

The Tax Committee follows the North Carolina General Statutes or previously established general guidelines in their recommendations of relief for assessed late list penalties (no relief, partial relief, full relief). The committee also considers late filed exemption and exclusion applications, and makes recommendations regarding requests for relief of interest.

Consideration of relief of late list penalties:

- If a taxpayer is new to North Carolina and fails to list the first year required, he may be granted one-time relief for late list penalties, partially or in full.
- If a taxpayer has property that should have been listed and is unaware of the tax laws, he may be granted one-time relief for late list penalties, partially or in full.
- If a taxpayer has listed timely in at least two consecutive years immediately prior to the year for which a penalty is assessed, the penalty may be relieved, partially or in full.
- If a taxpayer inadvertently omitted items from his timely listing, the penalty may be relieved, partially or in full.
- If a taxpayer was involved in military deployment and was unable to list timely, the penalty may be relieved, partially or in full.
- If a taxpayer was unable to list due to circumstances beyond their control (e.g. – hospitalization), the penalty may be relieved, partially or in full.
- Guidelines have been established for companies with penalties assessed as a result of audits. Relief may be granted partially or in full if it appears there was no willful attempt to understate value, if the taxpayer was cooperative and forthright during the audit and if there were no significant issues with their previous listings. The recommendation of the auditor is carefully considered in making this determination.

Consideration of late-filed applications for exemption or exclusion:

- The tax committee will recommend approval of late filed exemptions or exclusions as long as the request complies with the general statutes, or if case law exists that is clear and generally supports the request. Late filed applications must be hand-delivered by December 31 or postmarked by December 31 of the calendar year for which the exemption or exclusion is requested.
- The tax committee will recommend denying any applications received after December 31st of the calendar year for which the exemption or exclusion is requested. There is no statutory authority to exempt or exclude property if the application is made outside the calendar year for which the exemption is sought.

Consideration of requests for relief of interest:

- Once interest accrues, it is considered tax per NCGS 105-273(15). Tax cannot be compromised per NCGS 105-380. Therefore the tax committee typically recommends denial of requests for relief of interest. Should a situation arise in which the committee determines that interest should be relieved, the Assessor will request the item be removed from the consent agenda and considered separately by the Board of Commissioners.