

## What “version” of information is ultimately produced when requested by counsel?

Getting opposing counsel to produce information is often a daunting process that results in less information than requested and too frequently inaccurate facts and figures. Compound this issue with determining what 'version' is produced and what you have is a major issue.

Consider copies of tax returns produced. TurboTax and similar products make it easy to create 'versions' of the same return for different purposes. I have experienced up to four versions of the same tax return for different uses. One version was a complete return, one was filed with the IRS, a third accompanied a mortgage application, and the fourth accompanied a financial aid application.

This problem exists time and again with financial reports produced using QuickBooks, where data can be easily deleted or changed.

In a recent matrimonial case, I found four versions of the spouse's resume - each with different dates, degrees and information.

It is critical to validate any produced records to ensure you have the correct 'version'. For tax returns, obtain transcripts from the IRS. For QuickBooks, verify the activity with the monthly bank statements. As for resumes, well... be creative in validating the information.

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