

Preface

The Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Quarterly Bulletin is the authoritative instrument of the Bureau for announcing official rulings and procedures, and for publishing Treasury decisions, legislation, administrative matters, and other items of general interest. It incorporates into one publication matters of the Bureau, which are of public record.

The Bureau publishes rulings and procedures to promote uniform application of the laws and regulations it administers. Rulings interpret the requirements of laws and regulations and apply retroactively unless otherwise indicated. Procedures, however, establish methods for performing operations to comply with such laws and regulations.

Rulings and procedures reported in the Bulletin do not have the force and effect of Treasury Department regulations, but they may be used as precedents. In applying published rulings and procedures, the effect of subsequent legislation, regulations, court decisions, rulings, and procedures must be considered. Concerned parties are cautioned against reaching the same conclusions in other cases unless the facts and circumstances are substantially the same.