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Donald Trump Franchise Adds IRS Apprentice---You're Fired IRS!

It's hard to miss the string of IRS video hits to surface over the past year. You don't even have to read, just watch them. After the stink over [IRS Tax Dollars Spent Making Star Trek Video](#), then there was [Step Up IRS? IRS Dance Video Even Worse Than Star Trek](#). Sure, they are clunky, but it's the price tag that most annoyed Congress and the public.

Now it's Donald Trump's turn with a not very convincing dark-toupee donning Trump type repeating his favorite, "You're fired!" This film effort also won't win any awards, and at \$10,000, did earn criticism. Still, \$10,000 for a poor Trump Apprentice parody seems so much better than the \$60,000 for the "Star Trek" and "Gilligan's Island" movies, you have to say the IRS is practically svelte now.



(Photo credit: Wikipedia)

Of course, the IRS was quick to point out that even the Trump movie was old, a product of a different era. IRS Apprentice would never have been made today, the IRS said. The beleaguered tax agency said the line dancing was a team building exercise, but the Trump film is more about leadership. The IRS probably needs both after scandals forced out one IRS Chief and caused the Head of its Exempt Organization Division to take the Fifth. See [IRS Takes The Fifth, But You Can't](#).

IRS Dance Party cost about \$1,600, and was made for a 2010 training and leadership conference in Anaheim. By comparison, the Trekkie movie was more like a David Cameron picture. It, together with its Gilligan's Island double feature, cost taxpayers around \$60,000. Still, silly videos and conference expenses are an embarrassment.

In fact, the watchdog Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration ([TIGTA](#)) gave Dance Party a thumbs-down. In addition to the [Star Trek](#), Gilligan's Island and [line dancing videos](#), the IRS had a corporate card problem. Having a credit or purchase card can be a nice perk of employment. The [Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration](#) uncovered a loose credit card program at the IRS with some embarrassing expenditures. See [Audit Finds \\$119 of Unused Nerf Footballs in IRS Cabinet](#).

His [report](#) says The Purchase Card Program lacks consistent oversight to identify and address inappropriate use. See [IRS Using Tax Dollars For Porn, Wine, \\$100 Lunches?](#) There's little suggestion the Apprentice parody is generating more than a yawn. After all, this is just one more relatively small issue. What we should be asking is here: [6 Questions Everyone Should Ask The IRS](#).

You can reach me at Wood@WoodLLP.com. This discussion is not intended as legal advice, and cannot be relied upon for any purpose without the services of a qualified professional.