

Gasoline Retailers' Voluntary Compliance Program

October 2009



To: Gasoline Retailers

You have been identified as a retailer making sales of gasoline, gasohol, majority blended ethanol, or diesel (including biodiesel and biodiesel blends).

The department's Bureau of Criminal Investigation and its Audit Bureau have identified multiple instances of gasoline retailers underreporting and underpaying their state tax obligations on the sale of gasoline and other fuels, alcoholic beverages, cigarettes, and soft drinks.

The department and the Illinois attorney general are cooperating to address this issue. As the first step in bringing all gasoline retailers into compliance with Illinois tax laws, gasoline retailers are being offered a voluntary compliance period through November 16, 2009.

At the close of the voluntary compliance period, department investigators and auditors and Illinois attorney general prosecutors will target non-compliant gasoline retailers for both criminal prosecution and civil penalties.

During the period of this voluntary compliance program, gasoline retailers can come forward and fully disclose and pay taxes for the periods of July 2006 through August 2009. A gasoline retailer's full disclosure under the program will be taken into account by the department in determining whether to assess the 50 percent civil fraud penalty and by the Illinois attorney general in deciding whether to file criminal charges.

To participate a taxpayer must

- mail a completed application for the program, amended returns, and tax payment by November 16, 2009, to the following address,
GASOLINE RETAILERS' VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE PROGRAM
ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
PO BOX 19025
SPRINGFIELD IL 62794-9025
- pay applicable penalties and interest when billed,
- fully comply with all taxes administered by the department (by filing amended returns and making payment) for sales-related and income taxes, and
- cooperate with department investigators and auditors doing follow-up work.

If you have questions about this voluntary compliance program, you can call us at one of the numbers listed above.

John Chambers
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Illinois Department of Revenue

Enclosure:

Gasoline Retailers' Voluntary Compliance Application

Illinois Retailers' Occupation Tax (Sales Tax) Fact Sheet For Gasoline Retailers' Voluntary Compliance Program