# **Record Retention Guide for Business**

## **ACCOUNTING RECORDS**

Accounts Payable Ledger 7 years Accounts Receivable Aging Reports 7 years Accounts Receivable Invoices 7 years Accounts Receivable Ledger 7 years Accounts Written-off 7 years Authorization - Accounting 5 years **Balance Sheets** Permanently **Bank Deposit Slips** 3 years **Bank Reconciliations** 7 years **Bank Statements** 7 years **Budgets** 3 years **Canceled Checks** 10 years Cancelled Dividend Checks Permanently Cash Book Permanently Cash Disbursement & Receipt Record Permanently Cash Sales Slips 7 years **Charge Slips** 7 years **Charts of Accounts** Permanently Check Register Permanently **Depreciation Schedule** Permanently **Expense Reports** 7 years **Financial Statements** Permanently General Ledger Permanently **Inventory Records** 7 years Investment - Sales/Purchases Permanently **Journal Entries** Permanently **Petty Cash Records** 7 years Profit/Loss Statements Permanently **Purchase Order** 7 years Subsidiary Ledger Permanently **Trial Balance** Permanently Vendor Invoices 7 years

# PAYROLL AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Accident Reports - Settled 7 years
Attendance Records 7 years
Checks - Payroll 7 years
Commission Reports - Salesperson 6 years

Contractors Payments 3 years from date

of completion of

contract

Dental Benefits 5 years

Disability Benefits - After Expiration/Settlement 7 years **Employee Medical History** 7 years 3 years **Employee Tip Substantiation Employee Withholding Exemption Certificates** 10 years **Employment Application - Not Hired** 3 years Family & Medical Leave 3 years Garnishments 5 years Large Food or Beverage Establishment Reporting Tips 3 years Life Insurance Benefits 5 years **Medical Benefits** 7 years Payroll Records - After Termination 10 years Payroll Register 4 years Pension Plan Agreement Permanently Performance Record - After Termination 7 years Personnel File - After Termination 7 years Personnel Files - Current Employees Permanently **Profit Sharing Agreement** Permanently Safety Reports 5 years Salary History 8 years Sick Pay 4 years Time Reports 7 years Vacation Files 4 years Vacation/Sick Pay 4 years W-2 Forms Permanently Workers' Compensation Benefits 10 years

### TAX RECORDS

Canceled Checks - Tax Payments Permanently Correspondence - Tax Permanently **Depreciation Schedules** Permanently Income Tax Returns Permanently **Inventory Reports** Permanently FUTA/FICA/Income Tax Withholding 4 years **Payroll Tax Returns** Permanently **Revenue Agent Reports** Permanently Sales Tax Returns Permanently **NOL Company AMT NOL Company Transfer Pricing** 4 years

#### **INSURANCE**

Automobile Insurance Claims	10 years
Disability Insurance Claims - After Termination	7 years
Expired Insurance Policies	10 years
Fire Inspection Reports	6 years

Insurance Appraisals	6 years
Safety Records	6 years
Foreign Insurance Policies	3 years

# LEGAL

Bill of Sale Business Permits Claims and Litigation Concerning Torts and Breach of Contract	Permanently Permanently Permanently
Contracts - Employees	Permanently
Contracts - Government	Permanently
Contracts - Labor Union	Permanently
Contracts - Special	Permanently
Copyrights	Permanently
Correspondence - Legal	Permanently
Deeds/Titles	Permanently
Leases/Canceled	10 years
Licenses	Permanently
Mortgages	Permanently
Notes Receivable - Canceled	10 years
Patents	Permanently
Stock and Bond Record	Permanently
Trademarks - Registered	Permanently
Bill of Sale	Permanently
Business Permits	Permanently
Claims and Litigation Concerning Torts and Breach of	Permanently
Contract	
Contracts - Employees	Permanently
Contracts - Government	Permanently
Contracts - Labor Union	Permanently
Contracts - Special	Permanently
Copyrights	Permanently
Correspondence - Legal	Permanently
Deeds/Titles	Permanently
Leases/Canceled	10 years
Licenses	Permanently
Mortgages	Permanently
Notes Receivable - Canceled	10 years
Patents	Permanently
Stock and Bond Record	Permanently
Trademarks - Registered	Permanently