Tax & Benefits February 21, 2012

## FBAR Filing Deadline Further Extended to June 30, 2013 for Certain Employees and Officers with Signature Authority over Foreign Financial Accounts

Generally, each U.S. person who has a financial interest in, or signature authority over, one or more foreign financial accounts during a calendar year is required to report those accounts to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) on U.S. Treasury Form <u>TD F 90-22.1</u>, "Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts" (FBAR). The deadline to file an FBAR for a calendar year is June 30 of the succeeding calendar year, and no filing extension is available.

On February 14, 2012, the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) issued Notice 2012-1, extending the FBAR filing deadline until June 30, 2013 for two groups of individuals: (1) very generally, certain employees and officers who are part of a controlled group of a specified federally regulated financial entity or publicly traded company (specifically, an entity listed in 31 CFR § 1010.350(f)(2)(i)-(v)) and have signature authority over, but no financial interest in, foreign financial accounts of the entities within the controlled group, and (2) employees and officers of investment advisers registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission who have signature authority over, but no financial interest in, foreign financial accounts of one or more persons that are not registered investment companies. The FBAR filing deadlines for these two groups of individuals had previously been extended until June 30, 2012 under Notice 2011-1 and Notice 2011-2 (2011 Notices), respectively.

The extension to June 30, 2013 for these individuals is applicable to FBARs for calendar year 2011, as well as to FBARs for all years previously extended under the 2011 Notices. FinCEN has given these individuals a further extension because of additional questions and concerns raised with respect to the exceptions addressed in the 2011 Notices. The filing deadline for all other U.S. persons with an FBAR filing obligation remains unchanged.

To read more about the earlier FBAR filing extensions under the 2011 Notices, see our prior Alerts from June 16, 2011 and June 17, 2011.

If you would like to discuss Notice 2012-1 or other issues concerning FBAR filings, please contact your usual Ropes & Gray lawyer.

**Circular 230 Disclosure**: To ensure compliance with Treasury Department regulations, we inform you that any U.S. tax advice contained in this communication (including any attachments) was not intended or written to be used, and cannot be used, for the purpose of avoiding U.S. tax-related penalties or promoting, marketing or recommending to another party any tax-related matters addressed herein.