March 2010
Rental Car Tax Addendum

Instructions

• Before completing this addendum, please read the general information concerning the rental car tax on the back of this page.

• If you are not registered with the Department of Licensing as a rental car company, write your name and Department of Revenue registration number on the line provided at the top of this page, check the box at the top left of this page that says: “I DO NOT RENT CARS TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC,” and attach this addendum to your Combined Excise Tax Return.

• If you are registered with the Department of Licensing as a rental car company, write your name and Department of Revenue registration number on the line provided at the top of this page, and complete the following instructions:

1. On the Rental Car Tax Computation form below, locate the county in which you do business.

2. Under Taxable Amount, enter the amount of revenue attributable to the retail rental of cars.

3. Multiply the taxable amount by the rate shown in the Rate column. Enter this total in the Tax Due column.

4. Repeat steps 1-3 for each county in which you do business.

5. Add the amounts from the Tax Due columns and enter the total in the Total State and County Rental Car Tax Due box at the bottom right of this page.

6. Businesses without taxable activity in the Regional Transit Authority (RTA) district need to use the new Non-RTA location codes (i.e. King County 4000). Enter the amount of gross receipts generated outside the RTA district next to the appropriate location code below, and multiply by the rate indicated immediately to the right. Add all Tax Due amounts and enter in the Total State and County Rental Car Tax Due line.

7. Transfer the total rental car tax due to page 1, line 30 of the Combined Excise Tax Return. RTA and rental car taxes reported on the Rental Car Tax Addendum are due in addition to the retail and local taxes reported on the Combined Excise Tax Return.

8. Attach the completed Rental Car Tax Addendum to the completed Combined Excise Tax Return (even if you do not owe the rental car tax).

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Total State and County Rental Car Tax Due

Transfer to page one, line 30 of the Combined Excise Tax Return.
Rental Car Tax
General Information

Rental cars are exempt from motor vehicle excise tax and are subject instead to state and/or local rental car tax on retail car rentals. The 5.9% state rental car tax applies in addition to the retail sales tax. All counties are authorized to collect an additional 1% local tax on retail car rentals. However, only Franklin, King, Pierce, and Spokane Counties currently impose the 1% additional tax. In addition, Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 82.14.360 gives King County the authority to collect an additional 2% tax on car rentals to fund a new baseball stadium.

The Regional Transit Authority (RTA) tax is imposed at the rate of .8% on car rentals within the RTA District. This RTA tax is in addition to the RTA reported on page 1 of the excise tax return on the same retail car rental.

“Rental car” means a passenger car used solely by a rental car business for rental to others without a driver provided by the rental car business.

Rental cars must be used solely for rental to others. Cars may be moved by the rental car business for the purpose of relocation to another business site, or for the purpose of transporting to or from a maintenance or repair facility. Any other use will cause a car to be subject to motor vehicle excise tax.

“Rental car” does not include:
- A car licensed and operated as a taxicab.
- A leased car that, at the time the lease agreement is signed, is rented for a continuous period of thirty days or more.

The rental car business must register its rental cars with the Department of Licensing under one of the following methods:
1. A rental car business may register all rental cars that are offered for rental in Washington, or
2. A rental car business with in-state and out-of-state locations may register its rental cars under the International Registration Plan (IRP) and allocate registrations according to the provisions of section 1116 of the IRP.

The RTA and rental car taxes reported on the Rental Car Tax Addendum are due in addition to the retail and local taxes reported on the Combined Excise Tax Return.

The rental car taxes may be included with the state and local retail sales taxes on your customer’s invoice. For example, if you are in Seattle and the combined state, local and RTA sales rate is 9.5%, and the King County rental car tax is 9.7%, the total tax charged to your customer would be 19.2% OR if you are in King County outside the RTA area the sales rate is 8.6%, and the King County rental car tax is 8.9%, the total tax charged to your customer would be 17.5%.

If You Need Help
If you need help completing this addendum, please contact the Department of Revenue’s Telephone Information Center at 1-800-647-7706.

For tax assistance, visit dor.wa.gov. To inquire about the availability of this form in an alternate format for the visually impaired, please call (360) 705-6715. Teletype (TTY) users may call 1-800-451-7985.