

# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> St., S.W. washington, D.C. 20554

News Media Information 202 / 418-0500 Fax-On-Demand 202 / 418-2830 TTY 202 / 418-2555 Internet: http://www.fcc.gov

# THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU ADOPTS MANDATORY USE OF FCC REGISTRATION NUMBERS FOR ELECTRONIC FILINGS October 12, 2001

#### INTRODUCTION

On November 13, 2001, the International Bureau will begin requiring all parties doing business with the Bureau via the International Bureau Filing System, IBFS, to obtain a unique identifying number called an FCC Registration Number (FRN). Parties include individuals and organizations that are applicants, licensees and parties filing on their behalf. An FRN is not required for filing of comments or petitions. For more information on filings requiring an FRN, please visit the FCC CORES Web Site at <a href="http://gullfoss2.fcc.gov/cores/CoresHome.html">http://gullfoss2.fcc.gov/cores/CoresHome.html</a>.

FRNs are unique 10-digit entity identification numbers that can be obtained from the FCC's Commission Registration System (CORES) through the electronic and manual means described below in the section entitled, "HOW TO OBTAIN AN FRN."

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#### PUBLIC TRAINING DATES, TIMES AND LOCATIONS

To assist IBFS customers on the use of FRNs in IBFS, the Bureau will host several training sessions over the next few weeks. The public is invited to attend these sessions at the FCC Headquarters facility located at 445 12<sup>th</sup> St., SW., Washington, DC 20554. The training dates, times, and locations are as follows:

DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
October 26, 2001	9 a.m 12 p.m.	FCC, 445 12 <sup>th</sup> St., SW
		Washington, DC 20554
		Room TWA-722
October 29, 2001	9 a.m 12 p.m.	Same as Above
November 2, 2001	9 a.m 12 p.m.	Same as Above

#### **HOW TO REGISTER FOR PUBLIC TRAINING**

Because of space limitations, each training session is limited to 30 individuals. Therefore, registration is required. Please call the IBFS Help Line on 202-418-2222 or email us at <a href="mailto:IBFSINFO@fcc.gov">IBFSINFO@fcc.gov</a> by *October 22*, *2001* to register for the session that best suits your schedule.

#### WHERE TO DIRECT QUESTIONS

Questions about the information contained in this Public Notice should be directed to the IBFS Help Line, which can be accessed by calling 202-418-2222, or by e-mailing IBFSINFO@fcc.gov..

### **HOW TO OBTAIN AN FRN**

- 1. Electronic Means Internet
  - CORES Home Page IB customers with Internet access can log directly into the CORES Web Site at <a href="https://gullfoss2.fcc.gov/cores/CoresHome.html">https://gullfoss2.fcc.gov/cores/CoresHome.html</a> and obtain an FRN.
  - IBFS Home Page After November 13, 2001, IB customers with Internet access can log into IBFS, the International Bureau's electronic filing system at <a href="www.fcc.gov/ibfs">www.fcc.gov/ibfs</a> and acquire an FRN through a seamless interface with CORES.
  - FCC Forms Page IB customers with Internet access can also log into the FCC Forms page at <a href="http://www.fcc.gov/formpage.html">http://www.fcc.gov/formpage.html</a> to print out Form 160, CORES REGISTRATION FORM. This form can be completed and mailed back to the Commission at 445 12<sup>th</sup> St., SW, Room CY-C140, Washington, DC 20024. An FRN will be mailed to the requester.

#### 2. Manual Means - Mail & Fax

 $\bullet \quad \textit{Mail} \cdot \text{IB customers can acquire an FRN by mail simply by calling the}$ 

CORES Help-Line toll-free at 1-877-480-3201 and requesting FCC Form 160. A completed Form 160 can be mailed back to the Commission at 445 12<sup>th</sup> St., SW, Room CY-C140, Washington, DC 20024. An FRN will be mailed to the requestor. Or a completed Form 160 can be mailed along with the proper fee and application to Mellon Bank. An FRN will be mailed to the requester.

• Fax - IB customers can acquire an FRN by fax by calling the

CORES Help Line toll-free at 1-877-480-3201 and requesting that FCC Form FCC 160 be faxed to them. Completed forms can be faxed back to the Commission at 202-418-7869. An FRN will be faxed to the requestor.

#### FRN INFORMATION STORED IN CORES

Users obtaining an FRN will be required to submit and keep current the following information in CORES:

- Entity name
- Entity type
- TIN (will not be publicly available)
- Contact address
- Other optional information such as telephone number and email address
- Foreign entities, entities that have applied for but have not received a TIN, and entities exempt from having a TIN by the IRS, can still receive an FRN
- FRN Password

#### FRN INFORMATION STORED IN IBFS

Regardless of whether a customer files an application electronically through IBFS, or by paper, only the IB applicant's FRN number and address information will be stored in IBFS. Password and TIN information will not be stored in IBFS.

## **OBTAINING AND USING FRNs IN IBFS**

Attached are step-by-step instructions for obtaining and using FRNs in IBFS.

#### **ATTACHMENT**

# STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS FOR OBTAINING AND USING FRNs IN IBFS ON OR AFTER NOVEMBER 12, 2001

- 1. Register in CORES
  - IB customers should log into IBFS using their standard IBFS Account IDs and Passwords and press the Login button, as shown in Exhibit 1.1 below.



Exhibit 1.1

• IB Customers will scroll down and click on the application they wish to select. Several of the applications available for filing are shown in Exhibit 1.2.

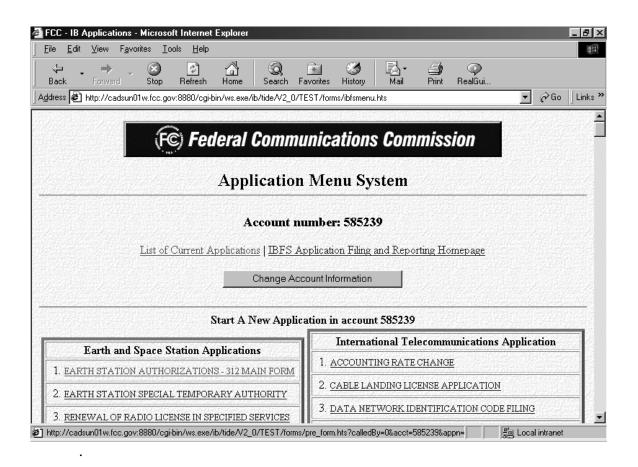


Exhibit 1.2

• IB Customers are presented with a new screen, which offers them the opportunity to register for an <u>Applicant's FRN</u> in CORES as shown on Exhibit 1.3. To take advantage of this opportunity, click on the <u>Register in CORES</u> link, if you have not already done so.

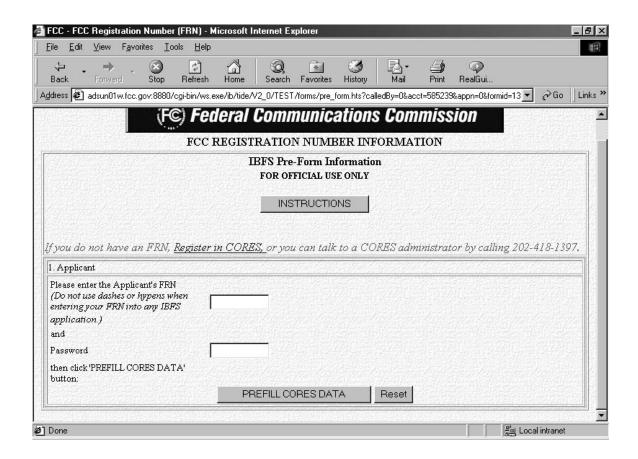


Exhibit 1.3

• IB Customers will be transferred temporarily to the <u>COmmission REgistration System</u> (CORES) where they will enter the requested information. See Exhibit 1.4.

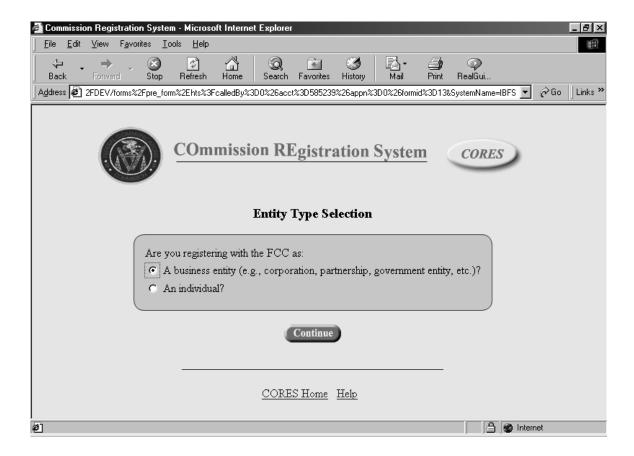


Exhibit 1.4

Once IB customers complete and submit the information in CORES, an FRN number
and password are generated. (It is suggested that this page be printed and saved for
future reference.) The customer can return to IBFS to complete the application filing
process by clicking on the link which states, "To return to IBFS, please click here."
See Exhibit 1.5 below.

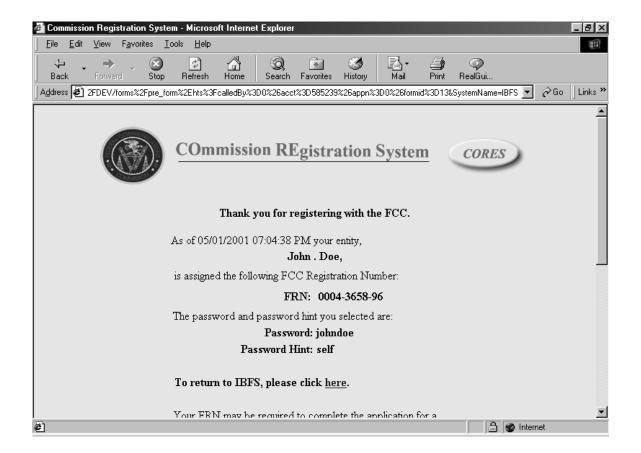


Exhibit 1.5

• IB customers will be returned to IBFS, where the new <u>Applicant FRN</u> number is automatically prefilled. Enter the associated password in the appropriate box. Click on the "PREFILL CORES DATA" button as shown in Exhibit 1.6.

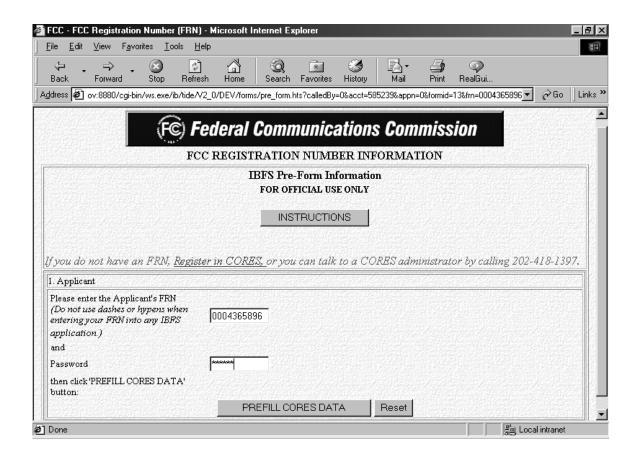


Exhibit 1.6

• The application previously selected will appear with Applicant information prefilled at the top of the form. See Exhibit 1.7. You will have to manually fill in the Applicant Name box. Complete and submit the application as usual.

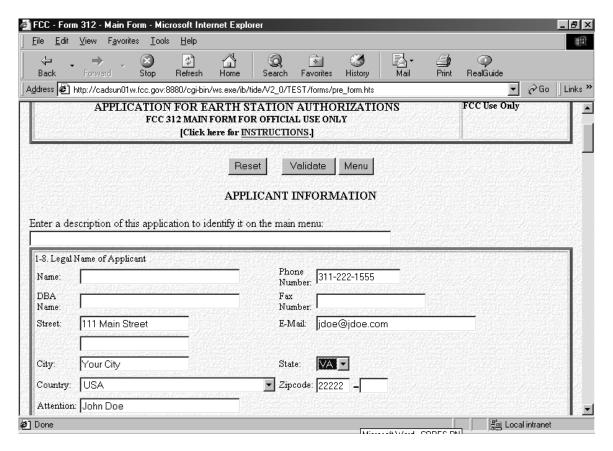


Exhibit 1.7

#### 2. Copy a Form

IBFS has always permitted filers to copy a previously saved/validated or submitted application to reduce the amount of time it takes to complete similar applications. IBFS continues to support this important functionality, while simultaneously enforcing mandatory FRN use. Instructions for copying a form with the new mandatory FRN functionality follow.

• From the IBFS Application Menu System screen, scroll down to the application form to be copied. Click the select box to the left of the desired form and then press the Copy a Form button. See Exhibit 2.1 below.

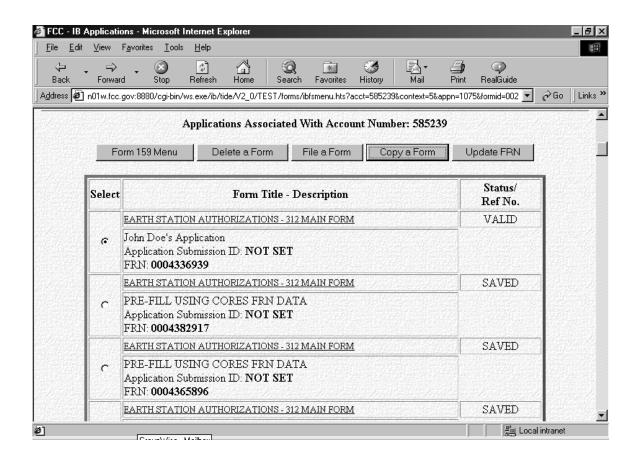


Exhibit 2.1

• IB customers are presented with the IBFS Pre-Form Information screen. Enter the FRN and password of the Applicant for which the form is being prepared and press the PREFILL CORES DATA button. See Exhibit 2.2 below.

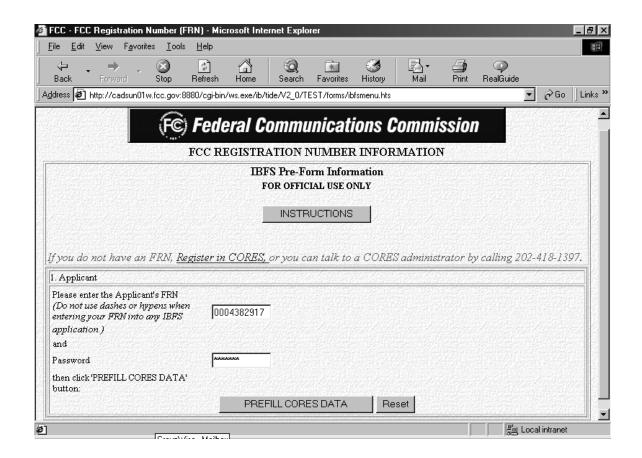


Exhibit 2.2

• The IBFS Application Menu Screen will reappear. Scroll down to see that a copy of the form has been created. Click on the copy to make any changes needed to the form and proceed as usual. See Exhibit 2.3.

Note: Although the FRN in the example is the same for both the original and copied forms, filers can input different, valid Applicant FRNs and passwords as needed to associate the correct CORES information with the form to be copied and submitted.



Exhibit 2.3

• The copied form will appear. Applicant information, associated with the entered FRN, is prefilled at the top of the form. See Exhibit 2.4. Complete and submit the application as usual.

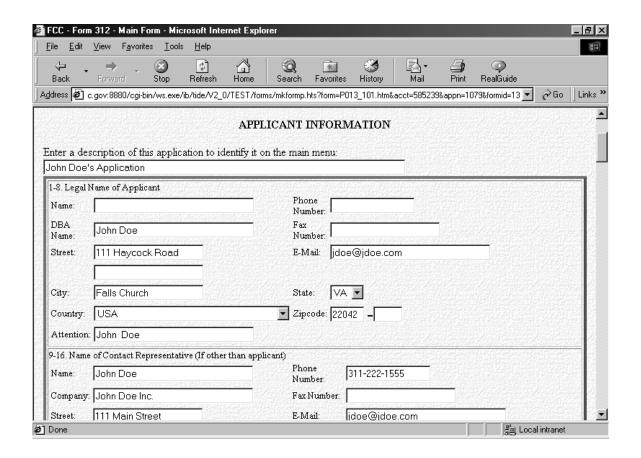


Exhibit 2.4

#### 3. Update FRN

Upon occasion, filers may inadvertently use the wrong FRN and password when filling out an application. If this occurs, IB customers can change the FRN associated with an application **up until the time it is filed.** Following are instructions for updating an FRN.

• On the IBFS Application Menu Screen page, scroll down and select the application form for which a different, valid FRN is needed. Check the box to the left of the form and then press the Update FRN button. See Exhibit 3.1.

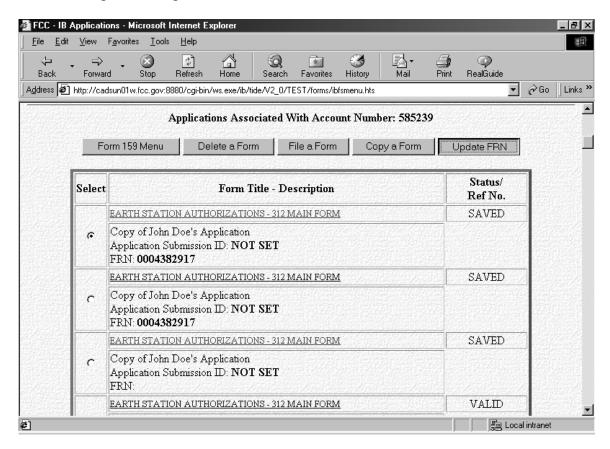


Exhibit 3.1

• IB customers are presented with the IBFS Pre-Form Information screen. Enter the correct FRN and password of the Applicant for which the form is being prepared and press the PREFILL CORES DATA button. See Exhibit 3.2 below.

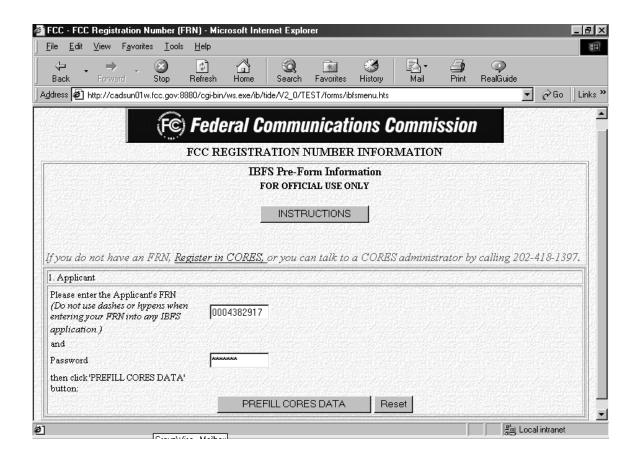


Exhibit 3.2

• The IBFS Application Menu Screen will reappear. Scroll down to see that a copy of the form has been created, showing the <u>updated</u> FRN. Click on the copy to make any changes needed to the form and proceed as usual. See Exhibit 3.3.



Exhibit 3.3

## **HOW DOES THE ELECTRONIC REMITTANCE FORM 159 HANDLE** THE FRN

Customers are encouraged to submit an electronic remittance Form 159 upon saving/validating an application in IBFS. Instructions for doing so follow.

• On the IBFS Application Menu Screen page, press the Form 159 Menu button. See Exhibit 5.1 below.

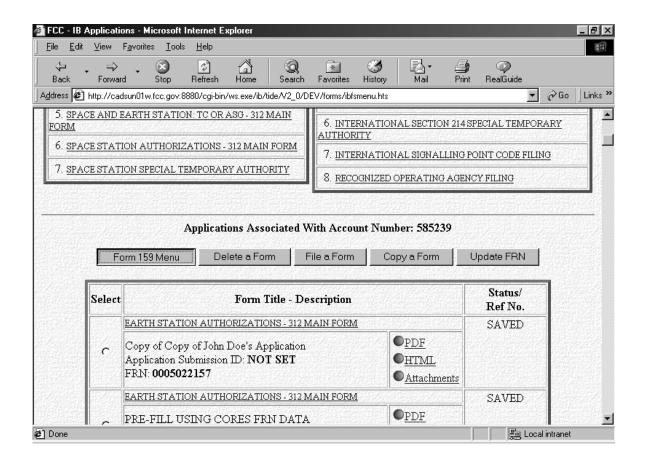


Exhibit 5.1

• The screen shown in Exhibit 5.2 below appears. Enter the Applicant's and Payor's TIN, if other than Applicant, and check the box(es) next to the left of the application(s) for which payment is to be made. Press the Continue button.

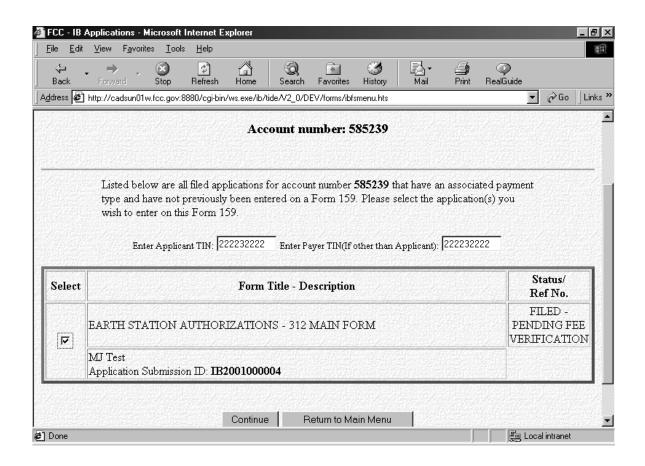


Exhibit 5.2

• The IB customer will be presented with the Electronic Form 159 screen shown in Exhibit 5.3. Insert the **Payor's** FRN and password and press the Continue button.

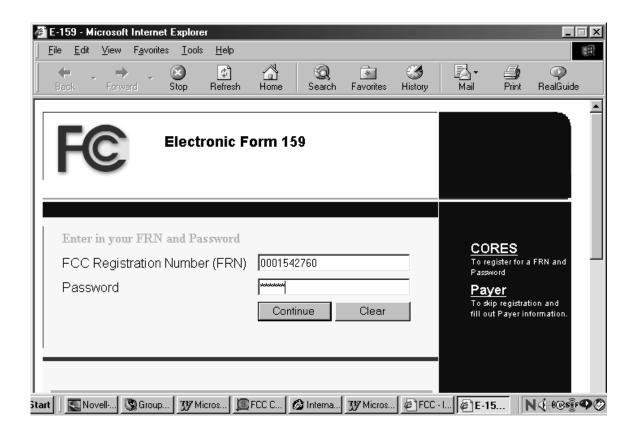


Exhibit 5.3

• The Payment Summary page displays. Press the View 159 button. Please note on Exhibit 5.4 that the Payor's FRN and TIN are automatically inserted into boxes 11 and 12, respectively. The Applicant's FRN and TIN are inserted into boxes 21 and 22, respectively. The application submission ID is also inserted automatically in box 29A.

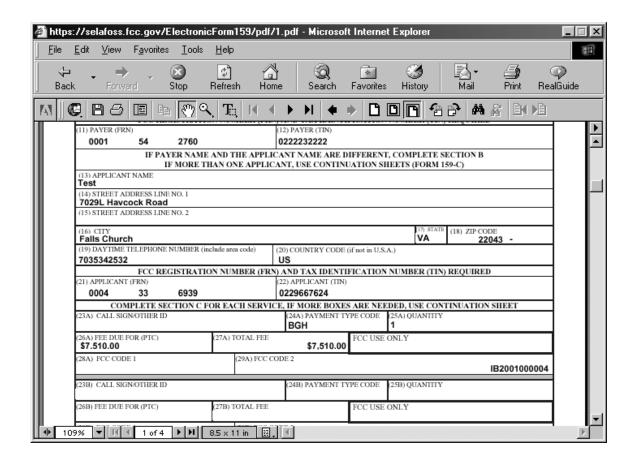


Exhibit 5.4

• If the Form 159 appears correct, IB customers can use one of two methods to make payment; electronically or through the U.S. Mail. **Electronic payment is the preferred and faster method.** 

For IB customers who pay *electronically*, press the Back button on the menu bar at the top of the page. This will take you back to the Payment Summary Page. Press the Pay Now button and proceed to complete the payment process as usual.

For IB customers, who prefer to *mail* the remittance form and their payments, print out the completed Form 159 by pressing the printer icon on the menu bar at the top of the page and mail it together with the payment check to Mellon Bank.

#### **HOW DOES THE PAPER FORM 159 HANDLE THE FRN**

IB customers who chose to complete a paper Form 159 from scratch are advised to complete all applicable boxes, **including boxes 11, 12, 21, 22, and 29A**. This information is necessary for the complete and accurate filing and association of fee payments and IBFS applications.