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## Filing Extensions to July 15<sup>th</sup> for Approaching Form 5500 and PBGC Deadlines

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A pair of government releases provides Form 5500 filing deadline relief for employee benefit plans, and PBGC filing relief for pension plans.

On April 9<sup>th</sup>, the IRS released [Notice 2020-23](#), in which the Secretary of the Treasury determined that any person required to perform a time-sensitive action between April 1, 2020 and July 15, 2020 is affected by the Coronavirus/COVID-19 emergency. That includes filing a Form 5500 for an employee benefit plan, among other things. Any filing that is due on or after April 1, 2020, and before July 15, 2020, is automatically postponed to July 15, 2020. This is true for original filing deadlines and those obtained via a previous filing for extension. It is also automatic, so there is no need to contact the IRS or file any extension forms.

On April 10<sup>th</sup>, in [Press Release Number 20-02](#), the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) announced it is offering flexibility to pension plan sponsors in response to the Coronavirus/COVID-19 outbreak. Any deadlines for upcoming premium payments, and for other filings that originally fell on or after April 1, and before July 15, 2020, have been extended to July 15, 2020. So this includes regular premium filings as well as 4010 filings, but there are exceptions for filings that the PBGC requires related to tracking possible high risk of harm to participants or the PBGC's insurance program. Some examples of exceptions are notification of large missed contributions through Form 200 and advanced notice of reportable events through Form 10-Advance. For a list of filings not covered by disaster relief announcements, see the PBGC's [Exceptions List](#).

These two releases provide welcome news for benefit plan sponsors with original deadlines approaching very quickly. However, it does not address deadlines for sponsors of plans with calendar year measurement periods. As more unfolds about how and when the stay-at-home requirements begin to be lifted, we may see additional deadline relief from the IRS and PBGC. Findley will continue to monitor these events and keep you updated.

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