for bad actors to use shell companies to hide their ill-gotten gains and to help law enforcement identify who is behind these bad companies.

Companies will report their beneficial ownership information to the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, or FinCEN, a bureau within the U.S. Department of the Treasury.



U.S. Department of the Treasury Financial Crimes Enforcement Network www.fincen.gov/boi

## WHO must report?

### **Domestic Reporting Company**

A corporation, limited liability company, or any other entity created by the filing of a document with a secretary of state or similar office.

### Foreign Reporting Company

A corporation, LLC, or other entity formed under the law of a foreign country that is registered to do business in the U.S. by the filing of a document with a secretary of state or similar office.

### **Non-Reporting Companies**

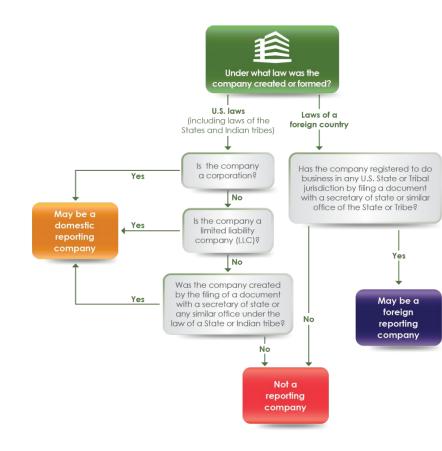
Entities that are not created by filing with a secretary of state. E.g. sole proprietorships, certain trusts.

### **Exempt Companies**

Exempt companies include banks, credit unions, tax-exempt entities, public utilities, and certain large companies. Refer to the Small Entity Compliance Guide for examples.



## The **Small Entity Compliance Guide** provides resources to help you identify if you are a reporting company. <u>www.fincen.gov/boi</u>



Exemption No.	Exemption Short Title
1	Securities reporting issuer
2	Governmental authority
3	Bank
4	Credit union
5	Depository institution holding company
6	Money services business
7	Broker or dealer in securities
8	Securities exchange or clearing agency
9	Other Exchange Act registered entity
10	Investment company or investment adviser
11	Venture capital fund adviser
12	Insurance company
13	State-licensed insurance producer
14	Commodity Exchange Act registered entity
15	Accounting firm
16	Public utility
17	Financial market utility
18	Pooled investment vehicle
19	Tax-exempt entity
20	Entity assisting a tax-exempt entity
21	Large operating company
22	Subsidiary of certain exempt entities
23	Inactive entity

## **Beneficial Owners**

A beneficial owner is any individual who directly or indirectly:

- Owns or controls at least 25 percent of the ownership interests of a reporting company; OR
- Exercises **substantial control** over a reporting company.

An individual might be a beneficial owner by virtue of their substantial control, ownership interests, or both.

### There are several exceptions to the beneficial owner definition:

- Minor child
- Nominee
- Intermediary
- Custodian
- Agent
- ✓ Employee
- Inheritor
- Creditor

Small Entity Compliance Guide BOD Reporting Regiments Reporting Regiments Reporting Regiments

## **Beneficial Owners**

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- Owns or controls at least 25 percent of the ownership interests of a reporting company; OR
- Exercises **substantial control** over a reporting company.

### **Ownership interest** includes:

- Equity stock, or voting rights
- ✓ Capital or profit interest
- Convertible instruments
- ✓ Options or privileges
- Any other instrument, contract, or mechanism used to establish ownership

An individual exercises **substantial control** if the individual meets any of four general criteria:

- ✓ The individual is a senior officer.
- The individual has the authority to appoint or remove certain officers or a majority of directors of the reporting company.
- ✓ The individual is an important decision-maker.
- The individual has any other form of substantial control over the reporting company.

#### SUBSTANTIAL CONTROL



#### SENIOR OFFICER

any individual holding the position or exercising the authority of a:

- 1. President
- 2. Chief financial officer (CFO)
- 3. General counsel (GC)
- 4. Chief executive officer (CEO)
- 5. Chief operating officer (COO)

or any other officer, regardless of official title, who performs a similar function as these officers



#### APPOINTMENT OR REMOVAL AUTHORITY any individual with the ability to appoint or remove any

SENIOR OFFICER or a majority of the board of directors or similar body



#### **IMPORTANT DECISION-MAKER**

any individual who directs, determines, or has substantial influence over important decisions made by the reporting company, including decisions regarding the reporting company's:

1. Business, such as:

- Nature, scope, and attributes of the business
- . The selection or termination of business lines or ventures, or geographic focus
- . The entry into or termination, or the fulfillment or non-fulfillment, of significant contracts

#### 2. Finances, such as:

- Sale, lease, mortgage, or other transfer of any principal assets
- Major expenditures or investments, issuances of any equity, incurrence of any significant debt, or approval of the operating budget
- · Compensation schemes and incentive programs for senior officers

3. Structure, such as:

- Reorganization, dissolution, or merger
- Amendments of any substantial governance documents of the reporting company, including the articles of incorporation or similar formation documents, bylaws, and significant policies or procedures



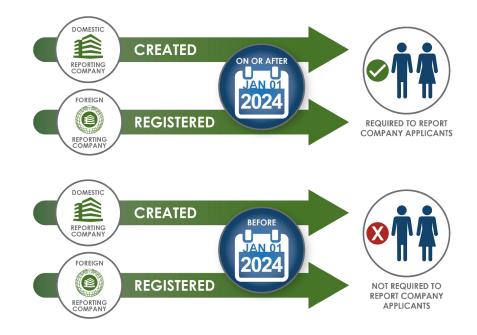
#### CATCH-ALL

any other form of substantial control over the reporting company. Control exercised in new and unique ways can still be substantial. For example, flexible corporate structures may have different indicators of control than the indicators included here

## **Company Applicants**

Company applicants are individual(s) who:

- Directly file the document that created or first registered a domestic or foreign reporting company.
- Was primarily responsible for directing or controlling the filing of the creation or first registration document.



## WHAT information is reported?

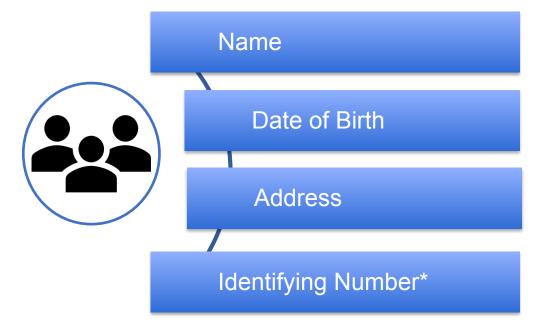
A reporting company must provide information about itself.

A M E R I C A<sup>t</sup>s **SBDC** ARIZONA



### WHAT information is reported?

A reporting company must provide information about its beneficial owners and company applicants.



\* Identifying number and issuing jurisdiction from a non-expired driver's license, U.S. passport, or an identification document issued by a State, local government, or Indian Tribe, or a foreign passport (if none of the other documents exist); an image of the document must be provided.

## WHEN must reports be submitted?

### **INITIAL REPORTS**

Required by all companies that meet the definition of **reporting company** and are not **exempt** from that definition.



### **Existing reporting companies**

Created or registered to do business in the United States before January 1, 2024. Reports due by **January 1, 2025**.



### New reporting companies

Created or registered to do business in the United States on or after January 1, 2024. Reporting companies created or registered **on or after January 1, 2024** and **before January 1, 2025**, have **90 calendar days** after receiving actual or public notice that their company's creation or registration is effective to file their initial BOI reports.

Reporting companies created or registered **on or after January 1, 2025**, will have **30 calendar days** from receipt of actual or public notice that their creation or registration is effective to file their initial BOI reports.



## HOW to file the BOI report?

Electronically file your company's initial BOI report via <u>www.fincen.gov/boi</u>.

- Report any changes to beneficial owner information on a submitted BOI report.
- Report any inaccuracies on a submitted BOI report.





## **Report Changes and Inaccuracies**



#### **UPDATED REPORTS**

Required when there is a change to previously reported information about the reporting company itself or its beneficial owners.



Updated reports due within **30 calendar days** after a change occurs.



### DAY 30

Corrected repots due within **30 calendar days** days after the reporting company becomes aware or has reason to know of an inaccuracy.

Required when previously reported information

was inaccurate when filed and remains

**CORRECTED REPORTS** 

inaccurate.

## **Consequences for not filing**

FinCEN is working hard to ensure that reporting companies are aware of their obligations to report, update, and correct beneficial ownership information. FinCEN understands this is a new requirement.

If you correct a mistake or omission within 90 days of the deadline for the original report, you may avoid being penalized. However, you could face civil and criminal penalties if you disregard your beneficial ownership information reporting obligations.



### **Next Step Recommendations**



- Review FinCEN guidance information.
- Avoid scammers.
- Consult your trusted accountant, CPA, attorney or your local SBDC office for assistance.

Small Entity Compliance Guide



### **FinCEN Resources to Learn More**

### Visit the FinCEN's website at <u>www.fincen.gov/boi</u> for more information.

- Small Entity Compliance Guide
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
- Small Business Resources
- Introductory Videos
- Quick Reference Materials

Visit FinCen.gov to sign up for FinCEN's email subscription service to be notified of beneficial ownership updates.

Contact FinCEN at <u>www.fincen.gov/contact</u>. Email: <u>FRC@fincen.gov</u> or call 1-800-767-2825.



U.S. Department of the Treasury Financial Crimes Enforcement Network www.fincen.gov/boi

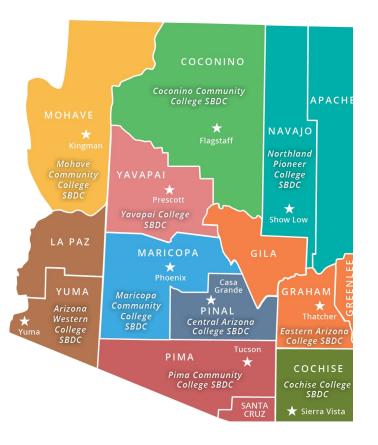


## **Request No Fee SBDC Counseling**

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years



