

Rhode Island Division of Taxation

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations Department of Revenue

> October 25, 2012 ADV 2012-28

<u>Advisory</u>:

Tax amnesty generates \$7.36 million; three weeks left to deadline

Rhode Island's tax amnesty program has generated \$7.36 million so far and has drawn 2,792 applications. "We are gratified with the results to date," said Tax Administrator David M. Sullivan.

Sullivan urged those who have not applied to the program to file their applications soon. "Time's running out. Get your application in as soon as possible" to avoid the expected rush at deadline, Sullivan said. This year's amnesty ends November 15 – just three weeks from today. In the state's last tax amnesty, in 2006, about 80 percent of all the dollars collected came in during the final 30 days, Sullivan said. This time around, "We expect a large rush of applications at the end," Sullivan said.

If you file the amnesty application, file your past-due returns, and pay your back taxes, the Tax Division will take a number of steps to reduce your overall burden. If your application is approved, the Tax Division will:

- waive penalties;
- reduce interest by 25 percent;
- agree not to pursue civil or criminal penalties; and
- agree not to block your license renewal.

"Many people have already taken advantage of amnesty by paying their back taxes, clearing their slates, and getting off to a clean start," Sullivan said. The following table shows the top four sources of revenue for the tax amnesty to date:

Rhode Island's tax amnesty 2012

Public service corporation tax	\$ 3,249,910
Personal income tax	\$ 1,815,930
Corporate tax	\$ 1,299,315
Sales and use tax	\$ 784,456

Figures as of October 24, 2012, and include tax and interest paid.

The Tax Division has a special website – <u>www.TaxAmnesty.ri.gov</u> – which includes the tax amnesty application form, FAQs, and other information. For more information about the amnesty, call (401) 574-8650, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. business days. Or e-mail the program: <u>TaxAmnesty@tax.ri.gov</u>. The 75-day amnesty period began September 2 and ends at midnight on November 15, 2012.

Contact:

Neil Downing Chief Revenue Agent Rhode Island Division of Taxation <u>Neil.Downing@tax.ri.gov</u> (401) 574-8115