

Kansas Administrative Regulations

Kansas Department of Revenue

Article 12.—Income Tax

92-12-66a. Abatement of final tax liabilities.

(a) General. The authority of the secretary to abate all or part of a final tax liability shall be exercised only in cases in which there is serious doubt as to either the collectability of the tax due or the accuracy of the final tax liability and the abatement is in the best interest of the state. This authority shall be exercised to effect the collection of taxes with the least possible loss or cost to the state and with fairness to the taxpayer. The determination of whether to abate all or part of a final tax liability shall be wholly discretionary.

(b) Definitions.

(1) "Assets" means the taxpayer's real and personal property, tangible and intangible.

(2) "Collectability" means the ability of the department of revenue to collect, and the ability of the taxpayer to pay, the tax liability.

(3) "Concealment of assets" means a placement of assets beyond the reach of the department of revenue, or a failure to disclose information relating to assets, that deceives the department with respect to the existence of the assets, whether accomplished by act, misrepresentation, silence, or suppression of the truth.

(4) "Final tax liability" means a tax liability that was established by the department to which the taxpayer has no further direct appeal rights.

(5) "Order denying abatement" means an order issued by the secretary that rejects a petition for abatement and refuses to abate any part of a final tax liability.

(6) "Order of abatement" means an order issued by the secretary that abates all or part of a final tax liability and states the reasons that this action was taken.

(7) "Parties" means either the person who requests an abatement of a final tax liability or the person's authorized representative, and either the secretary of revenue or the secretary's designee.

(8) "Secretary" means the secretary of the department of revenue or the designee of the secretary.

(9) "Serious doubt as to collectability" means the doubt that exists when a reasonable person, viewing the controlling circumstances objectively, would conclude that the likelihood of recovering the tax liability is less than probable.

(10) "Serious doubt as to liability" means the doubt that exists when a reasonable person, viewing the controlling circumstances objectively, would conclude that it is probable that the final tax liability previously established by the department is greater than the actual tax liability imposed by the Kansas tax imposition statutes.

(11) "Tax" means the particular tax owed by the taxpayer and shall include any related interest and penalty.

(c) Factors affecting abatement.

(1) No final tax liability shall be abated on the ground of serious doubt as to liability if the taxpayer's liability for the tax has been established on the merits by a court judgment or decision of the court of tax appeals. No final tax liability shall be abated on the ground of serious doubt as to liability if the taxpayer has filed tax returns, absent a showing of the reporting errors on the returns.

(2) No tax liability shall be abated by the secretary if the taxpayer has acted with intent to defraud or to delay collection of tax. Frivolous petitions and petitions submitted only to delay collection of a tax shall be immediately rejected.

(d) Procedures.

(1) Each petition for abatement shall be captioned "petition for abatement of a final tax liability" and shall be submitted to the secretary. The petition shall be signed by the petitioner and the taxpayer, if available, under the penalties of perjury and shall include the following:

(A) The reasons why all or part of the final tax liability should be abated;

(B) the facts that support the abatement; and

(C) a waiver of the taxpayer's right of confidentiality under the confidentiality provisions of chapter 79 of the Kansas statutes annotated and amendments thereto, conditioned upon the secretary's abatement of all or part of the final tax liability.

(2) If a petition alleges serious doubt as to collectability, the taxpayer shall submit a statement of financial condition that lists assets and liabilities, accompanied by an affidavit signed by the preparer under the penalties of perjury, attesting that the financial statement is true and accurate to the best of the preparer's knowledge.

(3) After a petition has been submitted, the taxpayer shall provide any additional verified documentation that is requested by the secretary. The petitioner or taxpayer may be required by the secretary to appear before the secretary and testify under oath concerning a requested abatement.

(4) A petition for abatement may be withdrawn by the taxpayer at any time before its acceptance. When a petition is denied, the taxpayer shall be notified in writing by the secretary within 30 days of the decision to deny.

(5) An order of abatement that abates all or part of a final tax liability may be issued by the secretary. The order may direct any remaining liability to be paid within 30 days. Each order of abatement shall set forth the reasons that the petition for abatement was granted and all relevant information, including the following:

- (A) The names of all parties;
- (B) the amount and type of tax, interest, and penalties that were abated;
- (C) the amount of tax, penalty, and interest that remain to be paid on the date of the order; and
- (D) the amount that has been paid, if any.

(6) The submission of a petition for abatement shall not prevent the collection of any tax.

(e) Effect of an order of abatement. Each order of abatement shall relate to the entire liability of the taxpayer with respect to which the order is made and shall conclusively settle the amount of liability. Once an order of abatement is issued, matters covered by the order shall not be reopened by court action or otherwise, except for one of the following reasons:

- (1) Falsification of statements or concealment of assets by the taxpayer;
- (2) mutual mistake of a material fact sufficient to cause a contract to be reformed or set aside; or

(3) serious doubt as to collectability arising after an abatement order is issued that is based on serious doubt as to liability.

(f) Effect of waiver of confidentiality. The issuance of an order of abatement for \$5,000 or more shall make all reports of the abatement proceeding available for public inspection upon written request, in accordance with K.S.A. 79-3233b, and amendments thereto, and the taxpayer's express waiver of the right to confidentiality under the confidentiality provisions of chapter 79 of the Kansas statutes annotated, and amendments thereto.

(g) Annual report. On or before the last day of September of each year, a summary of each petition of abatement that was granted during the preceding state fiscal year that reduced a final tax liability by \$5,000 or more shall be prepared for filing with the secretary of state, the division of post audit of the legislature, and the attorney general. Each summary shall include the following:

(1) The name of the taxpayer;

(2) a summary of the issues and the reasons for the abatement; and

(3) the amount of final tax liability, including penalties and interest, that was abated.

(Authorized by K.S.A. 79-3236; implementing K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 79-3233, 79-3233a, and 79-3233b, as amended by 2011 SB 212, sec. 1; effective July 27, 2001; amended Oct. 28, 2011.)

***** Authenticated Kansas Administrative Regulation *****