

Rhode Island Department of Revenue Division of Taxation

Presentation to RI Bar Association

March 3, 2023

Presenters

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Agenda

- About Us: Division of Taxation
- Resources
- Hearings/Administrative Adjudication
- Best Practices:
 - Non-Resident Real Estate Withholding
 - Letters of Good Standing
 - Estate Tax
 - Real Estate Conveyance Tax
 - Sales Tax Exempt Organizations-Certificates of Exemption
- Questions
- Closing remarks



About Us

The Division of Taxation: One of six agencies in the Department of Revenue

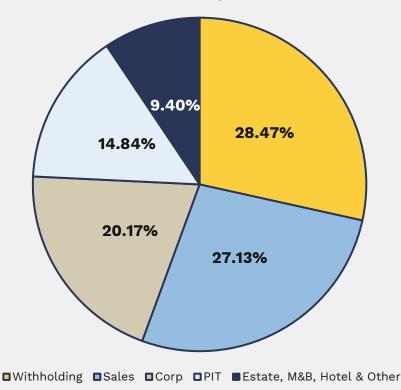
- The Rhode Island Division of Taxation employs **223 tax professionals**, administering more than **59 different taxes and fees**.
- Taxes represent **the most significant source of General Fund revenue** for Rhode Island funds used to help pay for vital services including public safety, education, transportation, and recreation for all Rhode Islanders.
- Each year, the Division **collects and distributes more than \$5 billion** in funds to the State, municipalities, and other agencies (as of FY 22).

Our Mission

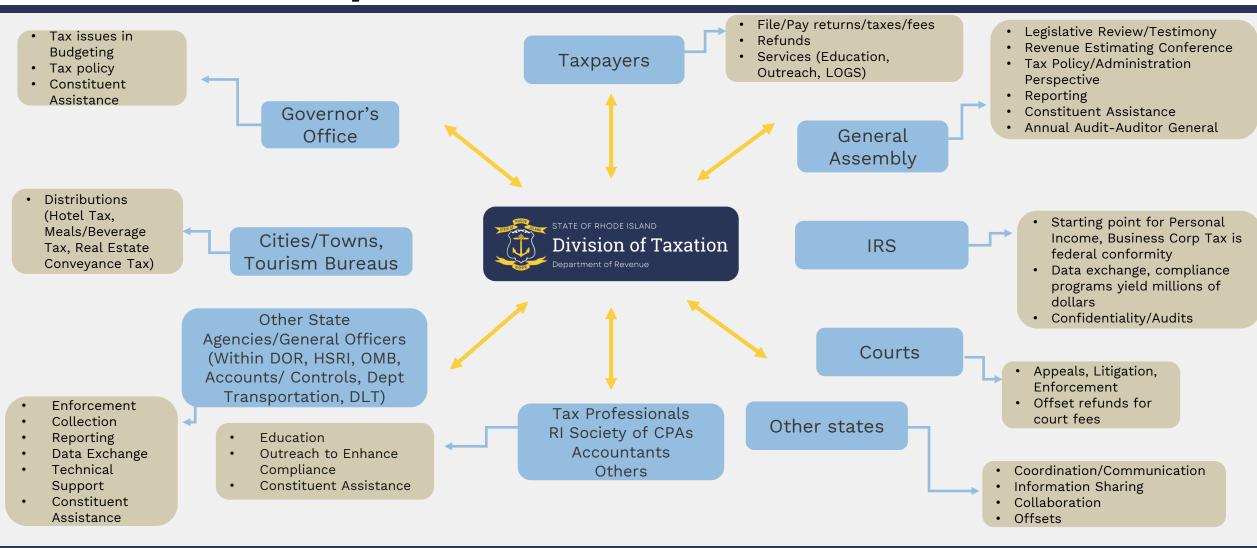
- To foster voluntary compliance with the Rhode Island tax laws and instill public confidence through professional, impartial and ethical conduct.
- To administer and collect all taxes as required by Rhode Island law in the most efficient and cost-effective manner.
- To assist taxpayers by helping them understand and meet their tax responsibilities.

Total State Tax Revenue Collected by the Division of Taxation for Fiscal Year 2022 (\$, In Millions)

FY22 Receipts: \$5B

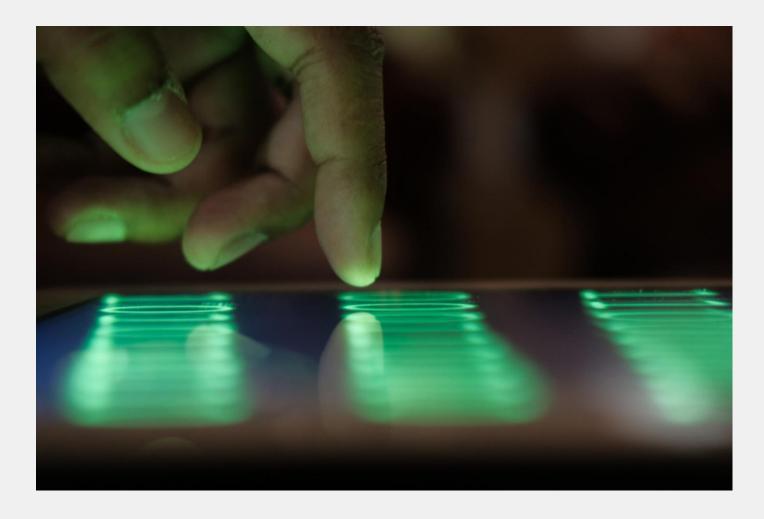


About Us: Key Stakeholders/Interactions



Fraud Trends

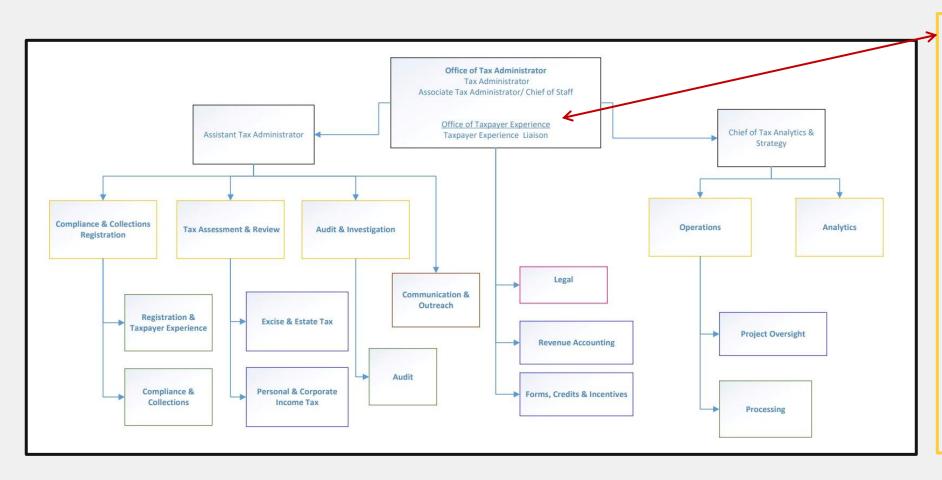
- IRS/States/Tax Software
 Industry collaborating on fraud detection and prevention and monitoring data/trends through the IDTTRF-ISAC and the Security Summit.
- How Do You Report Suspected
 Tax Fraud Activity? | Internal
 Revenue Service (irs.gov)
- <u>Dirty Dozen | Internal Revenue</u> <u>Service (irs.gov)</u>
- Criminals are becoming more creative, with better technology, and means to perpetrate fraud.



How to Mitigate Fraud

- Consistently update software and operating systems with latest patches—outdated applications and operating systems are the most targeted vulnerabilities for ransomware.
- Train your staff about phishing, cyber security and to look carefully at emails before responding. Check and double check.
- Multifactor Authentication/Strong Passwords.
- Back up data on a regular basis; maintain it on a separate device and store it offline.
- Implement a disaster recovery plan.
- Check the Taxpayer Portal: RI Taxpayer Portal.
- <u>How Do You Report Suspected Tax Fraud Activity? | Internal Revenue Service (irs.gov)</u>.
- Reach out to the RI Division of Taxation: <u>Contact Us | RI</u> Division of Taxation

Taxpayer Experience Office/Team

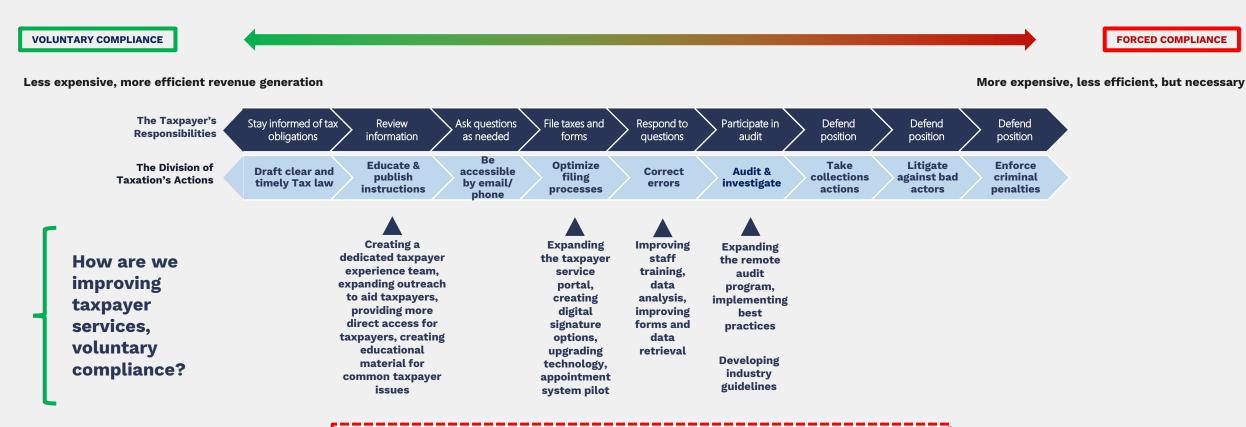


Taxpayer Experience Office Team

- Tax Administrator
- Asst Tax Administrator
- External Facing: Taxpayer Experience Liaison
- Internal Taxpayer
 Experience Team
 (With Initial Focus on Collections/Compliance)
- Continue Improvements
 Across Agency at all
 Taxpayer Contact Points

Division of Taxation: Mission

The Tax Administration Efficiency Continuum



Taxpayer Experience Office/Team



Resources

Division of Taxation website: https://tax.ri.gov

Rhode Island General Laws: (Primarily Title 44):

webserver.rilegislature.gov//Statutes/TITLE44/INDEX.HTM

Regulations:

https://tax.ri.gov/guidance/regulations

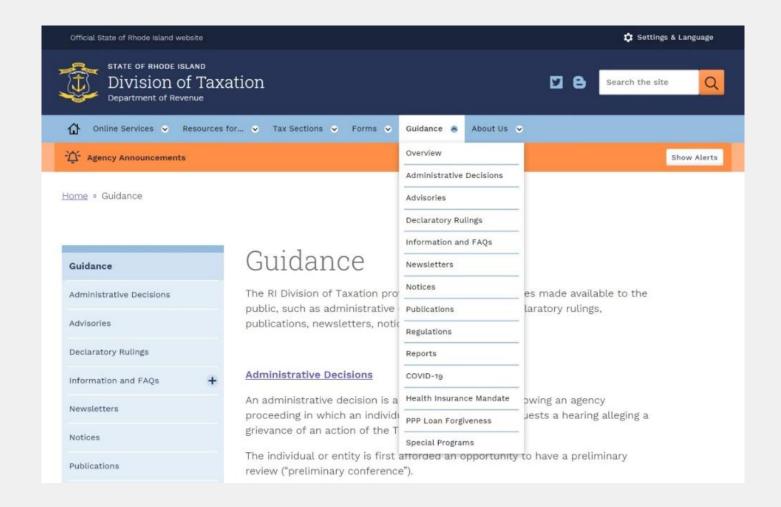
• Declaratory Rulings:

https://tax.ri.gov/guidance/declaratory-rulings

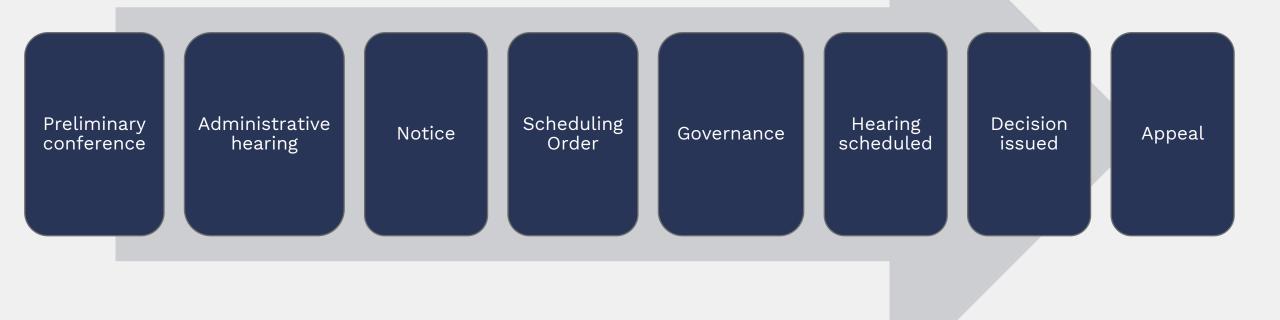
Administrative Decisions:

https://tax.ri.gov/guidance/administrative-decisions

Resources



- R.I. Gen. Laws 44-1-32
 - The general hearing request statute
 - Various tax types have their own hearing request statutes
 - This is the applicable statute if hearings are not specifically provided for in other chapters





• The initial stage is an informal conference in the nature of a settlement conference proceeding under Preliminary conference Rule 408. • If the matter cannot be resolved at preliminary conference, it will be forwarded for full administrative Administrative hearing hearing. The Division's Legal team represents the Division. • The Division will issue a hearing notice for a pre-hearing conference. Notice · At the conference, the independent hearing officer will be introduced, and early resolution options will be explored. · If there is no resolution, the parties will either enter a scheduling order to engage in discovery and Scheduling Order motion practice or discuss the potential to agree to stipulated facts and briefing. Superior Court rules govern administrative hearings in the absence of specific rules under Taxation's Governance and DOA's hearing regulations. · If a hearing is necessary, the hearing will be scheduled with the Hearing Officer and proceed in Hearing scheduled accordance with the rules. The Hearing Officer will issue a decision either based on the hearing or briefing (if agreed). Decision issued The Tax Administrator has 30 days to adopt, reject, or modify the decision. Once the Tax Administrator acts, the taxpayer may appeal to District Court within 30 days. Appeal The administrative appeal is docketed and it is a de novo proceeding.



- Request for Hearing Procedure
 - Administrative Hearing Procedures (280-RICR-20-00-2)
 - Taxpayer must request a hearing in writing. The request for hearing shall contain in substance the following:
 - 1. A clear and concise statement of the nature of the tax or other material which is disputed, objected to, or otherwise sought to be contested and of the facts on which the taxpayer relies.
 - 2. A clear and concise statement of the taxpayer's objection to the assessment or determination with which he or she is aggrieved, and of contentions of law, if any, which the taxpayer desires to raise, including the application of any rule or regulation which may be involved;
 - 3. A prayer setting forth the relief sought; and
 - 4. The name and address of the taxpayer, any identifying number assigned to such taxpayer with reference to the particular tax in question, as well as the name and address of his or her attorney or accountant, if any.
- The request for hearing shall be filed in writing with the Tax Administrator and be signed by the taxpayer or by his or her attorney or accountant. Such filing shall be made within the statutory time limit either by making delivery by hand, or by regular mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the Tax Administrator at One Capitol Hill, Providence, Rhode Island, 02908-5800. Failure to conform to the requirements of § 2.7(D) of this Part or of the preceding § 2.7(C) of this Part, shall be grounds, at the discretion of the Tax Administrator, for dismissal of the request for hearing.

Requests for Rehearing:

- 1. A request for rehearing which is submitted prior to the issuance of the final decision of the hearing officer and/or the Tax Administrator, should be made in writing, setting forth the substance of the additional evidence to be offered, and the reason for failure of the party to offer it at the prior proceedings.
- 2. A request for rehearing which is submitted after the issuance of the final decision must be made within thirty (30) days, after such issuance, and must state the grounds for the request, setting forth the substance of the evidence to be offered, and the reason for failure of the party to offer it at the prior proceeding.

Form 6252 Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service		Installment Sale Income Attach to your tax return. Use a separate form for each sale or other disposition of property on the installment method. Go to www.irs.gov/Form6252 for the latest information.			OMB No. 1545-0228 2022 Attachment Sequence No. 67	
lame(s)	shown on return			Identify	ing number	
1	Description of	property h. Date sold (mm				
2a	Date acquired	(mm/dd/yyyy) b Date sold (mm	n/dd/yyyy)			
3	Was the prope	as the property sold to a related party? See instructions. If "Yes," complete Part III for the year of sale and 2 ars after the year of the sale unless you received the final payment during the tax year				
4	Reserved for fu	ture use			Yes No	
Part	Gross P	rofit and Contract Price. Complete this part for all years of the	e installment a	agreen	nent.	
5	Selling price in	cluding mortgages and other debts. Don't include interest, whether st	tated or unstate	ed	5	
6	0 0	ots, and other liabilities the buyer assumed or took the property instructions)	;			
7	Subtract line 6	from line 5	'			
8		asis of property sold	3			
9	Depreciation a	lowed or allowable)			
10	Adjusted basis	. Subtract line 9 from line 8	0	_		
11	Commissions	and other expenses of sale	1			
12	Income recapt	ure from Form 4797, Part III (see instructions) 12	2			

- Installment Sale Schedule Federal Form 6252 must be attached to the election form.
- Any amount of unrecognized gain should be listed on line 6.
- https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f6252.pdf



Form Reminders

- Please ensure all forms are accurate and complete.
- If more than 2 nonresident sellers, please include an addendum with the other seller(s) information and signature(s).
- If there are any corrections to the Remittance from the original filed Election form, please include a coversheet noting the update, this will aid with delays in processing.
- If more than one buyer, please include all buyers on the Lien Discharge.
- Do not add sellers that were not reported on the original Withholding Certificate.
- Remittances based upon Net Proceeds with \$0 withholding due should include a closing statement, so we may verify no cash proceeds to the seller.

Submission Requests

- Please make every attempt to adhere to the 20-day rule, regarding submissions (per <u>280-RICR-20-10-1</u>).
 - Especially if mailing, most mail is received 3 to 5 days after mailed.
- Do not submit forms with a past date.
- Email Criteria Steps to Expedite Service
 - Always include the name of the seller and the property address..
 - Remittances that require payment cannot be emailed
 - Complete forms entirely.

Expenses of Sale

General rule is this item does not exceed 10% of the sales price

- Examples of deductible expenses:
 - Realtor fees
 - Legal fees including fees for the title search and preparing the sales contract and deed
 - Recording fees
 - Title fees
 - Survey fees
 - Transfer or stamp taxes
 - Charges for installing utility services in connection with the sale

Expenses of Sale

- Some settlement fees and closing costs that cannot be included:
 - Fire insurance premiums
 - Rent for occupancy of the house before closing
 - Charges for utilities or other services related to occupancy of the house before closing
 - Any fee or cost that you deducted as a moving expense
 - · Charges connected with getting a mortgage loan, such as:
 - Mortgage insurance premiums
 - Loan assumption fees
 - Cost of a credit report
 - Fee for an appraisal required by a lender
 - Fees for refinancing a mortgage

Inclusion in Cost Basis Calculation

- Initial purchase price or step-up basis at time of death.
- Improvements that add to the value of your home, prolong its useful life, or adapt it to new uses.
 - Additions bedroom, kitchen, bathroom
 - Lawn & Grounds landscaping, fence, driveway, pool
 - Exterior roof, siding, storm windows/doors
 - Interior built-in appliances, flooring, carpeting
 - Systems heating, central air, furnace, duct work, wiring
 - Plumbing septic, water heater, filtration system
 - Insulation attic, walls, pipes
 - https://www.irs.gov/publications/p523#en_US_2020_publink100010750

§ 44-30-5. "Resident" and "Nonresident"

- (c) Resident estate or trust. A resident estate or trust means:
- (1) The estate of a decedent who at his or her death was a resident individual in this state.
- (2) A revocable trust which becomes irrevocable upon the occurrence of any event (including death) which terminates a person's power to revoke, but only after the event, and only if the person having the power to revoke was a Rhode Island resident individual at the time of the event.
- (3) A trust created by will of a decedent who at his or her death was a resident individual in this state.
- (4) An irrevocable trust created by or consisting of property contributed by a person who is a resident individual in this state at the time the trust was created or the property contributed (A) while the person is alive and a resident individual in this state, and (B) after the person's death if the person died a resident individual of this state.
- (5) In subdivisions (2), (3), and (4) of this subsection the trust shall be a resident trust only to the extent that the beneficiaries are Rhode Island resident individuals, subject to such regulations as may be promulgated by the tax administrator.

http://webserver.rilin.state.ri.us/Statutes/TITLE44/44-30/44-30-5.HTM

280-RICR-20-10-1: 1.14 Gifts

- Bona fide gifts of property (e.g. transfers where there is no consideration and no gain attributed to the transferor) do not fall within the purview of R.I. Gen. Laws § 44-30-71.3 and therefore no withholding is required. In transfers by way of gifts the transferor may combine language in the deed stating that no documentary stamps are required with language stating that this transfer is by way of gift and no withholding is required under R.I. Gen. Laws § 44-30-71.3.
- EXAMPLE: Transfer is by gift so that no documentary stamps are required and no withholding is required under R.I. Gen. Laws § 44-30-71.3. If a deed contains a recitation of gift by the seller, the recording of such deed shall in all instances discharge the lien imposed by R.I. Gen. Laws § 44-30-71.3(c).

Pass-Through Entity Tax (PTE)

- If electing to complete nonresident real estate transaction, will need to contact our office prior for approval
- In addition to the approved withholding certificate, will be provided with a letter of approval from Taxation
- When payment is made it will need to be made with BUS-V in order to note the election of a PTE payment
- Link for forms: http://www.tax.ri.gov/taxforms/pte election.php

Best Practices: Letter of Good Standing

- Entity must be compliant for all required tax returns, payments, and fees for all requests of Letters of Good Standing
 - Major Sale LOGS Requirements
 - An application for LOGS (§ 44-11-29)
 - Proforma RI Tax Return with payment through date of sale. Must reflect the sale.
 - Copy of Proforma Federal tax return (Form 4797/Sch. D)
 - 1096PT/PTE return needed if there is a gain with Non-resident members
 - Purchase and Sales Agreement
 - All other taxes must be filed and all balances paid

Best Practices: Estate Tax

Estate Tax Update

- Form-RI-706 Estate Tax return
 - Combines the RI-100 and RI-100A into one form
 - As of 01/01/2022, all returns with Date of Death on or after 01/01/2015 including non-taxable estates prior to 01/01/2015
 - Taxable estate with DOD prior to 01/01/2015 should email tax.estate@tax.ri.gov for Form 100A
 - Estates greater than \$1.3M need to complete entire return
 - Estates below \$1.3M need to complete pages 1 4 including Part
 6, recapitulation schedule
 - \$50 filing fee still applies
 - Backup must be provided

- Previous law: R.I. Gen. Laws § 44-25-1 et seq.
- Under the previous law, for sales over \$100, the tax is equal to \$2.30 for each \$500.00 or fractional part thereof that is paid for the purchase of real estate or the interest in an acquired real estate company.
- Previous formula: (Total Sales Price ÷ \$500) x \$2.30 = Tax Due
- Starting 1/1/2022: an additional tax of \$2.30 per \$500 for amounts over \$800,000 is imposed on residential properties only.
- 1/1/2022 formula: (Total Sales Price ÷ \$500) X \$2.30 plus (Amount over \$800K ÷ \$500) x \$2.30 = Tax Due

REAL ESTATE CONVEYANCE TAX CALCULATION				
Previous Formula	(Total Sales Price ÷ \$500) x \$2.30 = Tax Due			
Jan. 1, 2022 Formula	(Total Sales Price \div \$500) X \$2.30 plus (Amount over \$800K \div \$500) x \$2.30 = Tax Due			

REAL ESTATE	CONVEYANCE TAX	DISTRIBUTION
NEAL LOIAIL	. CONVENANCE IAX	

TAX	DISTRIBUTION
Of the \$2.30 per \$500 of Tax Due on the Total Sales Price	\$1.10 to municipality (retained) (47.83%)
was	\$0.60 for State Use
	\$0.30 for Distressed Communities Relief Fund
	\$0.30 to Housing Resources Commission
Effective Jan. 1, 2022, of the \$2.30 per \$500 of Tax Due on the amount greater than \$800,000	\$2.30 Housing Production Fund

- The tax is imposed on the total consideration for the conveyance.
- Purchase price includes the value of any lien or encumbrance remaining at the time of sale, including mortgage liens.
- The person making the conveyance or vesting is responsible to pay the tax unless there is an agreement that the grantee pay the tax.
- Documentation is essential in establishing and supporting the proper tax imposed on acquired real estate company transactions.

- Starting 1/1/2022: the new tax calculation also applies to change of ownership of "Acquired Real Estate Company" who owns residential properties.
- What is an Acquired Real Estate Company?
 - Acquired Real Estate Company Advisory
 - R.I. Gen. Law § 44-25-1 amended was effective July 1, 2015.
 - Involves change in ownership of a company that is primarily engaged in holding, selling, or leasing real estate.
 - Must be a "real estate company" and an "acquired real estate company" as defined in R.I. Gen. Law § 44-25-1 (e) and (f) in order to be subject to the tax.

To expedite the review, approval and issuance of the certificate of payment:

- Per R.I. Gen. Law § 44-25-1(g) Must send a 5-day notice to the Division prior to closing on an acquired real estate company transaction.
- The purchase and sales agreement must be attached to all returns supporting documentation will be requested if not provided.
- Any such grant, transfer, assignment, or conveyance or vesting which results in a real estate company becoming an acquired real estate company shall be fraudulent and void as against the state unless the entity notifies the tax administrator in writing of the grant, transfer, assignment, or conveyance or vesting as herein required in subsection (g) and has paid the tax as required in subsection (a). R.I. Gen. Law § 44-25-1(g)

To expedite the review, approval and issuance of the certificate of payment (cont.):

- Send returns along with all supporting documentation to the attention of the Excise Tax Section.
- Once the clearance is issued for an acquired real estate company conveyance, the clearance must be recorded with the city or town where the property is located.
- Please feel free to contact us with any questions, please note that it is the Division's policy not to answer hypothetical scenarios. Tax.Excise@tax.ri.gov, 401-574-8955.

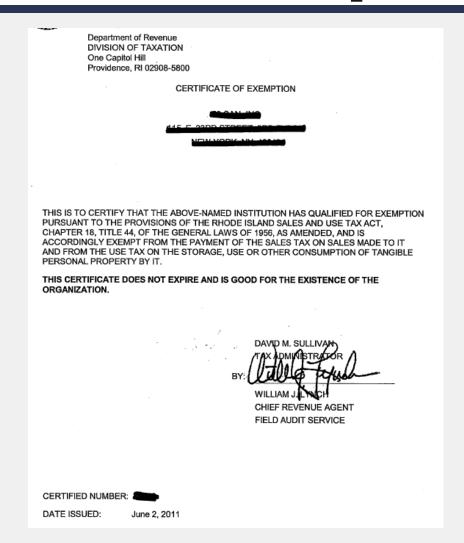
R.I. Gen. Laws 44-18-30(5)(i)

Charitable, educational, and religious organizations. From the sale to, as in defined in this section, and from the storage, use, and other consumption in this state, or any other state of the United States of America, of tangible personal property by hospitals not operated for a profit; "educational institutions" as defined in subdivision (18) not operated for a profit; churches, orphanages, and other institutions or organizations operated exclusively for religious or charitable purposes; interest-free loan associations not operated for profit; nonprofit, organized sporting leagues and associations and bands for boys and girls under the age of nineteen (19) years; the following vocational student organizations that are state chapters of national vocational student organizations: Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA); Future Business Leaders of America, Phi Beta Lambda (FBLA/PBL); Future Farmers of America (FFA); Future Homemakers of America/Home Economics Related Occupations (FHA/HERD); Vocational Industrial Clubs of America (VICA); organized nonprofit golden age and senior citizens clubs for men and women; and parent-teacher associations; and from the sale, storage, use, and other consumption in this state, of and by the Industrial Foundation of Burrillville, a Rhode Island domestic nonprofit corporation.

What is a qualified sale?

- Purchase must be made by the organization for its own purposes
- Payment must be made by the organization
 - Payment should be made by the exempt entity by form of credit card or check
 - A member belonging to an exempt organization must pay the tax when making purchases if the above condition are not met

Sample of an "old" Certificate of Exemption



R.I. Gen. Laws 44-18-30.1

A fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) shall be paid by all organizations applying for a certificate of exemption from the Rhode Island sales and use tax under § 44-18-30(5)(i). The certificate of exemption shall be valid for four (4) years from the date of issue. All fees collected under this section shall be allocated to the tax administrator for enforcement and collection of all taxes. All certificates issued prior to the effective date of this section shall expire four (4) years from the effective date of this section.

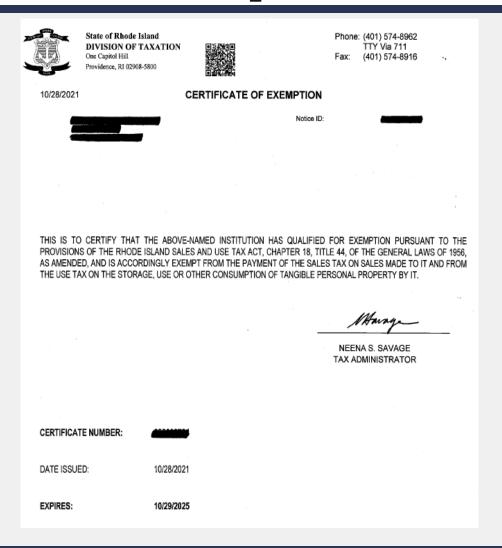
Form <u>EXO-SUE</u>

Sales & Use Exemption for an Exempt Organization

https://tax.ri.gov/tax-sections/audit/sales-tax-exempt-organizations

Sales & Use Exemption for	an Exem	pt Organizatio	n	22170499	9990101	
Name of organization			Federal e	mployer identifi	cation number	
Address		City, town	or post office		State	ZIP Code
Mailing address (if different from above)		City, town	City, town or post office		State	ZIP Code
APPLICATION/RI EXEMPT ORGANIZA Pursuant to R.I. Gen. sales and use tax under	TION FF Laws § 44 § 44-18-30	18-30.1, a cert	HODE ISLAN ificate of exemp valid for four (4)	ID SALES ption from th) years from	e Rhode Islar the date of is	TAX nd sue.
Accordingly, the certificate of Contact name (if different from application)		n must be rene	wea prior to the	e expiration (date of the ce	rtificate.
Contact telephone number:						
Contact telephone number:						
PART 1 Check the type of organ	zation olais	ming event of	atue:			
Hospital not operated for a pro		Educational in		Chur	rch	Orphanage
Nonprofit organized sporting lea	gues	Parent-teache	r associations	Inter	est-free loan a	associations
Other institution or organization operated exclusively for religious or charitable purposes		Organized nor Golden Age ar Citizens Clubs	nd Senior	vocat		following national rganizations: DECA VHERD; VICA
PART 2 1. If the organization is a branch or cl Yes No If yes, attach 2. Check the appropriate box to indic Corporation	a current le	tter from the pa	arent organizati		•	
PART 3 The following document i. \$25.00 non-refundable fee paya ii. Determination letter from the IR: iii. Copy of articles of incorporation v. Additional documentation as rec	ble to the F S, indicating and bylaw	Rhode Island D g federal identi	ivision of Taxati	ion;		pt status;
Please note, the organization is as required by law. All tax, in Failure to comply may result in	terest, and	penalty balan	ces due in relat	ion to this ob	oligation must	be paid.
Under penalties of perjury, I declare I have examine I also certify this organization is neither a lodge	this Form and social, fraterna	statements made he al, trade or profession	rein, and to the best o al organization, nor a	f my knowledge a ny other type of n	and belief, it is true, and pelief, it is true, and pelief, it is true, and pelief.	accurate and complete. n not listed above.
Authorized officer signature		Print name		Date	Telepho	ne number
			ation and payme			

Sample of new, valid Certificate of Exemption





Rhode Island Department of Revenue
Division of Taxation

Dear Taxpayer,

The Division of Taxation is taking this opportunity to inform you that any sales tax exemption certificates you have on file, *may have expired on June 30*, 2021 and will require an updated certificate.

The Rhode Island General Assembly passed a law in 2017 that provides for certificates of exemption under R.I. Gen. Laws § 44-18-30(5)(\hat{i}), for charitable, educational, and religious organizations, to be valid for four (4) years from the date of issuance. The law further provides that all certificates of exemption issued prior to July 1, 2017, the effective date of the law, expire four (4) years from July 1, 2017.

As a result, for any certificate of exemption issued prior to July 1, 2017, the certificate expired on June 30, 2021.

All Rhode Island retailers must obtain a copy of a valid sales tax exemption certificate at the time of sale to an exempt organization. In order to ensure validity of the exemption certificate, retailers must review the expiration date and confirm that the exemption certificate has not expired. If the exemption certificate has expired, the exemption must not be honored.

As a helpful resource, the Division has posted an advisory, which can be found on its website at https://tax.ri.gov/tax-sections/audit/sales-tax-exempt-organizations.

A sample of a valid sales tax exemption certificate is shown on the back of this notice.

If you have any questions, contact the Division's Audit & Investigation Section at (401) 574-8962, or email: Tax.Audit@tax.ri.gov.

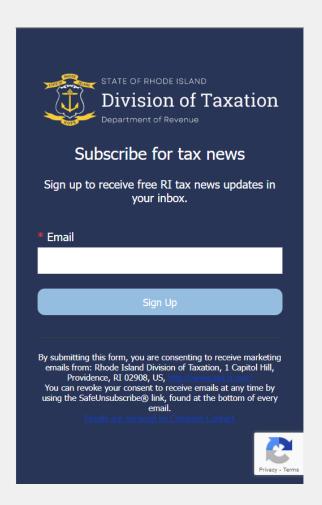
Thank you.

Division of Taxation



Connect With Us

- Contact us
 - https://tax.ri.gov/about-us/contact-us
- Sign up for our emails
 - https://tax.ri.gov
 - Tax news delivered to your inbox
 - Quarterly newsletters
 - Important updates
- Twitter
 - <a>@RhodeIslandTax



Questions?

Thank you



Contact Us
401-574-8829
Tax.Assist@tax.ri.gov
One Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02908

