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which the regulations in this part have application.

### § 31.6205–1 Adjustments of underpayments.

(a) *In general.* (1) An employer who makes, or has made, an undercollection or underpayment of—

(i) Employee tax under section 3101, employer tax under section 3111, or the employee or employer tax under corresponding provisions of prior law,

(ii) Employee tax under section 3201, employer tax under section 3221, or the employee or employer tax under corresponding provisions of prior law, or

(iii) Income tax required under section 3402 to be withheld,

with respect to any payment of wages or compensation, shall correct such error as provided in this section. Such correction shall constitute an adjustment without interest to the extent provided in paragraph (b) or (c) of this section.

(2) Every correction under this section of an underpayment of tax with respect to a payment of wages or compensation shall be made on the return form which is prescribed for use, at the time the correction is made, in reporting tax which corresponds to the tax underpaid.

(3) Every return or supplemental return on which an underpayment is corrected pursuant to this section must have securely attached as a part thereof a statement explaining the correction, designating the return period in which the error was ascertained and the return period to which the error relates, and setting forth such other information as may be required by the regulations in this subpart and by the instructions relating to the return.

(4) For purposes of this section, an error is ascertained when the employer has sufficient knowledge of the error to be able to correct it.

(5) If a correction is made under this section with respect to the erroneous reporting on a return, or omission from a return, under the Federal Insurance Contributions Act, as in effect prior to or on and after January 1, 1955, of an amount of wages required to be shown on the return as a separate item in respect of a particular employee, the statement referred to in paragraph (a)(3) of this section shall include the following information:

(i) The name and account number of each employee whose wages were erroneously reported or omitted from such return,

(ii) The period for which such wages were required to be reported on such return,

(iii) The amount, if any, of wages actually reported on such return for each such employee, and

(iv) The amount of wages which should have been reported on such return for each such employee.

No particular form is prescribed for furnishing the information required by this subparagraph, but if printed forms are desired, the district director will supply Form 941c or Form 941c PR, whichever is appropriate, upon request.

(6) No underpayment shall be reported pursuant to this section after receipt from the district director of notice and demand for payment thereof based upon an assessment, but the amount shall be paid in accordance with such notice and demand.

(7) For provisions relating to correction of erroneous statements furnished to employees in respect of wages subject to withholding of income tax under section 3402, and of wages under the Federal Insurance Contributions Act, see paragraph (c) of § 31.6051–1.

(b) *Federal Insurance Contributions Act and Railroad Retirement Tax Act*—(1) *Undercollection ascertained before return is filed.* If no employee tax or less than the correct amount of employee tax is deducted from any payment to an employee of wages, as defined in the Federal Insurance Contributions Act, or compensation as defined in the Railroad Retirement Tax Act, and the error is ascertained before the filing of the return on which the employee tax with respect to such wages or compensation is required to be reported, the employer shall nevertheless report on such return and pay to the district director the correct amount of such employee tax. However, the reporting and payment by the employer of the correct amount of such tax in accordance with this subparagraph do not constitute an adjustment.

(2) *Underpayment ascertained after return is filed.* (i) If a return is filed, and

if no employee tax, no employer tax, or less than the correct amount of either such tax with respect to any payment to an employee of wages as defined in the Federal Insurance Contributions Act or corresponding provisions of prior law, or compensation as defined in the Railroad Retirement Tax Act or corresponding provisions of prior law, is reported on such return and paid to the district director, the employer shall adjust the underpayment *(a)* by reporting the additional amount due by reason of the underpayment as an adjustment on a return filed on or before the last day on which the return is required to be filed for the return period in which the error is ascertained, or *(b)* by reporting such additional amount on a supplemental return for the return period in which such payment of wages or compensation is made. The reporting of such underpayment on a supplemental return constitutes an adjustment within the meaning of this section only when the supplemental return is filed on or before the last day on which the return is required to be filed for the return period in which the error is ascertained. The amount of each underpayment adjusted in accordance with this subdivision shall be paid to the district director, without interest, at the time fixed for reporting the adjustment. If an adjustment is reported pursuant to this subdivision, but the amount thereof is not paid when due, interest thereafter accrues (see section 6601).

(ii) If a return is filed, and if no employee tax, no employer tax, or less than the correct amount of either such tax with respect to a payment to an employee of wages or compensation is reported on such return and paid to the district director, and such underpayment is not reported as an adjustment within the time prescribed by subdivision (i) of this subparagraph, the amount of such underpayment shall be *(a)* reported on the employer's next return, or *(b)* reported immediately on a supplemental return. For interest accruing on amounts so reported, see section 6601 and corresponding provisions of prior law.

(iii) If a return relating to tax under the Federal Insurance Contributions Act is filed although a return relating to tax under the Railroad Retirement Tax Act was required to be filed, or vice versa, and if the amount reported on the return filed and paid to the district director was less than the correct amount which should have been reported on the return required to be filed, the employer shall adjust the underpayment by reporting the additional amount due on an original return for the correct tax for the return period in which the payment of wages or compensation was made, accompanied by an explanation of the adjustment being reported. The reporting of such additional amount on an original return constitutes an adjustment within the meaning of this section only when the original return is filed on or before the last day on which the return for the correct tax is required to be filed for the return period in which the error is ascertained. The amount of each underpayment adjusted in accordance with this subdivision shall be paid to the district director, without interest, at the time fixed for reporting the adjustment. If an adjustment is reported pursuant to this subdivision, but the amount thereof is not paid when due, interest thereafter accrues (see section 6601).

(3) *Deductions from employees.* If an employer collects no employee tax or less than the correct amount of employee tax from an employee with respect to a payment of wages as defined in the Federal Insurance Contributions Act or corresponding provisions of prior law, or compensation as defined in the Railroad Retirement Tax Act or corresponding provisions of prior law, the employer shall collect the amount of the undercollection by deducting such amount from remuneration of the employee, if any, under his control after he ascertains the error. Such deductions may be made even though the remuneration, for any reason, does not constitute wages or compensation. The amount of an undercollection of employee tax from an employee shall be reported and paid, as provided in paragraph (b)(1) or (2) of this section, whether or not the undercollection is corrected by a deduction made as prescribed in the foregoing provisions of this subparagraph. If such a deduction

is not made, the obligation of the employee to the employer with respect to the undercollection is a matter for settlement between the employee and the employer. If any employer makes an erroneous collection of employee tax from two or more of his employees, a separate settlement must be made with respect to each employee. Thus, an overcollection of employee tax from one employee may not be used to offset an undercollection of such tax from another employee.

(c) *Income tax required to be withheld from wages*—(1) *Undercollection ascertained before return is filed.* If no income tax, or less than the correct amount of income tax, required under section 3402 to be withheld from wages is deducted from wages paid to an employee in any return period, and if the error is ascertained before the return is filed for the period in which such wages are paid, the employer shall nevertheless report on such return the correct amount of the tax required to be withheld. However, the reporting and payment by an employer of tax in accordance with this subparagraph do not constitute an adjustment.

(2) *Underpayment ascertained after return is filed.* (i) If a return is filed for a return period, and if no income tax, or less than the correct amount of income tax, required under section 3402 to be withheld from wages paid to an employee in such period, is reported on a return and paid to the district director, the employer shall *(a)* report the additional amount due by reason of the underpayment on a return for any return period in the calendar year in which the wages were paid, or *(b)* report such additional amount on a supplemental return for the return period in which such wages were paid. Such reporting constitutes an adjustment within the meaning of this section only if the return or supplemental return on which the underpayment is reported is filed on or before the last day on which the return is required to be filed for the return period in which the error was ascertained.

(ii) If a return is filed for a return period, and if no income tax, or less than the correct amount of income tax, required under section 3402 to be withheld from wages paid to an employee in such period is reported on such return and paid to the district director, and such underpayment is not reported as an adjustment within the time prescribed by paragraph (c)(2)(i) of this section, the amount of such underpayment shall be *(a)* reported on the employer's next return, if such next return is for any return period in the calendar year in which the wages were paid, or *(b)* reported immediately on a supplemental return.

(3) *Payment of amounts reported as undercollections or underpayments.* (i) For provisions relating to the employer's liability for an underpayment of tax unless he can show that the income tax against which the tax under section 3402 may be credited has been paid, see § 31.3402(d)–1.

(ii) Except as provided in § 31.3402 (d)–1, any amount reported as an adjustment within the meaning of this paragraph shall be paid to the district director, without interest, at the time fixed for reporting the adjustment.

(iii) For interest accruing on amounts which are not paid when due, see section 6601.

(4) *Deductions from employee.* If no income tax, or less than the correct amount of income tax, required under section 3402 to be withheld from wages is deducted from wages paid to an employee in a calendar year, the employer shall collect the amount of the undercollection on or before the last day of such year by deducting such amount from remuneration of the employee, if any, under his control. Such deductions may be made even though the remuneration, for any reason, does not constitute wages. Any undercollection in a calendar year not corrected by a deduction made pursuant to the foregoing provisions of this subparagraph is a matter for settlement between the employee and the employer within such calendar year. For provisions relating to the employer's liability for the tax, whether or not he collects it from the employee, see § 31.3403–1.

[T.D. 6516, 25 FR 13032, Dec. 20, 1960; 25 FR 14021, Dec. 31, 1960, as amended by T.D. 7783, 46 FR 37890, July 23, 1981]