



**OVERDUE NOTICE**

FROM THE ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR  
FOR ECONOMIC PROGRAMS  
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

Your 2012 Economic Census report forms are **overdue**. While we have granted a brief extension of the filing deadline, your forms must now be completed and returned. The forms were originally due February 12, 2013. If you have already responded, please disregard this letter and accept our thanks for completing these very important Economic Census forms.

**Please complete and return your census forms or report electronically at our Business Help Site, [econhelp.census.gov](http://econhelp.census.gov), immediately.** From this site, you may access online services, get answers to your questions about the census, find the release schedule for 2012 Economic Census results, and obtain data from previous censuses and surveys that may be helpful to your business. Your User ID and Password are shown below.

Title 13, United States Code, Sections 131 and 224, **requires your response** and Section 9 guarantees that your response is confidential and will be used only for statistical purposes. **You may use reasonable estimates** if book figures are not readily available. As we noted previously, you are subject to penalties for not returning these forms. Applicable provisions of the law are shown on the back of this letter.

If we do not receive your completed Economic Census forms **within 2 weeks**, we may refer your case to the Chief Counsel for Economic Affairs of the U.S. Department of Commerce for further action.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation, and for helping the U.S. Census Bureau measure America's people, places, and our economy.

Sincerely,

William G. Bostic, Jr.

Visit **[econhelp.census.gov](http://econhelp.census.gov)**

- To Report Electronically
- To Get Help With Your Forms

Toll-free help: 1-800-233-6136 Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Eastern time.

## QUOTES FROM TITLE 13 - UNITED STATES CODE (U.S.C.)

For more details see <http://bhs.econ.census.gov/bhs/pages/legal.html>

### • PROTECTION OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION - SECTION 9

#### 9. Information as confidential; exception

(a) Neither the Secretary, nor any other officer or employee of the Department of Commerce or bureau or agency thereof, or local government census liaison, may, except as provided in section 8 or 16 or chapter 10 of this title or section 210 of the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1998...

1. use the information furnished under the provisions of this title for any purpose other than the statistical purposes for which it is supplied; or
2. make any publication whereby the data furnished by any particular establishment or individual under this title can be identified; or
3. permit anyone other than the sworn officers and employees of the Department or bureau or agency thereof to examine the individual reports.

No department, bureau, agency, officer, or employee of the Government, except the Secretary in carrying out the purposes of this title, shall require, for any reason, copies of census reports which have been retained by any such establishment or individual. Copies of census reports which have been so retained shall be immune from legal process, and shall not, without the consent of the individual or establishment concerned, be admitted as evidence or used for any purpose in any action, suit, or other judicial or administrative proceeding.

### • AUTHORITY TO CONDUCT ECONOMIC CENSUSES - SECTION 131

#### 131. Collection and publication; five-year periods

The Secretary shall take, compile, and publish censuses of manufactures, of mineral industries, and of other businesses, including the distributive trades, service establishments, and transportation (exclusive of means of transportation for which statistics are required by law to be filed with, and are compiled and published by, a designated regulatory body), in the year 1964, then in the year 1968, and every fifth year thereafter, and each such census shall relate to the year immediately preceding the taking thereof.

### • MANDATORY PROVISION OF LAW - SECTION 224

#### 224. Failure to answer questions affecting companies, businesses, religious bodies, and other organizations; false answers.

Whoever, being the owner, official, agent, person in charge, or assistant to the person in charge, of any company, business, institution, establishment, religious body, or organization of any nature whatsoever, neglects or refuses, when requested by the Secretary or other authorized officer or employee of the U.S. Department of Commerce or bureau or agency thereof, to answer completely and correctly to the best of his knowledge all questions relating to his company, business, institution, establishment, religious body, or other organization, or to records or statistics in his official custody, contained on any census or other schedule or questionnaire prepared and submitted to him under the authority of this title, shall be fined not more than \$500<sup>1</sup>; and if he willfully gives a false answer to any such question, he shall be fined not more than \$10,000.

<sup>1</sup> The Sentencing Reform Act of 1984 (18, U.S.C. 3551 et seq.) supersedes this penalty amount and specifies a fine of not more than \$5,000.