



Rhode Island Division of Taxation

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
Department of Revenue

December 5, 2012

ADV 2012-35

Advisory:

Tax amnesty generates \$17 million

Rhode Island's tax amnesty program wound up generating more than \$17 million, helped by a last-minute surge in applications, according to new figures posted by the Rhode Island Division of Taxation, which administered the program.

"We're delighted that so many taxpayers took advantage of this opportunity to clean their slates and get a fresh start," said Rhode Island Tax Administrator David M. Sullivan.

The amount generated so far – totaling \$17.19 million – is greater than the \$9.88 million collected from the last statewide amnesty program, in 2006. It also exceeds the \$10.94 million that the state had estimated the amnesty would bring in for the current fiscal year

The Tax Administrator is required by state law to provide an analysis of the amnesty program by January 1, 2013, to the chairpersons of the House and Senate Finance Committees, with copies to members of the state's Revenue Estimating Conference. When that report is filed, the amnesty amount will be even higher than \$17.19 million, partly because some applicants are on payment plans (with final amounts due before December 15, 2012), and because some applications are still being finalized.

The amnesty was the result of legislation approved by the General Assembly and signed into law in June by Governor Lincoln D. Chafee. It was an opportunity for people to pay delinquent state taxes. For those who did, the Rhode Island Division of Taxation waived penalties and reduced interest by 25 percent. The 75-day amnesty ran from September 2 through November 15, 2012. There were more than 6,650 applications in total.

Following are the top four sources of revenue for the amnesty:

Rhode Island's tax amnesty 2012	
Personal income tax	\$ 5,803,001
Public service corporation tax	\$ 4,624,287
Sales and use tax	\$ 3,620,545
Corporate tax	\$ 1,780,535

Figures through November 30, 2012, and include tax and interest paid.

Contact:

Neil Downing
Chief Revenue Agent
Rhode Island Division of Taxation
Neil.Downing@tax.ri.gov
(401) 574-8115