Deferred Remittance of Bar & Restaurant Occupation Taxes

These FAQs are being provided as a courtesy to the bar & restaurant community as guidance to assist businesses with the temporary establishment of deferred remittance of Bar & Restaurant Occupation Taxes, as provided in the City of Lincoln Municipal Code 3.30.120. The City Treasurer’s office assumes no legal liability or responsibility for the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of any information in these FAQs.

1. Q: Which tax payments can be temporarily deferred?
   A: Bar & Restaurant occupation taxes can be deferred until June 25, 2020 for tax months of April 2020 or prior.

2. Q: If I defer remittance of Bar & Restaurant occupation taxes, will I need to pay them in full later?
   A: Yes. These taxes must be paid no later than June 25, 2020.

3. Q: Can I continue to pay such taxes according to the regular established due dates rather than deferring these payments?
   A: Yes. You are not required to defer remittance of taxes. If you prefer, you can pay these taxes according to the regular scheduled due dates.

4. Q: If I elect to defer remittance of these taxes, do I still need to prepare tax returns?
   A: Yes. You should provide tax returns to the City Treasurer by the regular scheduled due date. If you mail in returns or bring the returns to the City Treasurer’s office, please include a note on the returns that you want to defer payment. If you use the on-line occupation tax system to print these returns or to submit an ACH payment, you can select a deferred status.

5. Q: Is interest and penalties applied to tax returns that have deferred remittance of taxes?
   A: No. If you are preparing a return for tax months April 2020 or prior, interest and penalties will be waived. If you use the online occupation tax system, interest and penalties will default to $0.00.

6. Q: Can I defer remittance of tax months that are already past due?
   A: Yes. You can defer remittance of any tax periods of April 2020 or prior.
7. Q: If I have an active tax assessment for prior tax month(s), can I still defer the remittance of taxes?
A: Yes, any taxes association with a tax assessment can be deferred. Payment of these taxes would be due no later than June 25, 2020 or according to schedules that were prearranged with the City Treasurer’s office.

8. Q: What happens if my tax returns with deferred remittances are not paid by June 25, 2020?
A: Tax returns with deferred remittances or that are past due must be paid by June 25, 2020 to avoid interest and penalties. Any deferred tax months that remain unpaid after that date will be considered delinquent, and a tax assessment may be issued. Applicable tax assessments will include interest and penalties retroactive to the original due date.

9. Q: How do I pay taxes for tax months that I previously deferred?
A: Instructions for paying taxes on deferred remittance of taxes can be found at Lincoln.ne.gov (keyword: ‘Occupation’) in the section titled ‘Temporary Deferred Payment Program’.

10. Q: Should I continue to collect occupation taxes from my customers during this suspension period?
A: Yes. If you normally collect these occupation taxes from your customers, you should continue to do so. Payment of these taxes are required to be paid by June 25, 2020.