

# RHODE ISLAND TAX NEWS

A NEWSLETTER FOR TAXPAYERS AND PREPARERS

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2015

## SEMINAR SCHEDULED FOR PAID PREPARERS

The Rhode Island Division of Taxation has scheduled a free seminar for tax preparers.

The chief focus of the sessions will be on what's new for the coming filing season and what's new for tax year 2016.

Topics will include changes in business taxation – including the reduction in the annual corporate minimum tax and in the annual filing charge for limited liability companies and partnerships treated as pass-through entities for federal income tax purposes. (The reduction applies for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2016.)

Other topics include an update on electronic filing; a review of the statewide property tax relief program (Form RI-1040H); changes in the earned income credit; new tax regulations; and a tax break for Social Security benefits. (The Social Security tax break applies for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2016.)

The Tax Division will hold the seminar at the Community College of Rhode Island (CCRI) campus in Warwick on November 18, 2015. The seminar will be repeated on December 10, 2015, at CCRI's Newport County campus. The seminar is free, but preregistration is required. Preparers should



**In Newport:** One of the Tax Division's seminars for tax preparers was held last year at the Newport County Campus of the Community College of Rhode Island (CCRI).

sign up for whichever session is most convenient for their schedules and locations, said Tax Administrator David M. Sullivan.

*(Please turn to page 2)*

## ABOUT THE SEMINAR

- Event will be held in Warwick in November
- Seminar will be repeated in Newport in December
- Aimed at paid preparers of tax returns
- No charge, but pre-registration required
- See registration details on page 2

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## SYSTEM CHANGEOVER STARTS OCTOBER 26

The next phase of the Rhode Island Division of Taxation's changeover to a new computer system will take place at the end of October. The Tax Division will remain open for business while the changeover occurs, but certain services will be limited or will not

be available during the changeover.

"We are moving to a new system that will eventually save everyone time and give taxpayers and practitioners more tools and improved online access," said Rhode Island Tax Administrator

David M. Sullivan. "To get to that point, we must change the old system over to the new system. To keep disruption to a minimum, we are doing the changeover gradually, in stages over time," Sullivan said.

*(Please turn to page 3)*

## SEMINAR SCHEDULED FOR PAID PREPARERS (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

(For registration details, please see the box on the bottom right of this page.)

“As we did in last year’s seminar, we want to give preparers a chance to meet with us, get their questions answered, and be briefed on changes – all well in advance of the coming filing season,” Sullivan said. “We have some significant changes that we are working to implement for the coming season, and we want to give preparers a heads up.”

The Division of Taxation, prior to each filing season, typically sends representatives to meetings sponsored by trade associations whose members are preparers.

Such presentations are typically only for members of a particular trade association and are sponsored by that group. The seminar at CCRI is sponsored by the Division of Taxation and is open to any preparer.

“With this free seminar, we hope to reach those who are registered tax return preparers or others employed by national or regional tax preparation firms, as well as those who prepare returns seasonally and may be self-employed and not part of a professional association,” said Neena Savage, associate director of revenue services. CPAs, EAs, PAs, and other paid preparers are welcome to attend, too, Sullivan said.



**Seminar:** The Division of Taxation will hold a seminar for practitioners in November at the Community College of Rhode Island (CCRI) campus in Warwick. The seminar will be repeated in December at the CCRI campus in Newport.

“The seminar at CCRI is intended to supplement – not to replace – our regularly scheduled presentations to practitioner groups,” Sullivan said. “We value those professional groups and the important work they do, and the members of those groups are of course welcome to register for the CCRI seminar, too,” he said.

The CCRI seminars are primarily for paid preparers. The Division of Taxation typically meets separately with organizations of volunteer preparers.

“CCRI is an invaluable resource for Rhode Island, and we are delighted and appreciative that CCRI has once again made available its resources to us for this important seminar,” Sullivan added.

### Warwick Campus

The first session will be held at the CCRI Warwick Campus on November 18, 2015, from 9:00 a.m. to noon, in Presentation Room 4080 on the fourth floor. Click [here](#) for directions.



### Newport Campus

The seminar will be repeated at CCRI’s Newport County Campus, in Newport, on December 10, 2015, from 9:00 a.m. to noon, in Auditorium No. 134. Click [here](#) for directions.



### Pre-register online

The Rhode Island Division of Taxation is sponsoring a seminar for paid preparers of personal income tax returns. The seminar will be held on two separate dates -- you pick the one that best suits your schedule and location. (Please do not register for both.) To pre-register for a session, please click [here](#).

(The online pre-registration tool was put together by the experts at RI.gov, which is the official government Web portal for the State of Rhode Island.)

## SYSTEM CHANGEOVER STARTS SOON (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

This year’s stage of the changeover will take place on six consecutive business days: from Monday, October 26, 2015, through Monday, November 2, 2015.

During that time, the Tax Division office at One Capitol Hill in Providence will remain open during its usual hours: 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. business days. Phones will be staffed, emails answered, payments received, and returns accepted, as usual.

But certain services will be limited, including issuing of letters of good standing, releasing blocks on motor vehicle licenses and registrations, and releasing certain liens and levies.

(Requests to release estate tax liens will continue to be processed as usual -- as will acknowledgements of discharge of lien related to the sale of Rhode Island real estate by nonresidents.)

“We will remain open, we will be answering the phones, and we will continue to provide the kinds of services that are regularly used by the vast majority of taxpayers and practitioners,” Sullivan said.

“However, we want to let everyone know now, well in advance, that certain services used by a limited number of taxpayers and practitioners will not be available during the six-day changeover,” he

said. All services will resume full operation on Tuesday, November 3, 2015, he said. “Certain services will be limited, but only temporarily – for the six business days beginning October 26, 2015,” Sullivan said. “If you need those services, please plan accordingly.”

For example, if a taxpayer is blocked from renewing a driver’s license or motor vehicle registration because the taxpayer owes back taxes, the taxpayer should pay the tax debt on or before October 23, Sullivan said.

### Project background

The project involves the modernization of the tax and revenue accounting system.

The first stage of the pro-

ject, which occurred in summer 2014, mainly involved migrating account records and other information involving bank, insurance, and certain other tax types and fees from the old system to the new system.

In this, the second phase, the personal income tax, estate and trust income tax, composite income tax, and pass-through withholding will be migrated onto the new system.

In the third phase, to begin in late 2016, the Tax Division will launch a new website and taxpayer portal, and a number of other taxes and fees will be migrated over, including the corporate income tax and the sales and use tax.

*(Please turn to page 4)*

### Tax Division services from October 26 through November 2, 2015

Services available:	Service limited or halted temporarily:
Office remains open, sections remain open	Issuing letters of good standing
Phones, emails answered	Releasing license blocks
Letters, other deliveries received by Tax Division	Releasing registration blocks
Payments received <small>(electronic and paper; cashier window open)</small>	Releasing liens, levies*
E-filed tax returns received, acknowledged	Issuing refunds**
Paper-filed tax returns received	
Requests for forms, instructions accepted	
Questions answered	
New businesses registered; cigarette stamps sold	
Hearings held; legal papers received	
<small>* Requests to release estate tax liens will continue to be processed as usual -- as will acknowledgements of discharge of lien related to sale of Rhode Island real estate by nonresidents.                      **Most refunds have already been issued. All services resume full operation on Tuesday, November 3, 2015</small>	

## BENEFITS OF SYSTEM CHANGEOVER (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

“By the time the third phase is completed, all of the system’s benefits will be available – and a number of them will be visible to taxpayers and tax practitioners,” Sullivan said.

### System benefits

Following are some of the benefits of the new system that will eventually be seen by taxpayers and practitioners:

- ◆ A high-speed scanning and imaging system will ensure that returns -- and refunds -- are processed more quickly. The faster processing of returns -- and of payments -- means that taxpayer accounts will be updated more quickly.

- ◆ Eventually, all information about a taxpayer will be contained in one place. So if a taxpayer or preparer calls, the Tax Division employee can easily and quickly pull up the taxpayer’s account to view all of the account activity on one system – such as payments, notices, letters, and other items.

- ◆ There will be consistent business rules across all tax types -- for the application of interest and penalties, and for filing requirements, for example.

- ◆ The single location for taxpayer information should eventually result in faster processing of requests for letters of good standing. (To fulfill such requests, the Tax Division must check its records to determine if the taxpayer is

current on taxes. But under the current system, that process can take time; a taxpayer’s sales tax account, withholding account, and corporate account are all in different locations.)

- ◆ Faster processing of returns will also result in more timely review of those returns and their related accounts, which should reduce the turnaround time for billing. More timely review and faster and more accurate billing can improve collection on delinquent accounts – which helps all taxpayers.

### Integrated tax system

The new computer system, known in the industry as an integrated tax system, is the result of legislation approved

by the Rhode Island General Assembly and signed into law by then-Governor Lincoln D. Chafee in 2012.

As a result, \$25 million was appropriated for the project, to be paid out over a number of years to the vendor.

Revenue Solutions Inc. (RSI), of Pembroke, Mass., was the successful bidder. The Tax Division is using RSI’s Revenue Premier system.

Within the Division of Taxation, the new system is known as the State Tax Administration and Revenue System (STAARS).



**Scanning:** Daniel T. Clemence, Chief of Tax Processing Services in the Division of Taxation’s Project Oversight & Development unit, stands by one of the agency’s two new high-speed scanning and imaging machines. The machines are part of the agency’s new integrated tax system, which is intended to make the agency more effective and efficient while providing improved services -- and additional services -- to taxpayers and practitioners.



The Rhode Island State Council on the Arts is spreading the word (see above) about the statewide sales tax exemption on the sale of original and limited-edition works of art.

## RHODE ISLAND TAX NEWS IN BRIEF

### Real estate tax

The Rhode Island Division of Taxation recently posted on its website three documents which provide guidance on how the real estate conveyance tax applies to acquired real estate companies. The postings include a Notice, a form, and instructions.

Legislation enacted in June 2015 extended the real estate conveyance tax to the transfer of a controlling interest in a limited liability company, corporation, partnership, or other entity that owns real estate in Rhode Island.

### Tax scam

Rhode Island Attorney General Peter F. Kilmartin recently warned consumers of a resurgence in reports of a persistent, aggressive scam involving taxes.

“The number one rule people need to remember is that neither the IRS, nor any legitimate government agency, will ever call individual taxpayers to demand immediate payment or threaten imminent arrest. If you receive a call like this, please hang up, and contact our office so that we can warn other consumers,” Kilmartin said in a statement.

### Streamlined

The Division of Taxation recently posted its revised Certificate of Compliance regarding the Streamlined



PHOTO BY JAKE LESTOCK / NCSL

**Summit:** Rhode Island Tax Administrator David M. Sullivan (second from right) was a guest speaker at a meeting of the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) in August. At the NCSL's 2015 Legislative Summit, held in Seattle, Washington, Sullivan was part of a panel of national experts discussing the growing problem of federal and state tax refund fraud. At right is NCSL President Curtis S. Bramble, who is Utah's Senate president pro tempore.

Sales and Use Tax Agreement. States that are members of the agreement, including Rhode Island, must recertify each year that they are in compliance with it.

The Division of Taxation has also posted the latest version of its taxability matrix, which spells out the tax treatment of certain items defined in the Streamlined agreement.

### Regulations

The Division of Taxation recently posted exposure drafts of two regulations that the agency is working on: one

involving apportionment of net income for corporate income tax purposes, and a draft regulation involving nexus for corporate income tax purposes. The goal was to solicit public comment regarding the regulations.

### Incentive report

The Division of Taxation has published its annual tax credit and incentive report, as required by Rhode Island statute.

(Please turn to page 6)



### Contacting Collections

All collections Notices that are sent out by the Division of Taxation will now include the Collections section main number, which is (401) 574-8941, and will also include a generic Collections section email:

[tax.collections@tax.ri.gov](mailto:tax.collections@tax.ri.gov)

Use of the main phone line and of the main email address will help ensure that inquiries from taxpayers and from tax practitioners are handled in the most efficient manner possible.

## RHODE ISLAND TAX NEWS IN BRIEF (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5)

The report identifies the recipients of more than \$30 million in certain state tax credits and incentives for the year ended June 30, 2015.

Some of those recipients also received more than \$10 million, in the aggregate, in other tax credits and incentives in Rhode Island. The report is on the Division of Taxation website: [www.tax.ri.gov](http://www.tax.ri.gov).

### Business, job growth

The Division of Taxation in August posted proposed regulations that offer details and guidance on three new tax credit and incentive programs: the Anchor Institution Tax Credit program; the Rebuild Rhode Island Tax Credit program; and the Rhode Island Qualified Jobs Incentive Act of 2015 program.

The programs are part of a package of credits and other incentives aimed at businesses that are prepared to invest in and foster job creation in the state.

They are the result of legislation proposed by Governor Gina M. Raimondo, approved by the General Assembly, and signed into law on June 30, 2015.

### Liquor licenses

The Division of Taxation recently changed the liquor license renewal process so as to make it more efficient for everyone involved.

For example, certificate of good standing applications for liquor license renewals were due to the Division of Taxation on or before August 17, 2015. In prior years, the date was in September. Furthermore, the Division plans to complete the process of sending certificates of good standing to cities and towns by November 1, 2015 -- which is one month earlier than usual.

### Tax changes

Rhode Island Tax Administrator David M. Sullivan on Au-

gust 7, 2015, discussed recent changes to state tax law during an interview on Channel 10. (See photo above.)

Sullivan talked about the changes with Channel 10 Anchor Frank Coletta during the noon broadcast's "Money Watchers: Business Lunch" segment. (A summary of the changes is available in the second-quarter issue of the Division of Taxation's newsletter.)



**Preparing:** Rhode Island Tax Administrator David M. Sullivan was in the studio at Channel 10's headquarters in Cranston in August to prepare for an interview with Frank Coletta, the well-known news anchor, on the noon broadcast. During the broadcast interview, Sullivan talked about recent changes enacted in state tax law.

### UI tax

Legislation approved by the Rhode Island General Assembly and signed into law by Rhode Island Governor Gina M. Raimondo on July 10, 2015, allows employers to make voluntary contributions to their unemployment account in order to lower their unemployment insurance tax rate, according to a legislative summary. Details are in Senate Bill 0813.

**Legal Corner****RECENT STATE TAX CASES IN SUMMARY****Use tax on truck**

A corporation incorporated in Rhode Island, with its listed principal place of business in Providence, bought a 2013 truck from a dealer located in Rhode Island.

The dealer gave the taxpayer a trade-in allowance for a 2010 truck. On the net price of the transaction involving the 2013 truck, the dealer charged the taxpayer Massachusetts sales tax at the Massachusetts sales tax rate of 6.25 percent.

The Division of Taxation asserted that the taxpayer was not a *bona fide* nonresident when it purchased the truck. As a result, the taxpayer owed Rhode Island's 7 percent use tax on the truck.

The Division of Taxation said that the taxpayer is qualified to do business in Massachusetts and is registered as a foreign entity there, but did not file a Massachusetts corporate excise return for the year in question. Furthermore, the taxpayer filed a Rhode Island corporate tax return for 2013 declaring Rhode Island as its principal place of business.

The taxpayer's representative asserted that the business has an office in Massachusetts and that the truck is insured, stored, and used in Massachusetts; the truck is never used in Rhode Island; and that the company, while incorporated



*Rhode Island Tax News* provides only summaries of some recent tax-case decisions, which are based on specific facts and circumstances.

The summaries are merely informative and provide general information. To determine how state tax laws and regulations apply to your particular circumstances, please consult your tax professional.

in Rhode Island, conducts most if not all of its business in Massachusetts.

Hearing Officer Catherine R. Warren noted that an exemption to the Rhode Island excise tax applies if the purchaser of a motor vehicle is a *bona fide* nonresident of Rhode Island.

However, Warren also noted that the taxpayer in this case is incorporated in Rhode Island with its principal place of business in Rhode Island, filed a Rhode Island corporate tax return for 2013 and paid tax to Rhode Island, but did not file a return or pay any tax to Massachusetts for 2013. (She also noted that the trade-in

allowance is limited to private passenger automobiles.)

Warren determined on July 16, 2015, that the taxpayer was not a *bona fide* nonresident – and owed the use tax and interest and penalty as assessed by the Division of Taxation. On July 27, 2015, Tax Administrator David M. Sullivan adopted her decision and recommendation.

-- Final Decision and Order  
No. 2015-21

**Property tax relief**

At issue is whether a taxpayer was eligible for the statewide property-tax relief credit (Form RI-1040H) under Rhode Island General Laws (RIGL) § 44-33-1 *et seq.* To be eligible, a taxpayer must have income of \$30,000 or less for the year and must have owned or rented a dwelling that was subject to local property tax.

On her credit application, the taxpayer computed the credit based on her rent payments -- listing her rent payments as the total rent charged.

The Tax Division obtained a copy of her lease, which shows that she did not pay the entire rent for her apartment; a portion was paid by a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) rental assistance program.

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**Tax hearings**

Any taxpayer aggrieved by the action of the Tax Division in determining the amount of tax, surcharge, or penalty, may make written request for a formal hearing.

The taxpayer is first afforded an opportunity to have a preliminary review. Should the matter not be resolved, it may then proceed to formal hearing under the terms of the state Administrative Procedures Act (RIGL § 42-35-1 *et seq.*) and Tax Division regulation AHP 97-01.

If not satisfied with the outcome, the taxpayer may appeal to Sixth Division District Court (RIGL § 8-8-24 *et seq.*)

**Legal Corner**

**RECENT STATE TAX CASES IN SUMMARY** (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7)

The Tax Division’s recomputation of her credit claim, based on what she actually paid, resulted in no credit due. Warren concluded on September 4, 2015, that the taxpayer was not eligible for the credit. Sullivan on September 17, 2015, adopted her decision and recommendation.

-- Final Decision and Order No. 2015-22

**Refund claim**

A taxpayer’s Rhode Island personal income tax return for 2011 was filed on December 5, 2014, claiming a refund.

The statute provides two different time periods within which a refund is allowed. In essence, a refund claim must be filed within three years from the time the return was filed or two years from the time the tax was paid, whichever of

these periods expires the later. (Please see the table on this page.)

If filed within the three-year period, the refund

amount is limited to the tax paid within the three-year period.

If filed within the two-year period, the refund amount is

<b>Statute of limitations for Rhode Island personal income tax refunds</b> From Rhode Island General Laws § 44-30-87	
<i>A claim for credit or refund of an overpayment of tax must be filed within three years from the time the return was filed or two years from the time the tax was paid, whichever of the periods expires the later.</i>	
<b>Three-year rule</b> →	If the claim is filed within the three-year period, the amount of the credit or refund cannot exceed the amount of the tax paid within the three-year period.
<b>Two-year rule</b> →	If the claim is not filed within the three-year period, but is filed within the two-year period, the amount of the credit or refund cannot exceed the amount of the tax paid during the two years immediately preceding the filing of the claim.

limited to the tax paid during the two years immediately preceding the filing of the claim. The taxpayer’s 2011 tax was deemed paid April 15, 2012. The taxpayer filed her 2011 return in December 2014, which is past the two-year period from the date the

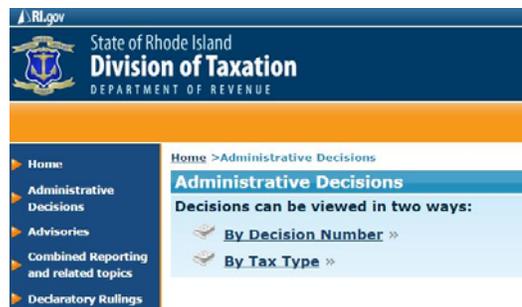
taxes were deemed paid. So she did not pass the two-year test.

The taxpayer did file within the three-year period, but the statute limits the amount of refund to the

portion of tax paid within the three-year period – and in this case, the taxpayer had not paid any tax since December 2014.

Warren concluded on September 4, 2015, that the taxpayer was not eligible for the credit. Sullivan on September 17, 2015, adopted her decision and recommendation.

-- Final Decision and Order No. 2015-23



**Decisions online**

The Division of Taxation’s website shows all Administrative Decisions since early 2011. (See screenshot above.) To view, see [www.tax.ri.gov](http://www.tax.ri.gov)

**Practitioners' Corner****QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT STATE TAXES**

**Q: My client wants to dissolve his LLC, which was only in effect for a short time. To dissolve the LLC through the Secretary of State, my client had to apply to the Division of Taxation for a letter of good standing.**



**The response received from your office requires him to file a return and pay a minimum tax of \$500. Can this be right?**

A: Yes. Your question suggests that your client formed an entity that was treated as a pass-through entity for federal income tax purposes. Once such an entity is created, the entity is obligated to file an annual return with Rhode Island on Form RI-1065 and pay the annual filing fee. For tax year 2015, the fee is \$500. For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2016, the fee will drop by 10 percent, to \$450.

**Q: The FAQs that your office recently issued do not discuss the sales tax on in-law apartments. Could you tell us how that will work?**

A: Legislation approved by the Rhode Island General Assembly and signed into law

by Rhode Island Governor Gina M. Raimondo on June 30, 2015, expanded the sales and hotel taxes to include

short-term rentals of residential property, including the rental of vacation homes and beach cottages. As a consequence, someone

who rents out such property must register with us, pay the annual \$10 sales tax permit fee, and collect and remit the sales tax and the hotel tax.

However, that applies only if the rental is short-term – in other words, only if the rental is for 30 days or less. If the rental is for more than 30 days, or is for an entire calendar month, the taxes don't apply. Thus, if you rent out your in-law apartment for more than 30 days, or for an entire calendar month or longer, and you can substantiate that with a written agreement, such as a lease, you're all set – no sales tax or hotel tax applies.

**Q: Massachusetts recently had a sales tax free weekend. How does that impact a Rhode Island resident's Rhode Island income tax return if the resident**

**bought a taxable item in Massachusetts and didn't pay any sales tax?**

A: It may be best to explain the impact by using an example: Suppose a Rhode Island resident bought a \$1,000 computer in Massachusetts during the Massachusetts sales tax holiday in August 2015, then brought the computer back to Rhode Island for his or her own use. In that case, the Rhode Island resident owes a \$70 use tax to Rhode Island. The resident should report that on his or her Rhode Island personal income tax return for 2015, using Schedule U.

**Q: I was told that the franchise tax went away for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2015, so there's no more \$500 tax on LLCs.**

A: The franchise tax was repealed for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2015.

But under a separate section of Rhode Island law, the corporate minimum tax continues, is \$500 for tax year 2015, and applies to C corporations and S corporations.

Under yet another section of the law, there is an annual charge or annual filing fee of \$500 that continues to apply to LPs, LLPs, and LLCs that are treated as pass-through entities for federal income tax purposes.

*(Please turn to page 10)*

### About 'Practitioners' Corner'

The "Practitioners' Corner" feature provides general answers to some of the questions that the Tax Division encounters through the normal course of business.

The answers are intended solely to provide general information.

They do not represent formal guidance, and are not substitutes for Rhode Island General Laws, Tax Division regulations, or Tax Division rulings.

**Practitioners' Corner****QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT STATE TAXES** (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9)

So, the typical small business run as an LLC, or the typical LLC created to hold a parcel of real estate, continues to be subject to the annual \$500 charge. (The charge drops to \$450 for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2016.)

**Q: Can you explain what the income limit is for that new tax break on Social Security?**

A: You may qualify for the break if you're single and your federal adjusted gross income (AGI) is less than \$80,000, or you're married, filing a joint return, and your AGI is less than \$100,000. (The figures will be adjusted for inflation annually.)

The tax break you mention involves a modification on the Rhode Island personal income tax return for taxable Social Security income. It takes effect for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2016.

Thus, for many taxpayers, it will not be an issue until early 2017, when they file their returns for 2016.

However, the issue is important right now to the many taxpayers who are making their plans for 2016 – including plans for estimated tax payments.

For more information about the tax break involving Social Security, including some of the other eligibility requirements, please see the Division

of Taxation's "Summary of Legislative Changes" and search on the words "Social Security". You may use the following address: <http://go.usa.gov/3GtHk>

**Q: Do you know yet if practitioners will be able to e-file extensions this coming tax season? This would be very helpful.**

A: We're coming to a key point in the implementation of our new agency-wide computer system that will eventually allow us to accept e-filed extensions.

But that point is not here just yet. And so, for the 2016 filing season, please continue to file paper extensions.

Until the changeover to the new computer system is completed, we must continue to use our old computer system for a number of tasks.

If we allowed that old computer system to accept e-filed business extensions on Form RI-7004, the system would treat the extension as if it were a return – and would not accept the actual return later on.

As a result, we do not allow

our system to accept e-filed business extensions on Form RI-7004; you have to mail in the completed paper form instead.

That way, we can ensure that our system will accept your e-filed return later on (and you can comply with Rhode Island's corporate e-file mandate).

What about extensions for personal income tax during the 2016 filing season? If you'll have no balance due, don't file Form RI-4868, but do attach a copy of your federal extension application when you file your Rhode Island return by the October 15 deadline.

If you'll have a balance due, you must file Form RI-4868, but it's best to do so on paper, so you can e-file the return itself by the October 15 deadline.

(If you'll have a balance due in April and pay it by credit card, you don't have to file a Form RI-4868. A third-party fee is charged when you pay by card.)

**Tax Fraud Tip Line**

If you have information about state tax fraud -- such as worker misclassification -- call the tax fraud tip line at (401) 574-TIPS or (401) 574-8477 and leave a message.

The line is staffed by the Rhode Island Division of Taxation's Special Investigation Unit, which follows up on all tips. Callers can leave their names and contact information or remain anonymous.





## Rhode Island Department of Revenue Division of Taxation

### NEWSLETTER POLICY

*Rhode Island Tax News* is a newsletter from the Rhode Island Department of Revenue's Division of Taxation. It is typically published each quarter. Its purpose is to provide taxpayers and tax professionals with general information regarding Rhode Island tax laws, regulations, and rulings, and procedures. It is neither designed nor intended to address complex issues in detail. Nothing contained in this newsletter in any way alters or otherwise changes any provisions of the Rhode Island General Laws, regulations of the Tax Division, or formal rulings. The Tax Division is at One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908. Its website is [www.tax.ri.gov](http://www.tax.ri.gov).

### HOW TO SUBSCRIBE

*Rhode Island Tax News* is distributed free, by e-mail, to those who have joined our listserv. If you are not on our listserv but would like to join, send an email to [Susan.Galvin@tax.ri.gov](mailto:Susan.Galvin@tax.ri.gov) with the word SUBSCRIBE in uppercase in the subject block.

### COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

If you have comments or suggestions for *Rhode Island Tax News*, please e-mail its editor, Neil Downing: [Neil.Downing@tax.ri.gov](mailto:Neil.Downing@tax.ri.gov)

### BACK ISSUES

*Rhode Island Tax News* back issues are on the Tax Division website: [www.tax.ri.gov](http://www.tax.ri.gov)

#### *How to contact us*

Taxpayers may contact the Division of Taxation online, by phone, by letter, or in person.  
(Hours of operation are typically 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. business days.)

##### Website

[www.tax.ri.gov](http://www.tax.ri.gov)

(For numbers and e-mail addresses for specific sections, click the "Contact us" link.)

##### Mailing address

Rhode Island Division of Taxation  
One Capitol Hill  
Providence, R.I. 02908

##### Telephone

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