

Media Releases 2007

More help with completing your return

PRETORIA -- Well-known television education presenter, Mr. William Smith, has been contracted by SARS to present two 30 minute television programmes that can assist taxpayers with completing individual income tax returns.

The programmes will be broadcast every Sunday from 7am to 7.30am. The two episodes will be re-broadcast during the month of October.

During the programme, Smith, who introduced television education and made tutoring in subjects like science and mathematics accessible and understandable to millions of learners, shows taxpayers how to complete the IT12S income tax return step-by-step. The IT12S return is one of two new, shortened and simplified income tax returns for individuals.

The two-page return is complete by the majority of taxpayers with a basic salary and allowances such as travel, medical and pension.

Smith also explains briefly how to submit your return electronically using the free, secure internet facility, SARS eFiling.

The programme will also alert taxpayers on the most common mistakes made which lead to undue delays and which can be easily be avoided. Some important steps taxpayers should pay attention to, and which Smith highlights include:

- Ensure that your banking details are correct. If SARS do not have your banking details you must provide these as refunds will only be paid into a valid bank account as from this year
- To indicate interest income earned, taxpayers must add all the amounts from the IT3(b) certificate they receive from banks or financial institutions and fill in a single amount on the form. Do not fill in the cents of the amount. Round off the amount to the nearest Rand
- IRP5/IT3a information in the section marked "SITE & PAYE PAID" – If you have more than 3 IRP5 documents you need a different income tax return
- Travel allowances: calculate and capture the BUSINESS kilometers traveled before submission even if you are using the DEEMED method of claiming.

The deadline for the submission of income tax returns is 31 October 2007.

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