

**Illinois Department of Revenue
Regulations**

Title 86 Part 660 Section 660.50	Interest and Procedures
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TITLE 86: REVENUE

**PART 660
TOBACCO PRODUCTS TAX ACT OF 1995**

Section 660.50 Penalties, Interest and Procedures

- a) The provisions of the Uniform Penalty and Interest Act [35 ILCS 735] that are not inconsistent with the Act apply to the enforcement of the Act. See Section 3-1A of the Uniform Penalty and Interest Act.
- b) *When the amount due is under \$300, any distributor who fails to file a return, willfully fails or refuses to make any payment to the Department of the tax imposed by the Act, or files a fraudulent return, or any officer or agent of a corporation engaged in the business of distributing tobacco products to retailers and consumers located in this State who signs a fraudulent return filed on behalf of the corporation, or any accountant or other agent who knowingly enters false information on the return of any taxpayer under the Act is guilty of a Class 4 felony.*
- c) *When the amount due is under \$300, any person who accepts money that is due to the Department under the Act from a taxpayer for the purpose of acting as the taxpayer's agent to make the payment to the Department, but who fails to remit the payment to the Department when due, is guilty of a Class 4 felony.*
- d) *When the amount due is \$300 or more, any distributor who files, or causes to be filed, a fraudulent return, or any officer or agent of a corporation engaged in the business of distributing tobacco products to retailers and consumers located in this State who files or causes to be filed or signs or causes to be signed a fraudulent return filed on behalf of the corporation, or any accountant or other agent who knowingly enters false information on the return of any taxpayer under the Act is guilty of a Class 3 felony.*
- e) *When the amount due is \$300 or more, any person engaged in the business of distributing tobacco products to retailers and consumers located in this State who fails to file a return, willfully fails or refuses to make any payment to the Department of the tax imposed by the Act, or accepts money that is due to the Department under the Act from a taxpayer for the purpose of acting as the taxpayer's agent to make payment to the Department but fails to remit that payment to the Department when due is guilty of a Class 3 felony.*
- f) *Any person who violates any provision of Section 10-20 of the Act and, beginning January 1, 2016, Sections 10-21 and 10-22 of the Act, fails to keep books and records as required under the Act, or willfully violates a rule or regulation of the Department for*

the administration and enforcement of the Act, is guilty of a Class 4 felony. A person commits a separate offense on each day that he or she engages in business in violation of Section 10-20 of the Act and, beginning January 1, 2016, Section 10-21 or 10-22 of the Act.

- g) Any taxpayer or agent of a taxpayer who, with the intent to defraud, purports to make a payment due to the Department by issuing or delivering a check or other order upon a real or fictitious depository for the payment of money, knowing that it will not be paid by the depository, is guilty of a deceptive practice in violation of Section 17-1 of the Criminal Code of 2012.*
- h) Beginning January 1, 2016, any person who violates any provision of Sections 10-20, 10-21 and 10-22 of the Act, fails to keep books and records as required under the Act, or willfully violates a rule or regulation of the Department for the administration and enforcement of the Act, is guilty of a business offense and may be fined up to \$5,000. A person commits a separate offense on each day that he or she engages in business in violation of Sections 10-20, 10-21 and 10-22 of the Act.*
- i) Beginning January 1, 2016, when the amount due is under \$300, any retailer who fails to file a return, willfully fails or refuses to make any payment to the Department of the tax imposed by the Act, or files a fraudulent return, or any officer or agent of a corporation engaged in the retail business of selling tobacco products to purchasers of tobacco products for use and consumption located in this State who signs a fraudulent return filed on behalf of the corporation, or any accountant or other agent who knowingly enters false information on the return of any taxpayer under the Act is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor for a first offense and a Class 4 felony for each subsequent offense.*
- j) Beginning January 1, 2016, when the amount due is \$300 or more, any retailer who fails to file a return, willfully fails or refuses to make any payment to the Department of the tax imposed by the Act, or files a fraudulent return, or any officer or agent of a corporation engaged in the retail business of selling tobacco products to purchasers of tobacco products for use and consumption located in this State who signs a fraudulent return filed on behalf of the corporation, or any accountant or other agent who knowingly enters false information on the return of any taxpayer under the Act is guilty of a Class 4 felony.*
- k) A prosecution for a violation described in subsections (b) through (j) may be commenced within 3 years after the commission of the act constituting the violation. [35 ILCS 143/10-50]*
- l) Beginning January 1, 2016, any person who knowingly acts as a retailer of tobacco products in this State without first having obtained a license to do so in compliance with Section 10-21 of the Act or a license in compliance with Section 4g of the Cigarette Tax Act shall be guilty of a Class A misdemeanor for the first offense and a Class 4 felony for a second or subsequent offense. Each day the person operates as a retailer without a license constitutes a separate offense. [35 ILCS 143/10-53]*
- m) Beginning January 1, 2016, the Department may impose a civil penalty on distributors and retailers not to exceed \$1,000 for each violation of Section 10-37 of the Act. [35 ILCS 143/10-37]*

- n) *Any person whose principal place of business is in the State and who is charged with a violation under Section 10-50 of the Act shall be tried in the county where his or her principal place of business is located unless he or she asserts a right to be tried in another venue. If the taxpayer does not have his or her principal place of business in this State, however, the hearing must be held in Sangamon County unless the taxpayer asserts a right to be tried in another venue. [35 ILCS 143/10-50]*
- o) Any person aggrieved by any decision of the Department under this Part may, within 60 days after notice of the decision, protest in writing and request a hearing. Upon receiving a written request for a hearing, the Department shall give notice to the person requesting the hearing of the time and place fixed for the hearing and shall hold a hearing in conformity with the provisions of this Part and then issue its final administrative decision in the matter to that person. In the absence of a protest and request for a hearing within 60 days, the Department's decision shall become final without any further determination being made or notice given.
- p) *Except as provided by the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Illinois, or any statutes of this State, including, but not limited to, the State Officers and Employees Money Disposition Act [30 ILCS 230], the Tax Tribunal established pursuant to the Illinois Independent Tax Tribunal Act of 2012 [35 ILCS 1010] shall have original jurisdiction over all determinations of the Department reflected on a Notice of Deficiency, Notice of Tax Liability, Notice of Claim Denial, or Notice of Penalty Liability issued under the Tobacco Products Tax Act of 1995 or the Uniform Penalty and Interest Act. Jurisdiction of the Tax Tribunal is limited to Notices of Tax Liability, Notices of Deficiency, Notices of Claim Denial, and Notices of Penalty Liability when the amount at issue in a notice, or the aggregate amount at issue in multiple notices issued for the same tax year or audit period, exceeds \$15,000, exclusive of penalties and interest. In notices solely asserting either an interest or penalty assessment, or both, the Tax Tribunal shall have jurisdiction over cases in which the combined total of all penalties or interest assessed exceeds \$15,000. [35 ILCS 1010/1-45]*

(Source: Added at 40 Ill. Reg. 10954, effective July 29, 2016)