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Motor Vehicle Rental Tax GUIDEBOOK

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Introduction

If you rent motor vehicles in Texas, you must have a Texas Motor Vehicle Rental Tax Permit. The permit is available from the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts.

The law requires you to have a permit if you rent vehicles to others for consideration and any of these conditions apply:

- your rental agreements are for 180 days or less;
- the vehicles will be re-rented, regardless of the period covered by the agreements; or
- you are the vehicles' manufacturer, regardless of the period covered by the agreements.

After the Comptroller's office issues you a permit, you will receive periodic preprinted returns to report the tax due on your rentals.

To get a rental tax permit application or for more information about the rental tax, you can download the application at www.window.state.tx.us, visit your local Comptroller's field office, email us at tax.help@cpa.state.tx.us, or call us toll-free at 1-800-252-1382.

Cities and counties may also impose tax on short-term rentals. Any such taxes are administered by the local jurisdictions, and you should contact them directly for more information.

Definitions

Bad debt – any amount due on a rental agreement that is written off as uncollectable. The amount must be entered on the rental company's books as a bad debt and claimed as a deduction for federal income tax purposes.

Fair market value – a vehicle's actual selling price when retired from service or its depreciated book value if it is no longer used and is offered for sale.

Fair market value deduction – a method by which the taxable value of a rental vehicle purchase may be reduced for tax purposes.

Farm machine – a self-propelled motor vehicle specially adapted or modified to apply plant food materials, agricultural chemicals, or feed for livestock. "Farm machine" does not include a self-propelled motor vehicle specially adapted for the transportation of agricultural products.

Gross rental receipts – the consideration the owner receives for use of the vehicle. Receipts can be the value of property or services as well as money. Gross receipts also include any extra charges the owner may make on the rental agreement for title fees, registration fees, and property taxes. So that such charges are not construed to be tax assessments, invoices should show them as reimbursements.

Taxable gross rental receipts do not include discounts; separately stated charges for insurance; assessments for damages to a rental vehicle occurring during the agreement period; or separately stated receipts for motor fuel sold by the vehicle's owner. A charge for "collision damage waiver" or "collision protection charge" does not qualify as a charge for insurance and is therefore considered part of the taxable gross rental receipts.

Gross Rental Receipts Tax (Rental Tax) – imposed on the gross rental receipts derived from the rental of a motor vehicle without a driver. The tax rate is 10 percent on a contract of 30 days or less and 6.25 percent on a contract for 31-180 days.

Minimum Gross Rental Receipts Tax (Minimum Tax or Minimum Rental Tax) – equal to 6.25 percent of the vehicle's taxable value. If the rental vehicle was registered tax-free, the minimum tax is the amount of tax the rental vehicle must generate in order to relieve the owner of the tax liability established at registration.

Mobile Office – A trailer designed to be used as an office, sales outlet, or other workplace.

Motor vehicle – a self-propelled vehicle designed to transport persons or property on a public highway. The term includes trailers, semitrailers, and "house trailers" as defined by the Certificate of Title Act.

House trailers could include travel trailers, park models, and bunkhouses. Mobile offices are not taxed as motor vehicles, but are subject to sales tax. Mobile homes and modular homes are not motor vehicles, but are subject to the Texas Manufactured Housing Sales and Use Tax.

"Motor vehicle" does not mean:

- a mobile office;
- a device moved only by human power;
- a device used exclusively upon stationary rails or tracks;
- road-building machinery; or
- equipment transportable over the highways but designed to perform a specialized function that does not include transporting persons or property.

Out-of-state rental – when a customer takes delivery of a rental vehicle outside of the state. The receipts from an out-of-state rental are not subject to tax for the entire period of the original agreement even if the customer brings the vehicle into Texas. If the rental agreement is renewed or extended while the vehicle is in Texas, however, it's considered a Texas rental and Texas tax is due on these receipts.

Person – an individual, firm, corporation, or association.

Possession owner – someone who rents a motor vehicle for re-rental. The possession owner does not have title to the vehicle but must collect and remit tax on the re-rentals.

Rental – an agreement to give exclusive use of a motor vehicle to someone for a consideration when any of the following conditions apply:

- the agreement is for 180 days or less;
- the vehicle will be re-rented, regardless of the period covered by the agreement; or
- you are the manufacturer of the vehicle, regardless of the period covered by the agreement.

Any agreement that includes a driver or chauffeur is not a rental but a service, and is not subject to the rental tax.

Replaced vehicle – a vehicle taken out of rental service. The value of a replaced vehicle can be used to reduce the taxable value of another vehicle purchased to be rented. Except as provided below to qualify, a replaced vehicle must have been titled in Texas in the rental company's name. The replaced vehicle must no longer be used and either sold or offered for sale.

The vehicle must be used as a fair market value deduction within 18 months of the date it was removed from service.

The term also includes a vehicle titled in Texas in the name of a related rental permit holder if either party holds a beneficial ownership interest in the other party of at least 80 percent or acquires all of its vehicles exclusively from franchised dealers whose franchisor shares common ownership with the other party.

Taxable value – the total sales price less the value of a trade-in vehicle or the fair market value of a replaced vehicle. Total sales price is the amount paid for a motor vehicle and all accessories that are attached to it at the time of sale.

Texas rental – when a customer takes delivery of a rental vehicle in Texas. The receipts from the entire rental agreement are subject to Texas gross rental receipts tax even if the customer takes the vehicle out of state. A renewal or extension of the agreement while the vehicle is out of state is not a Texas rental and the receipts are not subject to Texas tax.

Timber machine – a self-propelled motor vehicle specially adapted or modified for use primarily in timber operations. Timber machine does not include any self-propelled motor vehicle specifically designed or adapted for the primary purpose of transporting timber or timber products.

Title owner – the person named as the owner on the certificate of title. The term also includes a person who is the legal owner because of a lease/purchase or conditional sales contract where the seller retains title until full payment is made. The title owner is responsible for satisfying the minimum tax.

Registering Vehicles For Rental

There are two types of motor vehicle rental permits. One type allows tax free registration when you title a rental vehicle in your name. The other type of permit requires that you pay motor vehicle sales and use tax at the time of registration or titling.

To be able to register rental vehicles tax free, you must be an authorized Texas automobile dealer licensed according to the Transportation Code, or the title owner of at least five different motor vehicles that will be rented within a 12month period. If you do not meet these qualifications, you must pay tax when you register the rental vehicle.

The purchase or use of a diesel-powered motor vehicle with a gross registered weight of over 14,000 pounds is subject to the Texas Emissions Reduction Plan surcharge. This surcharge is paid at the time of registration with your county tax assessor-collector at a rate of 2.5 percent on 1996 and older vehicles or 1 percent on newer models. The surcharge is not imposed on rental agreements.

Tax Paid at Registration

If you do not qualify to register rental vehicles tax free, you must pay the 6.25 percent motor vehicle sales and use tax when you register a vehicle for rental. Complete the Application for Texas Certificate of Title/Motor Vehicle Tax Statement (Form 130-U) when you register the rental vehicle. To avoid a penalty, you must pay the tax within 20 county working days after you take delivery or bring the vehicle into Texas.

If you pay tax at registration, you can keep the rental tax you collect from your customers until you have reimbursed yourself for the full amount of tax you paid. You may not reimburse yourself for the Texas Emissions Reduction Plan (TERP) surcharge with rental tax collections.

Tax-Free Registration

If you are eligible for tax-free registration, you can establish a minimum tax liability instead of paying the 6.25 percent motor vehicle sales or use tax when registering a motor vehicle for rental. You can also deduct the value of a trade-in or the fair market value of a replaced vehicle from the price of a vehicle purchased for rental. You must pay the TERP surcharge at the time of registration.

The minimum tax liability is equal to 6.25 percent of the taxable value of the vehicle. For example, if you buy a vehicle for \$11,000 and your trade-in is worth \$4,400, the taxable value of the vehicle is \$6,600 (\$11,000 minus \$4,400). If you registered the vehicle tax free for rental,

then the minimum tax would be \$412.50 (\$6,600 multiplied by 6.25 percent).

You can satisfy the minimum tax liability by collecting tax when you rent the vehicle and reporting and paying the tax to the Comptroller. If you retire the vehicle from rental service and have not collected enough rental tax to satisfy the minimum tax liability, you must pay the difference to the Comptroller's office.

To register a vehicle tax free, you must complete an application for Texas Certificate of Title/Motor Vehicle Tax Statement. You can get the application from your county tax assessor-collector or the Texas Comptroller's office.

When you complete the application, you will also show the purchase price, the value of any vehicle used as a tradein or for a fair market value deduction, and the calculated minimum rental tax. You will also have to provide your rental permit number. The application must be signed by both the purchaser and the seller.

Remember, giving false information on title transfer documents is a third degree felony.

Fair Market Value Deduction

A fair market value deduction can only be claimed by those rental accounts that qualify to register their rental vehicles tax free. Other rental accounts must have an actual trade-in to reduce the taxable value of a rental vehicle.

If you are eligible to take a fair market value deduction and have sold a vehicle before purchasing another one for rental, you can take a deduction equal to the sales price of the replaced vehicle. For example, if you sold a vehicle for \$5,000, its fair market value is \$5,000.

If you buy a replacement vehicle before you sell the old one, you can claim a fair market value deduction on the old one only if it is offered for sale and is no longer being used. Since you do not yet know the price the vehicle will sell for, you can use the depreciated book value as the fair market value as long as it is based on generally accepted accounting principles. You cannot make an adjustment later if the vehicle sells for more or less than the depreciated book value.

If the Comptroller's office determines that your book value is not based on accepted accounting principles, the fair market value will be the purchase price you paid for the vehicle less depreciation at the rate of 2 percent per month for the first 36 months and 1 percent per month for the remaining depreciable life.

Example of Application for Texas Certificate of Title (Form 130-U)

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Exemptions, Bad Debts, and Reimbursements

Exemptions

There is no tax on the rentals listed below. The receipts from such rentals must be included as total contract receipts on the rental return, but are not counted as part of your taxable contract receipts.

The following types of rentals are exempt from tax.

- Rentals to a public agency a public agency is an instrumentality of the U.S. government or a department, commission, board, office, institution, or other agency of this state or of a county, city, town, school district, hospital district, water district, or other special district or authority or political subdivision created by or under the Texas constitution or statutes.
- Rentals to a church or religious society no tax is due if the vehicle is designed to carry more than six passengers and at least 80 percent of the vehicle's operating time is used to provide transportation to and from church or religious services or meetings. A vehicle rented for the official or personal use of a minister is not exempt.
- Rentals for re-rental if you rent a vehicle to someone who will then re-rent it to others, do not collect rental tax.
- Rentals to farmers and ranchers there's no tax on rentals of a trailer, semitrailer or a farm machine.
- Rentals to timber operators there's no tax on rentals of a trailer, semitrailer, or timber machine.
- Rentals to a child-care facility no tax is due when renting a vehicle to a qualified residential child-care facility to be used primarily to transport children residing in the facility. A qualified residential childcare facility means one licensed under Chapter 42 Human Resources Code to provide residential care 24 hours a day in a single residential group to children who do not require specialized services or treatment and children who are emotionally disturbed.

There is no exemption for vehicle rentals to a non-profit or public service organization, even if the organization is funded by a public agency.

Exemption Certificate

When making an exempt rental, you must attach an exemption certificate (Form 14-305, back) to the rental contract. The certificate must be signed by an authorized representative of the group or organization renting the vehicle. (See page 8 for an acceptable form of an exemption certificate. You can reproduce this form in any size compatible with your record-keeping requirements.) If you frequently make exempt rentals to a single person or organization, you do not have to get an exemption certificate for each rental. However, you must have a method of correlating specific invoices or rental contracts to that organization's signed exemption certificate in your files.

If you do not get an exemption certificate when you rent a vehicle tax free, you are responsible for proving the rental was exempt.

Bad Debts

You can use bad debts to reduce the amount of your rental tax liability. Bad debts are those that are determined uncollectable, written off as uncollectable in your books, and claimed as a bad debt deduction for federal income tax purposes.

To reduce your tax liability, you can deduct a bad debt from your gross rental receipts. If the bad debt includes taxable and non-taxable receipts, you can deduct only the taxable amount from gross rental receipts. If you've already remitted the tax to the Comptroller's office, you can claim credit for the tax paid on the uncollectable charge on a current tax return or file an amended return for the period the bad debts were written off.

To support a claim for a bad debt deduction or credit, you must keep records of the date of the rental, the name and address of the customer, the amount the customer agreed to pay, any amount on which you have already paid tax, payment or other credit applied to the account, and evidence that the amount has been legally charged off as a bad debt for federal income tax purposes.

Any amount claimed as a bad debt cannot be used as a credit against the minimum gross rental receipts tax owed on a vehicle.

Reimbursement

If you pay motor vehicle sales or use tax on a rental vehicle, you can retain the rental tax you collect to recover the tax you've paid.

You cannot recover more tax than you paid when you registered the vehicle. For example, if you paid \$1000 in motor vehicle sales or use tax at registration, you can retain no more than \$1000 in rental tax.

To recover the tax you've paid, deduct the gross receipts derived from the rental of the vehicle from either line 2 (receipts from short term contracts) or line 6 (receipts from long term contracts) on your Texas Motor Vehicle Rental Tax Return (Form 14-103). This deduction reduces the amount subject to tax (line 3 for short term contracts or line 7 for long term contracts).

For example, you collect \$400 in rental receipts on a vehicle on which you paid tax. If these receipts were from a short term rental, include the \$400 in the short term contract receipts (line 2) but reduce the taxable short term contracts receipts figure (line 3) by \$400, thus reimbursing yourself \$40 (\$400 multiplied by 10 percent). If these receipts were from a long term rental, include the \$400 in the long term contract receipts (line 6) but reduce the taxable long term

contract receipts figure (line 7) by \$400, thus reimbursing yourself \$25 (\$400 multiplied by 6.25 percent).

If you pay motor vehicle sales tax on a rental vehicle, you can only use receipts from rentals of that specific vehicle to recover the tax you've paid. You cannot recover tax from rental receipts for a different vehicle.

If you reimburse the title owner for tax paid on a vehicle rented to you for re-rental, you can recover the tax from the rental tax you collect. You must keep a verification certificate in your records as proof of tax you've paid to the title owner.

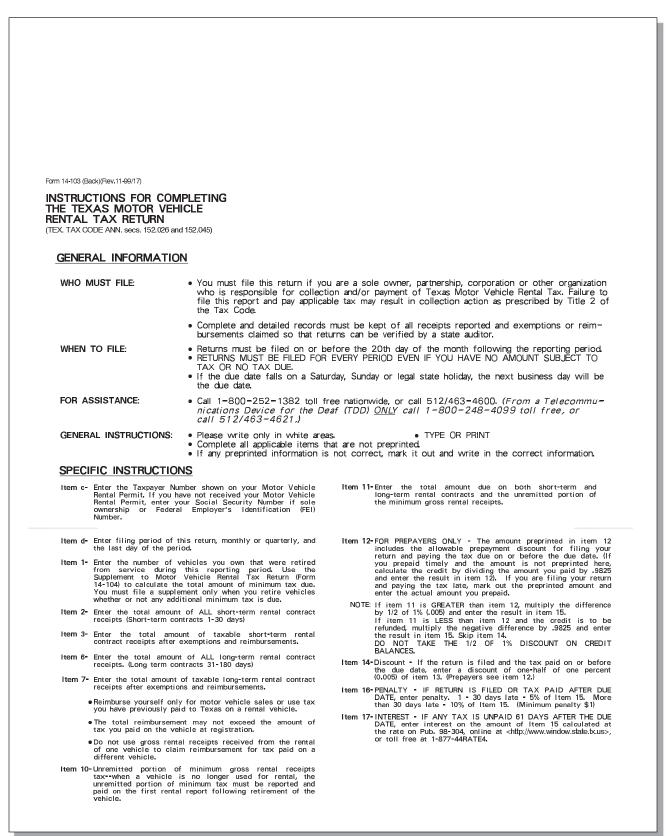
Example of Motor Vehicle Rental Exemption Certificate (Form 14-305, back)

| THIS EXEM | MPTION CERTIFICATE IS PTION CERTIFICATE MUS | <u>NOT</u> VALID FOR TAX-FREE REGISTRATION. <u>T</u> BE ATTACHED TO THE RENTAL CONTRAC | ;T. |
|--|---|--|------------------------------|
| Make of vehicle | | Motor or vehicle identification number | |
| Year model | Body style | License number | |
| - | | or vehicle gross rental receipts tax under the Taxes on Sale the rental of the above described motor vehicle from: | Renta |
| Address (Street & number) | | | |
| City, state, ZIP code | | | |
| | | | |
| Renter claims this exer | nption for the following reason: | | |
| A public age | ncy | Rent for Re-rental | |
| Vehicle ren • designed • primary u | eligious society ted meets the following requirement to carry more than six (6) passeng se must be for providing transporta m church or religious services or | Jers Vehicle rented meets the following | require and ra st have |
| 42 of the Hu children who | child-care facility licensed under C man Resources Code to care for b do not require specialized care <u>ar</u> are emotionally disturbed. | oth agricultural products, plant food | or disp |
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| Exempt person or organization | | | |
| sign here | | | |
| Address (Street & number) | | | |
| City, state, ZIP code | | | |

Example of Texas Motor Vehicle Rental Tax Return (Form 14-103, front)

| a. T Code ■ 15100 | LE RENTAL TAX RETUR | N | | |
|---|---|------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| c. Taxpayer number | d. Filing perio | | | f. Due date |
| | | | | |
| g. Name and mailing addres | ss (Make any necessary name or ad | ldress changes below.) h | IMPORTANT Black in this box i address has change by the preprinted in Black in this box i longer in business date you went out | fyouareno andwriteinthe 2. |
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| 7. Taxable long term contr | ract receipts (See instructions) | | | |
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| - | | tax (See instructions) | | |
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| 14. DISCOUNT: (See Instruction | INS/ | | | • |
| 15. Net tax due after disco | ount (Item 13 minus Item 14) | | | • |
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| 14-103 (Rev.11-99/17) | | | | |
| TEXAS MOTOR VEHICI | LE RENTAL TAX RETUR | (N | | |
| 16. Penalty (see instructio | ons) | | | |
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| 17. Interest (see instruction | ons) | | | · · · |
| | ND PAYABLE (Item 15 nus Item | s 16 and 17) | 10 🔳 | _ |
| | | | 10. 💻 | · · |
| Taxpayer name | | k | | |
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| ■ T Code ■ Taxpay | yer number 🔳 Period | | | |
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| Make the amount in Itom 19 nevelue | W. STATE COMI MOLLEN | here 🖊 | | |
| Make the amount in Item 18 payable t Mail to: COMPTROLLER OF PUBLIC AC 111 E, 17th Street | CCOUNTS | Business phone | | Date |

Example of Texas Motor Vehicle Rental Tax Return (Form 14-103, back)



<u>Minimum Tax</u>

When you take a rental vehicle out of service, you must make sure that you have paid that vehicle's minimum tax liability.

If you registered the vehicle tax-free and have collected rental tax equal to or greater than the sales tax that would have been due when you bought it, you do not owe any additional tax. If you have not satisfied the minimum tax liability, however, you must pay any tax still due on your next rental tax return. You can report the retired vehicle and calculate any tax liability still due on the Texas Motor Vehicle Rental Tax Return – Supplement (Form 14-104, pages 12 and 13). Any unremitted portion of minimum tax is added to your total rental tax due for the reporting period.

If you paid motor vehicle sales or use tax when you registered the vehicle, you do not owe any additional tax when you retire the vehicle from rental service.

If no sales or use tax is due on the original purchase price of a vehicle used for rental, there is no minimum rental tax liability.

Destroyed or Stolen Vehicles

If a vehicle is registered tax free for rental and is later destroyed or stolen and its value not recovered, any remaining minimum rental tax liability is dismissed and no additional tax is due. Vehicles whose minimum tax liabilities have been dismissed cannot be used as fair market value deductions and must be reported on the Texas Motor Vehicle Rental Tax Return – Supplement.

Credits Against Minimum Tax

The minimum tax liability is reduced by the amount of rental tax the title owner collects and remits to the Comptroller's office.

Other credits can be applied towards the minimum tax liability.

• The amount of tax exempted on the rental of a motor vehicle to a public agency, a church, a qualified child-care facility, a farm trailer, farm machine, a trailer used in timber operations, or a timber machine can be used to offset the minimum tax liability.

- If the title owner rents a vehicle to a possession owner for re-rental, the amount of tax the possession owner collects and remits is used as a credit to offset the minimum tax liability. A verification certificate is used to document the credit.
- The amount of rental tax collected and remitted to another state can be used to satisfy the minimum rental tax liability.

Verification Certificate

The possession owner completes Section I (Rent for Re-Rental) and gives it to the title owner to show how much rental tax has been collected. A title owner whose records include a valid Section I can credit the amount of tax collected and remitted by the possession owner against the vehicle's minimum tax liability.

The title owner completes Section II (Reimbursement of Sales or Use Tax Verification) and gives it to the possession owner to show how much tax was paid when the vehicle was registered. The title owner can then contract with the possession owner for reimbursement from rental tax collected. The verification certificate must show the amount of sales or use tax paid when the vehicle was registered, the rental tax collected on rental of the vehicle, and the amount of reimbursement received from the possession owner.

A possession owner whose records include a valid Section II can recover up to the amount of sales or use tax paid to the title owner. The total amount of reimbursement cannot exceed the amount of sales or use tax paid.

Recordkeeping

You must keep a copy of either a Motor Vehicle Verification Certificate For Rental Tax (Form 14-305, front) or a Motor Vehicle Rental Exemption Certificate (Form 14-305, back) in your records to document each claim for credit.

Credits Nontransferable

Each vehicle registered tax free must generate enough rental tax to satisfy its own minimum tax liability. Tax collected and remitted from one vehicle's rental cannot be used to pay a different vehicle's liability.

Example of Texas Motor Vehicle Rental Tax Return - Supplement (Form 14-104, front)

| a. Taxpayer | number | Taxpayer name and mailing addres | b. Period ending | | | Complete this sup determine the among Rental Tax due while ceases to by the purchaser. The total tax due set | ount of Minimum len a motor be used for rental |
|-------------|------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|--|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | supplement MUS the amount report the return. | be the same as |
| YEAR | 2. MAKE | 3. VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER | 4. UNIT NUMBER | 5. CHECK IF SOLEN, DESTROYED OR SALES TAX WAS PAID | 6. MINIMUM RENTAL TAX DETERMINED AT REGISTRATION | 7. GROSS RENTAL TAX COLLECTED | 8. TAX DUE (Item 6 minus 7) Must be zero or greater. |
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Example of Texas Motor Vehicle Rental Tax Return - Supplement (Form 14-104, back)

| INSTRUCTIONS FOR | COMPLETING THE TEXAS MO (TEX. TAX CODE ANN. secs. | TOR VEHICLE RENTAL TAX RETURN SUPPLEMENT 152.026, 152.045 and 152.046) |
|--|--|--|
| | Government Code. To request information | and correct information we have on file about you, with limited exceptions for review or to request error correction, contact us at the address or toll- |
| | GENERAL IN | IFORMATION |
| WHO MUST FILE: | and you remove vehicles from every rental vehicle titled in | if you are required to file a Texas Motor Vehicle Rental Tax Return n rental use which you purchased for rental service. These include your name and every vehicle purchased under conditional sales greements under which you were obligated to buy the vehicle, even not in your name. |
| WHEN TO FILE: | | periods in which you retire vehicles from rental service. Inched to the return for those periods. |
| FOR ASSISTANCE: | Tax Guide, publication number For tax assistance call 1-800-2 | 252-1382 toll free nationwide. The Austin number is 512-463-4600. Device for the Deaf (TDD) <u>ONLY</u> call 1-800-248-4099 toll free. The |
| GENERAL INSTRUCTION | Please write only in white are TYPE OR PRINT. Complete all applicable items | |
| | SPECIFIC IN | STRUCTIONS |
| this supplement | notor vehicle that ceases to be used i t and tax due calculated for each vehi edit to any other vehicle. | for rental purposes during a reporting period must be listed on icle. An excess of rental tax collected on one vehicle cannot be |
| tax return. | payer number shown on your rental | rental tax collected on the rental of the motor vehicle and paid to the Comptroller; rental tax that would have been collected on rentals to |
| shown on your ren tem 5 - • Check this item | ng period, month or quarter, that is tal tax return. if the vehicle was stolen and not stroyed, or if the Motor Vehicle Sales | public agencies, churches or religious societies which are exempt; rental tax collected on the rental of the motor vehicle and paid to other states; rental tax collected on the re-rental of motor vehicles by |
| If this item was on blank. | is paid at the time of registration. checked, leave Items 6, 7 and 8 <i>icle is stolen or destroyed, the</i> | another company and remitted to the Comptroller. Item 8 - Enter the amount of tax due (Item 6 minus Item 7). • If Item 6 is larger than Item 7, subtract Item 7 from Item |
| | m Rental Tax does not have to be | 6 and enter the difference. • If Item 6 is smaller than or the same as Item 7, enter zero |
| | f Minimum Rental Tax calculated at ation on the Application for Texas Form 130-U. | (0). This indicates that the minimum Rental Tax has been satisfied.Item 9 - Enter the combined total of this item on all supplement |
| | unt of rental tax collected for each includes: | pages in Item 10 of the Motor Vehicle Rental Tax Return. |

Example of Motor Vehicle Verification Certificate for Rental Tax (Form 14-305, front)

Comptroller 14-305 of Public Accounts (Rev. 8-89/5)

| MOTOR VEHICLE VERIFICATION CERTIFICATE FOR RENTAL TAX |
|---|
|---|

THIS CERTIFICATE IS NOT VALID FOR TAX-FREE REGISTRATION. THIS CERTIFICATE MUST BE RETAINED FOR TAX VERIFICATION PURPOSES.

SECTION I. RENT FOR RE-RENTAL: VERIFICATION OF GROSS RENTAL RECEIPTS TAX COLLECTED IN TEXAS

To be completed by renter re-renting a motor vehicle and furnished to title owner of motor vehicle. Indicate the total amount of gross rental receipts tax collected and paid to the State Comptroller. This amount can be used as a credit toward satisfying the minimum gross rental receipts tax liability of the title owner. THIS CERTIFICATE IS RETAINED BY TITLE OWNER.

| Make of vehicle | | Motor or vehicle identification number | |
|-----------------|------------|--|----------------|
| Year model | Body style | 9 | License number |

I declare that the information contained in this document and any attachments is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief and that this information can be verified by audit of my records by the Comptroller of Public Accounts.

| Renter for Re-rental (Name) | sign here |
|---|--------------|
| Address (Street and number or P.O. Box) | |
| City, state, ZIP code | |

SECTION II. REIMBURSEMENT OF SALES OR USE TAX VERIFICATION

To be completed by title owner when a vehicle is rented for re-rental and the renter reimburses the owner for the sales or use tax paid at registration. THIS CERTIFICATE IS RETAINED BY THE RENTER.

| | | Motor or veh | nicle identification number | 1 |
|---|--------------------|-----------------|---|--|
| Year model | Body | y style | | License number |
| | | | | |
| | es or use tax in t | he amount of | \$ | at the time of registration on the above descr |
| motor vehicle, that | | | | |
| I have collected gross | rental receipts ta | ax in the amou | unt of \$ | on the gross rental receipts received fr |
| renting the above des | cribed motor veh | nicle, and that | | |
| I have contracted and | received reimbu | rsement in the | e amount of \$ | from |
| | | | | |
| | | Add | ress (Street & number, city, sta | to ZIR code) |
| Renter | | Auu | less (Sileel & number, city, sia | le, ZIF COUE) |
| | mation containe | | | |
| I declare that the info | | d in this docur | nent and any attachme | nts is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and otroller of Public Accounts. |
| I declare that the infor and that this informati | on can be verifie | d in this docur | ment and any attachme ny records by the Comp | nts is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and |
| I declare that the info and that this informati Vehicle owner | on can be verifie | d in this docur | ment and any attachme ny records by the Comp | nts is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and |
| I declare that the info and that this informati Vehicle owner | on can be verifie | d in this docur | ment and any attachme ny records by the Comp | nts is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and |
| I declare that the info and that this informati Vehicle owner Address (Street and number | on can be verifie | d in this docur | ment and any attachme ny records by the Comp | nts is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and |

<u>Tax Returns</u>

If you rent a motor vehicle, you must collect tax on your receipts. The tax rate is 6.25 percent for rental contracts of 31-180 days and 10 percent for rental contracts of 1-30 days. The tax is reported to the Comptroller's office on the Texas Motor Vehicle Rental Tax Return (Form 14-103).

If you did no rental business during the reporting period but want to maintain an active rental account with the Comptroller's office, you must file a tax report. A "zero" report will indicate to the Comptroller that you had no business activity but wish to keep your permit active.

It is your responsibility to file a tax return and payment on time even if you did not receive a preprinted tax return. Forms are available from the Comptroller's office and maybe obtained by calling 1-800-252-1382, by emailing to tax.help@cpa.state.tx.us, or on the Comptroller's website at www.window.state.tx.us.

Monthly, Quarterly, and Annual Tax Returns

If you owe more than \$500 per month in rental tax, you must file monthly or prepay. If you owe less than \$500, you can file quarterly. If you owe less than \$1,000 per year in rental tax and unremitted minimum tax, you can file yearly. Annual filers who go over the \$1,000 threshold before the end of the year should file a quarterly return and remit all tax collected to date, and switch to a quarterly report schedule.

All returns are due by the 20th of the month following the end of the reporting period: monthly returns are due by the 20th of the next month; quarterly returns are due April 20, July 20, October 20, and January 20; and annual returns are due January 20. Due dates falling on holidays or weekends are moved to the next working day.

Preprinted returns for the next reporting period are sent to taxpayers by the first week of the month following the end of the prior reporting period.

Discount for Timely Filing

If you file your tax return and payment on time, you can withhold 0.5 percent of the tax you collect.

Prepaying

If you owe more than \$500 per month in rental tax, you can file quarterly reports if you prepay part of your tax liability.

To prepay, estimate your quarterly tax liability on a Texas Motor Vehicle Rental Tax – Declared Estimate and Prepayment Report (Form 14-105). Your prepayment must be equal to at least 90 percent of the tax due for the reporting period or the amount of tax you paid for the same period in the preceding year.

The prepayment must be sent to the Comptroller's office by the 15th of the second month of the quarter. For example, if you prepay for the first quarter of the calendar year, you must prepay by February 15th and file your quarterly report by April 20th. Prepayers who prepay and file on time receive an additional 1.25 percent discount.

If your prepayment is late, you must file monthly returns for that period. If your prepayment is late or underestimated, it will be applied as a credit on your regular monthly return and you will not receive a prepayment discount.

Penalty for Failure to File or Pay

Tax paid 1-30 days late is assessed a 5 percent penalty. If the tax is paid 31-60 days late, there is an additional 5 percent penalty, for a total of 10 percent. For tax paid more than 60 days late, additional interest accrues at the rate published in our annual interest rate notice (98-304), available online at http://www.window.state.tx.us or by calling us toll free at 1-887-44RATE4.

If you do not pay a liability determination issued by the Comptroller's office before it becomes final, you may be assessed an additional 10 percent determination penalty.

Supplement: Vehicles No Longer In Rental Service

The Texas Motor Vehicle Tax Return – Supplement is used to report a vehicle no longer used for rental service. You can calculate the total amount of minimum rental tax due on the supplement and add the amount to the rental tax reported on your return.

You must file a supplement when you retire vehicles from rental service, whether or not you have additional minimum tax due.

Going Out of Business

If you go out of business, write "Out of Business" across the top of your tax return and put the date you closed. This will let us know to stop sending you tax returns. If you do not give us this information, you will continue to receive preprinted tax forms. Any unremitted portion of minimum tax on rental vehicles not retired on previous returns must be reported and paid on your last return.

Electronic Funds Transfer

If you pay more than \$100,000 per fiscal year Texas Law requires that you pay your Motor Vehicle Rental Tax by

electronic funds transfer. For questions regarding electronic funds transfer, please call the TEXNET Hotline at 1-800-531-5441 extension 3-3010. For questions regarding tax or fee information, please call the Comptroller at 1-800-531-5441 extension 3-3630. You can also email us at eft.cpa@cpa.state.tx.us.

Example of Texas Motor Vehicle Rental Tax Declared Estimate and Prepayment (Form 14-105)

| a. Taxpayer number | b. Filing period | | | c. Due date | | |
|---|---|---|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------|--|
| | | | | | | |
| | Taxpayer name and mailing addre | ess | | | | |
| d. | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| REQUIREMENTS FOR PREF | PAYMENT | | | | | |
| To receive the addition | nal prepayment discount, you m | nust meet the followin | g requirements: | | | |
| your estimate of it must be the sa | tax must equal at least 90% o ame as the tax that was due a | of the total tax that w nd paid in the same pe | ill be due for the priod of the prece | reporting period, (ding year; AND | DR | |
| • your prepayment | report must be postmarked or | n or before the due da | ate. | | | |
| | Dayment is late or underest I be applied as a credit to | | | | | |
| OMPLITATION OF ESTIM | ATED TAX AND PREPAYMENT | r | | | • | |
| | | | | | | |
| Enter your estimate of Total Taxable SHORT-TERM Gross Receipts for the period. (Rentals of 30 days or less) | | | | | • | |
| 2. Estimated 10% tax for the period (Multiply item 1 by .10) | | | | | • | |
| Enter your estimate of Total Taxable LONG-TERM Gross Receipts for the period. (Rentals of 31 days or more) | | | | | • | |
| | for the period (Multiply iten | | | | | |
| 5. Total estimated tax due (<i>Item 2 plus item 4</i>) | | | | | • | |
| | | | | | | |
|). 1.75% PREPAYMENT D | DISCOUNT (Multiply item 5 b | oy .0175) | 6 | | • | |
| 7. TOTAL TAX DUE (Iten | n 5 minus item 6) | | | | • | |
| ↓ [| DETACH BELOW AND KEE | P THIS UPPER PAR | T FOR YOUR RE | CORDS | | |
| | TURN THIS PART ONLY WITH YOU | UR PAYMENT | | • | | |
| | | | | | | |
| TEXAS MOTOR VEHI DECLARED ESTIMAT | E AND PREPAYMENT | e. 🔳 | | | | |
| | AND PAYABLE (<i>From item 7</i>) | ι. | 0 – | | | |
| | AND FATABLE (FION REIN 7) | | | 0. | • | |
| Taxpayer name | | | | 5. | | |
| ■ T Code ■ Taxp | payer number 🔳 Period | I declare that and correct to | the information in th the best of my know | is document and all a | attachments is true | |
| | | | Authorized agent | | | |
| Make the amount in Item 8 payable to STATE COMPTROLLER | | here | | | | |
| | Mail to: COMPTROLLER OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS Austin, Texas 78774-0100 | | e | | | |

Records

Seller

If you are a seller, you must keep complete records of each retail sale of a motor vehicle, including a complete copy of the invoice pertaining to the transaction described in the joint statement completed by you and the buyer. The invoice must show the full sales price of the motor vehicle, plus the itemized price of all accessories attached to the vehicle.

Owner of a Rental Vehicle

If you own a vehicle used for rental, you must keep records and supporting documents validating the taxable value of the vehicle, description and value of any trade-in or replaced vehicle, any amount of motor vehicle sales or use tax paid, amount of rental receipts, and the amount of rental tax remitted to the Comptroller's office. You must keep these records for every vehicle used for rental. You do not need to keep mileage records for tax purposes. If you rent tax-free to a qualified organization such as a public agency, church or religious society, qualified childcare facility, farmer, rancher, timber operator, or person renting for re-rental, you must attach the exemption certificate to the rental contract.

Availability of Records

You must keep accurate records for four years from the date of a sale or rental. All records must be available for inspection and audit by the Comptroller or an authorized representative.

Accounting Methods

If you keep records on a cash basis, accrual basis, or on any generally recognized accounting basis that correctly reflects the operation of the business, you can file tax returns on that basis as long as the method used is consistent.

<u>Audits</u>

The Comptroller's office uses a computerized selection program to determine which taxpayers are audited. The program uses geographical location, volume of business, and some strictly random factors to select taxpayers to be audited.

This section will help you understand what takes place during an audit and the various procedures involved.

Entrance Conference

The auditor assigned to your account will contact you by telephone or letter to arrange an initial meeting at a time convenient to you. The purpose of this "entrance conference" is to get basic information and establish some ground rules for the audit. Subjects which will be discussed include whether you are a corporation, partnership or sole proprietorship; records the auditor will need and where the records are located; and setting up a place where the auditor can work and the hours the auditor will be onsite.

The auditor needs to identify all state taxes for which you are responsible. If possible, all state taxes for which you are responsible are audited at one time to minimize disruption of your business operations.

Records Required

An audit involves verifying the information on rental tax returns, so you should be prepared to make available to the auditor records which show purchase and selling prices, as well as exemption and verification certificates.

Audit Procedures

Initially, the auditor will examine a portion of your records to see if there is an error in your tax compliance. If the auditor finds an error, you will be subject to either a sample or a detailed audit.

A sample audit, as the name implies, examines representative portions of your business records. This procedure minimizes both the cost of conducting audits and the cost to you of providing detailed records for the entire audit period.

In a detailed audit, the auditor reviews and examines all of your business records for the entire audit period. If your records are inadequate, the auditor will base the audit on the best information possible.

An audit will usually cover a four-year period. In certain circumstances, however, you and the Comptroller's office can enter into a written agreement to extend the audit period.

Post-Audit Conferences

At a mutually convenient time after the audit is completed, you and the auditor will have an exit conference to discuss

the results. If the audit uncovered errors, the auditor will be able to tell you of ways to comply with the state's tax laws in the future.

If you disagree with the results of the audit, you can request a reconciliation conference. The auditor and the auditor's supervisor will meet with you and your representative to review the audit and try to resolve any disagreements or misunderstandings.

Audit Review

After the post-audit conferences, the completed audit is reviewed in the local audit office and then sent to the Comptroller's headquarters office in Austin for further review.

After all audit reviews are finished, you will receive either a notice of no tax due or a deficiency determination. A Notice of Deficiency Determination is the Comptroller's official billing notice, showing the total tax, penalty, and interest you owe and the date by which it must be paid.

The notice also lets you know that you have 30 days from the official billing date to request a redetermination hearing for further review of the audit. If you do not request a redetermination hearing within 30 days, the deficiency notice becomes final and you must pay the amount due.

Redetermination Hearing

If you request a redetermination hearing, you will be required to submit a statement of grounds. An attorney from the Comptroller's General Counsel Division will respond to your statement in a position letter. If you agree with the position letter, it may be possible to resolve the issue at this point without a formal hearing.

A redetermination hearing is an administrative review conducted by an administrative law judge. The position of the tax division supporting the audit results will be presented by a hearings attorney from the Comptroller's General Counsel Division. You may present your own case or be represented by an attorney.

Hearings are held before an administrative law judge who is independent of both the General Counsel Division and the tax divisions. Oral hearings are held in Austin. You may present your case in writing, however, if that is more convenient.

The final decision is issued by the Comptroller.

Most disputed audits are resolved through the redetermination process. A taxpayer who disagrees with the Comptroller's decision may, after payment of any liability, take the case to a district court in Travis County, Texas.

Motor Vehicle Rental Tax Forms

- 130-U Application for Texas Certificate of Title/Motor Vehicle Tax Statement documents a retail sale between a seller and a buyer. The form is available from the county tax assessor-collector's office or the Comptroller's office.
- Ap-143 Texas Motor Vehicle Rental Tax Application to apply for a rental tax permit.
- 14-103 Texas Motor Vehicle Rental Tax Return to report and pay rental tax. A report must be filed for every reporting period even if there is no rental tax to report. The return is due by the 20th day of the month following the end of the reporting period.
- 14-104 Texas Motor Vehicle Rental Tax Return Supplement used in conjunction with a rental tax return to report a motor vehicle no longer used for rental. A supplement is filed only when a vehicle is retired from rental service, even if no additional minimum tax is due.
- 14-105 Texas Motor Vehicle Rental Tax Declared Estimate and Prepayment Report to estimate and prepay a tax liability for a reporting period. The prepayment report is due by the 15th day of the second month of the quarterly filing period.
- 14-305 (Front) Motor Vehicle Verification Certificate for Rental Tax to claim credit for rental tax which can be applied against the minimum tax liability of a motor vehicle and to document reimbursement of motor vehicle sales and use tax.
- 14-305 (Back) Motor Vehicle Rental Exemption Certificate to validate a tax exempt rental. The certificate must be signed by the customer or an authorized representative and kept in the title or possession owner's records as proof of the exempt rental.