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NOTICE TO UCC FILERS

TO: UCC Filers

FROM: Bill Thompson,
Assistant Secretary of State

SUBJECT: Social Security Numbers and UCC Financing Statements

DATE: July 18, 2006

Many financial institutions and other filers have customarily included Social Security numbers (SSN's) as an additional identifier on UCC Financing Statements and other documents filed in the public records. While the Secretary of State's Office has discouraged this practice since 2002, some filers continue to include SSN's. It is now necessary that we take stronger action to prevent Social Security numbers from being included in UCC Filings where they are not required by law. This memorandum is to notify you of a change in our rules that will require that SSN's be excluded from your UCC Financing Statements.

Effective on August 1, 2006, UCC Financing Statements that contain Social Security numbers will be rejected. This change will apply to all UCC Financing Statements except those filed under the Foods Security Act covering crops and livestock on UCC Forms 1F and 1FAD. In addition, the Secretary of State's Office will immediately begin to redact SSN's from UCC filings currently in process in our office. You will begin to see acknowledgments with the Social Security numbers deleted.

Out of an abundance of caution, we have found it necessary to close down public access to the UCC images database as some of the images contain Social Security numbers which could potentially be misused. We apologize for the inconvenience this has caused our filers and other users of the database. We assure you we are working on solutions to provide you with the access you need to this data while at the same time protecting the Social Security numbers of individual debtors from potential misuse.

If you have any questions or comments, you may reach me at (601) 359-1626 or Customer Service at (601) 359-1633 and (800)-256-3494.

~~**209 Use of Social Security Numbers on Filing Forms**~~

~~**209.1** Other than the filings intended to comply with the Food Security Act filed pursuant to Rule 604, Social Security numbers are not a filing requirement in Mississippi. This may be a requirement in other jurisdictions, and thus is included as a field on the national form. The filing office does not have capabilities to enter or search by Social Security number and filers are advised **NOT** to use this field. The use of Mississippi forms UCC1 and UCC3 are encouraged to prevent accidental dissemination of confidential information.~~

~~**209.2** In order to protect confidential information not needed for an effective financing statement, the Mississippi Secretary of State may, as technology permits, redact Social Security information provided by the filer on a National UCC financing statement and related filings.~~

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209.2 In order to protect confidential information not needed for an effective financing statement, the Mississippi Secretary of State shall, as technology permits, redact Social Security numbers provided by the filer on all UCC financing statements other than those filings made pursuant to Rule 604.