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The Corporate Transparency Act

Stanfield & Dupre Clients,

We hope this announcement finds everyone well. On January 1, 2024, the Federal Department of Financial Crimes and Enforcement Network released the first round of rules and regulations regarding the Corporate Transparency Act (CTA). To refresh, on January 1, 2021, congress enacted the CTA as an expansion to the Anti-Money Laundering Act of 2020. The CTA went into effect January 1, 2024.

Nearly all existing and newly formed entities will be required to file a report known as the Beneficial Ownership Information Report (BOI). There are twenty-three (23) exemptions as of this date. Please refer to the attached page 4-14 from the Small Entity Compliance Guide to see if your entity(s) is/are exempt from filing the BOI. If you are unsure, please contact us and we can confirm whether or not you need to file.

For existing entities, you will have until January 1, 2025, to file the BOI Report. There's no fee to file the report, and you can get access to the BOI Report by going to FinCEN's BOI E-Filing website https://boiefiling.fincen.gov and select "File BOIR".

If you do not want to file the BOI report yourself, we can handle that for you. Our fee for filing the report is \$350.00. Please note, your CPA may also offer this service as part of your tax filing. Make sure to also check with him or her as well.

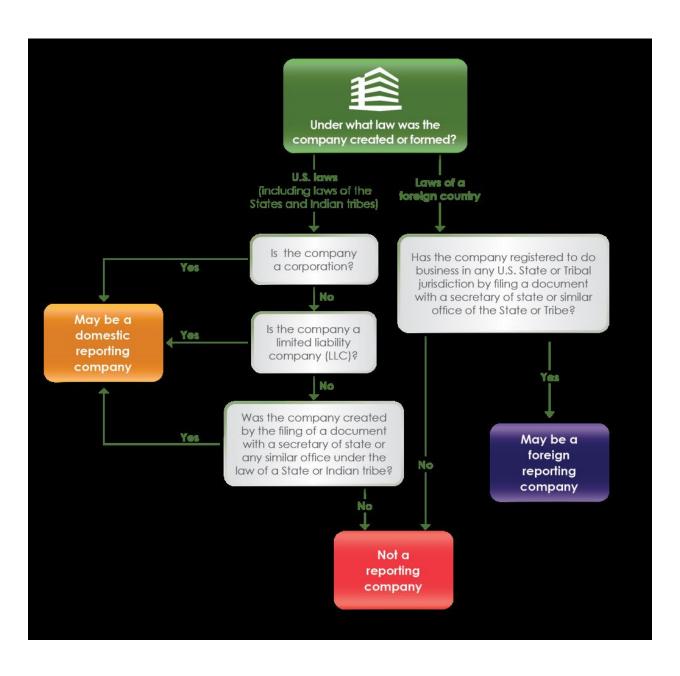
In addition, we want to inform you that from January 1, 2024, our fee for forming a new entity with TX Secretary of State will be \$1,500.00, this will include any filing fees with TX SOS, the BOI Report filing, Company Agreement, Minutes, and obtaining the EIN for your new entity.

We are still actively receiving rules and regulations from the Federal Department of Financial Crimes and Enforcement Network. If you have any specific questions on how this may impact, you and your current businesses please do not hesitate to contact our firm.

Sincerely,

Stanfield & Dupre, PLLC

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1.2 Is my company exempt from the reporting requirements?

The Reporting Rule exempts twenty-three (23) specific types of entities from the reporting requirements listed in Chart 2 below. An entity that qualifies for any of these exemptions is not required to submit BOI reports to FinCEN.

Chart 2 – Reporting company exemptions

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

Special rule for foreign pooled investment vehicles.

If an entity meets the criteria of Exemption #18 and is formed under the laws of a foreign country, the entity is <u>subject to a separate reporting requirement</u>. These companies are referred to as "foreign pooled investment vehicles" in the Reporting Rule and their reporting requirement is explained in <u>Chapter 4.2</u> of this Guide.

See special rule at 1010.380(b)(2)(iii).

The criteria for each exemption are provided in a check-box format in the following pages to assist your company in answering the question, "Is my company exempt from the reporting requirements?"

Securities reporting issuer (Exemption #1)

An e	ntity	qualifies	for tl	his exem _l	otion i	if e	either	of the	foll	owing	two cr	iteria a	appl	y:

An entity qualifies for this exemption if <u>etther</u> of the following tw	o entena appry.
1. The entity is an issuer of a class of securities registered under section 12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 781).	□ Yes □ No
2. The entity is required to file supplementary and periodic information under section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78o(d)).	□ Yes □ No
Governmental authority (Exemption #2)	
An entity qualifies for this exemption if both of the following crite	eria apply:
1. The entity is established under the laws of the United States, an Indian tribe, a State, or a political subdivision of a State, or under an interstate compact between two or more States.	□ Yes □ No
2. The entity exercises governmental authority on behalf of the United States or any such Indian tribe, State, or political subdivision.	□ Yes □ No
Bank (Exemption #3) An entity qualifies for this exemption if <u>any</u> of the following three	criteria apply:
1. The entity is a "bank" as defined in section 3 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813).	□ Yes □ No
2. The entity is a "bank" as defined in section 2(a) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-2(a)).	☐ Yes ☐ No
3. The entity is a "bank" as defined in section 202(a) of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80b-2(a)).	☐ Yes ☐ No
Credit Union (Exemption #4)	

An entity qualifies for this exemption if **either** of the following two criteria apply:

1. The entity is a "Federal credit union" as defined in section 101 of the Federal Credit Union Act (12 U.S.C. 1752).	☐ Yes ☐ No
2. The entity is a "State credit union" as defined in section 101 of the Federal Credit Union Act (12 U.S.C. 1752).	□ Yes □ No

Depository institution holding company (Exemption #5)

An entity	qualifies	for this	exemption	if either	of the	following	two criteria	apply:

	7 1 === 8	11 7				
1.	The entity is a "bank holding company" as defined in section 2 of the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956 (12 U.S.C. 1841).	□ Yes □ No				
2.	The entity is a "savings and loan holding company" as defined in section 10(a) of the Home Owners' Loan Act (12 U.S.C. 1467a(a)).	□ Yes □ No				
Mone	y transmitter business (Exemption #6)					
An en	tity qualifies for this exemption if either of the following two	o criteria apply:				
1.	The entity is a money transmitting business registered with FinCEN under 31 U.S.C. 5330.	□ Yes □ No				
2.	The entity is a money services business registered with FinCEN under <u>31 CFR 1022.380</u> .	□ Yes □ No				
Broke	er or dealer in securities (Exemption #7)					
An en	tity qualifies for this exemption if both of the following crite	eria apply:				
1.	The entity is a "broker" or "dealer," as those terms are defined in section 3 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78c).	□ Yes □ No				
2.	The entity is registered under section 15 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 780).	□ Yes □ No				
Secur	ities exchange or clearing agency (Exemption #8)					
An entity qualifies for this exemption if both of the following criteria apply:						
1.	The entity is an "exchange" or "clearing agency," as those terms are defined in section 3 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78c).	□ Yes □ No				
2.	The entity is registered under sections 6 or 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78f, 78g-1).	□ Yes □ No				

Other Exchange Act registered entity (Exemption #9)

An e	entity	<i>qualifies</i>	for this	exemption	if both	of the	following	criteria	apply:

1. The entity is not a securities reporting issuer as defined in Exemption#1 , broker or dealer in securities as defined in Exemption#7 , or securities exchange or clearing agency as defined in Exemption#8 .	□ Yes □ No				
2. The entity is registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78a et seq.).	□ Yes □ No				
Investment company or investment adviser (Exemption #10) An entity qualifies for this exemption if both of the following criterian	eria apply:				
 The entity is an "investment company" or "investment adviser" defined as either: An investment company in section 3 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-3); or An investment adviser in section 202 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80b-2). 	□ Yes □ No				
 2. The entity is registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission under either of these authorities: • The Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-1 et seq.); or • The Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80b-1 et seq.). 	□ Yes □ No				
Venture capital fund adviser (Exemption #11) An entity qualifies for this exemption if both of the following criterian	eria apply:				
1. The entity is an investment adviser that is described in section 203(l) of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80b-3(l)).	□ Yes □ No				
2. The entity has filed Item 10, Schedule A, and Schedule B of Part 1A of Form ADV, or any successor thereto, with the Securities and Exchange Commission.	□ Yes □ No				
Insurance company (Exemption #12) An entity qualifies for this exemption if the following criterion applies:					
1. The entity is an "insurance company" as defined in section 2 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-2).	□ Yes □ No				

Beneficial Ownership Information Reporting Requirements Small Entity Compliance Guide, December 2023 - Version 1.1

State-licensed insurance producer (Exemption #13)

An entity qualifies for this exemption if **both** of the following criteria apply:

1. The entity is an insurance producer that is authorized by a State and subject to supervision by the insurance commissioner or a similar official or agency of a State.	□ Yes □ No
2. The entity has an <i>operating presence at a physical office</i> within the United States. The term "operating presence at a physical office within the United States" means that an entity regularly conducts its business at a physical location in the United States that the entity owns or leases and that is physically distinct from the place of business of any other unaffiliated entity.	□ Yes □ No

Commodity Exchange Act registered entity (Exemption #14)

An entity qualifies for this exemption if **either** of the following two criteria apply:

1. The entity is a "registered entity" as defined in section 1a of the Commodity Exchange Act (7 U.S.C. 1a).	□ Yes □ No
 The entity is one of these entities registered with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission under the Commodity Exchange Act: "Futures commission merchant" as defined in section 1a of the Commodity Exchange Act (7 U.S.C. 1a); "Introducing broker" as defined in section 1a of the Commodity Exchange Act (7 U.S.C. 1a); "Swap dealer" as defined in section 1a of the Commodity Exchange Act (7 U.S.C. 1a); "Major swap participant" as defined in section 1a of the Commodity Exchange Act (7 U.S.C. 1a); "Commodity pool operator" as defined in section 1a of the Commodity Exchange Act (7 U.S.C. 1a); "Commodity trading advisor" as defined in section 1a of the Commodity Exchange Act (7 U.S.C. 1a); or "Retail foreign exchange dealer" as described in section 2(c)(2)(B) of the Commodity Exchange Act (7 U.S.C. 1a); 	□ Yes □ No

Public accounting firm (Exemption #15)

• •	-	C	• •	
1. The entity is a p	ublic accounting firm	registered in		

1. The entity is a public accounting firm registered in	
accordance with section 102 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act	☐ Yes ☐ No
of 2002 (<u>15 U.S.C. 7212</u>).	

Public utility (Exemption #16)

An entity qualifies for this exemption if **both** of the following criteria apply:

An entity qualifies for this exemption if the following criterion applies:

1. The entity is a "regulated public utility" as defined in 26 U.S.C. 7701(a)(33)(A).	☐ Yes ☐ No
2. The entity provides telecommunications services, electrical power, natural gas, or water and sewer services within the United States.	□ Yes □ No

Financial market utility (Exemption #17)

An entity qualifies for this exemption if the following criterion applies:

1. The entity is a financial market utility designated by the	
Financial Stability Oversight Council under section 804	☐ Yes ☐ No
of the Payment, Clearing, and Settlement Supervision Act	l les lino
of 2010 (<u>12 U.S.C. 5463</u>).	

Pooled investment vehicle (Exemption #18)

An entity qualifies for this exemption if **both** of the following criteria apply:

 The entity is a pooled investment vehicle if either of these statements apply to the entity: Is an investment company, as defined in section 3(a) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-3(a); or Is a company that would be an investment company under that section but for the exclusion provided from that definition by paragraph (1) or (7) of section 3(c) of that Act (15 U.S.C. 80a-3(c)); and is identified by its legal name by the applicable investment adviser in its Form ADV, (or successor form) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission or will be so identified in the next annual updating amendment to Form ADV required to be filed by the applicable investment adviser pursuant to rule 204-1 under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (17 CFR 275.204-1). 	□ Yes □ No
 The entity is operated or advised by any of these types of exempt entities: Bank, as defined in Exemption #3; Credit union, as defined in Exemption #4; Broker or dealer in securities, as defined in Exemption #7; Investment company or investment adviser, as defined in Exemption #10; or Venture capital fund adviser, as defined in Exemption #11. 	□ Yes □ No

Tax-exempt entity (Exemption #19)

permanent residence.

An entity qualifies for this exemption if <u>any</u> of the following four criteria apply:

1. The entity is an organization that is described in section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (Code) (determined without regard to section 508(a) of the Code) and exempt from tax under section 501(a) of the Code.	□ Yes □ No
2. The entity is an organization that is described in section 501(c) of the <u>Code</u> , and was exempt from tax under section 501(a) of the <u>Code</u> , but lost its tax-exempt status less than 180 days ago.	□ Yes □ No
3. The entity is a political organization, as defined in section 527(e)(1) of the <u>Code</u> , that is exempt from tax under section 527(a) of the <u>Code</u> .	□ Yes □ No
The entity is a trust described in paragraph (1) or (2) of section 4947(a) of the $\underline{\text{Code}}$.	
section 494/(a) of the Code.	
Entity assisting a tax-exempt entity (Exemption #20) An entity qualifies for this exemption if all <u>four</u> of the following contents.	riteria apply:
Entity assisting a tax-exempt entity (Exemption #20)	riteria apply: □ Yes □ No
Entity assisting a tax-exempt entity (Exemption #20) An entity qualifies for this exemption if all <u>four</u> of the following contains the entity operates exclusively to provide financial assistance to, or hold governance rights over, any tax-	
Entity assisting a tax-exempt entity (Exemption #20) An entity qualifies for this exemption if all four of the following control of the entity operates exclusively to provide financial assistance to, or hold governance rights over, any tax-exempt entity described by Exemption #19. 2. The entity is a United States person as defined in section	□ Yes □ No

Large operating company (Exemption #21)

An entity qualifies for this exemption if all <u>six</u> of the following criteria apply:

1. The entity employs more than 20 full time employees, when applying the meaning of full-time employee provided in 26 CFR 54.4980H-1(a) and 54.4980H-3. In general, "full-time employee" means, with respect to a calendar month, an employee who is employed an average of at least 30 hours of service per week with an employer.	□ Yes □ No
2. More than 20 full-time employees of the entity are employed in the "United States," as that term is defined in 31 CFR 1010.100(hhh).	□ Yes □ No
3. The entity has an operating presence at a physical office within the United States. "Operating presence at a physical office within the United States" means that an entity regularly conducts its business at a physical location in the United States that the entity owns or leases and that is physically distinct from the place of business of any other unaffiliated entity.	□ Yes □ No
4. The entity entity filed a Federal income tax or information return in the United States for the previous year demonstrating more than \$5,000,000 in gross receipts or sales. If the entity is part of an affiliated group of corporations within the meaning of 26 U.S.C. 1504, refer to the consolidated return for such group.	□ Yes □ No
5. The entity reported this greater-than-\$5,000,000 amount as gross receipts or sales (net of returns and allowances) on the entity's IRS Form 1120, consolidated IRS Form 1120, IRS Form 1120-S, IRS Form 1065, or other applicable IRS form.	□ Yes □ No
6. When gross receipts or sales from sources outside the United States, as determined under Federal income tax principle, are excluded from the entity's amount of gross receipts or sales, the amount remains greater than \$5,000,000.	□ Yes □ No

Subsidiary of certain exempt entities (Exemption #22)

An entity qualifies for this exemption if the following criterion applies:

owned, directly or indirectly, by <u>any</u> exempt entities:	of these types of
 Securities reporting issuer, as de 	ofined in
Exemption #1;	Zinica in
 Governmental authority, as defin 	ned in
Exemption #2;	illed III
 Bank, as defined in Exemption 3 	# 3 •
• Credit union, as defined in Exer	
• Depository institution holding c	
in Exemption #5;	ompany, as defined
• Broker or dealer in securities, as	s defined in
Exemption #7;	
• Securities exchange or clearing	agency, as defined
in Exemption #8;	
• Other Exchange Act registered e	entity, as defined in
Exemption #9;	☐ Yes ☐ No
• Investment company or investm	nent adviser, as
defined in Exemption #10;	
• Venture capital fund adviser, as	defined in
Exemption #11;	
• Insurance company, as defined i	in Exemption #12;
• State-licensed insurance produc	er, as defined in
Exemption #13;	
 Commodity Exchange Act regis 	stered entity, as
defined in Exemption #14;	
• Accounting firm, as defined in I	*
• Public utility, as defined in Exer	*
• Financial market utility, as defin	ned in
Exemption #17;	F 1110
• Tax-exempt entity, as defined in	*
• Large operating company, as de	fined in
Exemption #21.	

Inactive entity (Exemption #23)

An entity qualifies for this exemption if all <u>six</u> of the following criteria apply:

1. The entity was in existence on or before January 1, 2020.	☐ Yes ☐ No
2. The entity is not engaged in active business.	☐ Yes ☐ No
3. The entity is not owned by a foreign person, whether directly or indirectly, wholly or partially. "Foreign person" means a person who is not a United States person. A United States person is defined in section 7701(a)(30) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 as a citizen or resident of the United States, domestic partnership and corporation, and other estates and trusts.	□ Yes □ No
4. The entity has not experienced any change in ownership in the preceding twelve-month period.	□ Yes □ No
5. The entity has not sent or received any funds in an amount greater than \$1,000, either directly or through any financial account in which the entity or any affiliate of the entity had an interest, in the preceding twelvementh period.	□ Yes □ No
6. The entity does not otherwise hold any kind or type of assets, whether in the United States or abroad, including any ownership interest in any corporation, limited liability company, or other similar entity.	□ Yes □ No