

Voluntary Disclosure Program Procedural Problems

PROCEDURE	REASON	PROBLEM
COUNTER-OFFERS	Offers made to avoid accepting another offer.	States' counter-offers and Taxpayers' counter-offers may substantially increase the time needed to find agreement and execute the contract.
AGREEMENTS	Txp-added language, editing, amending, deletions.	It takes time to get the Director's and states' approvals. <i>[Two commentators wrote that it may take too long to get the director's approval]</i>
REQUESTED STATES	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conformity in a number of states requested by the taxpayer. 2. Two-tax VDAs vs single-tax VDAs. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Administratively, it may take longer to generate VDAs beyond 10 or more states. 2. It may take states longer to process VDAs if they have different departments for each type of tax.
APPLICATIONS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Incomplete applications or applications that provide little material information. 2. Competing responsibilities. 3. Database must be checked manually for new disclosures. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Requesting add'l info from the taxpayer takes extra time. 2. Director may take too long to assign Files. 3. Director may take too long to assign Files.
TAXPAYERS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Txps not ready to come forward but are making the request in haste to elude state discovery. <i>[Two commentators wrote this.]</i> 2. Over-zealous taxpayers ready to come forward expeditiously. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Taxpayers can sit in the MTC VD database for days or even months before they are ready to move forward. <i>[Two commentators wrote this.]</i> 2. States' policies are usually first-come first-served. 3. Delays in turnaround from the taxpayer. 4. Multiple and or singular extension requests from txp.

POSTAL MAIL	Hard copies.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We still get some states sending the state signed signature page via regular mail. 2. We still get taxpayers submitting applications via regular mail. 3. Periodic delays in receiving postal mail. 4. Some states date letters several days before we actually receive the correspondence
STAFF REASSIGNMENTS	Director reassigns cases as appropriate.	Variety in staff's administrative procedure may hinder progress of the process
COMPETING RESPONSIBILITIES		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Non-MVD or special MVD-related tasks. Many of the tasks needing completion in the MVD process can be done quickly, but there are so many of them, and they have always had a short fuse (48 hrs). The nature of many of my non-MVD tasks (and some specifically-assigned tasks relating to MVD) are of an irregular nature, have longer fuses, require sustained focus, entail out-of-town absence, or they come up suddenly and require immediate action. To ensure quality product on high-visibility tasks needed by groups on specific dates or by MTC executives, I feel compelled, at times, to prioritize those over matters relating to individual taxpayers or individual states. 2. Delay in director's approval of changed language or direction on how to handle a matter.