

# COMPLETE AND RETURN BY FEBRUARY 1, 2010

RETURN FORM BY MAIL TO:  
**OFFICE OF TAX ADMINISTRATION  
OPERATION DIVISION  
PO BOX 449  
FAYETTEVILLE NC 28302-0449**

OR

RETURN FORM IN PERSON AT:  
**OFFICE OF TAX ADMINISTRATION  
CUSTOMER SERVICE  
117 DICK ST FIFTH FLOOR COURTHOUSE  
ROOM 530  
FAYETTEVILLE NC 28301-5749**

Commonly Asked Questions

## Who must file a listing, and what do I list?

Any individual(s) or business(es) owning or possessing personal property used or connected with a business or other income producing purpose on January 1. Temporary absence of personal property from the place at which it is normally taxable shall not affect this rule. For example, a lawn tractor used for personal use, to mow the lawn at your home is not listed. However, a lawn tractor used as part of a landscaping business in this county must be listed if the lawn tractor is normally in this county, even if it happens to be in another state or county on January 1.

NCGS 105-308 reads .. "any person whose duty it is to list any property who willfully fails or refuses to list the same within the time prescribed by law shall be guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor. The failure to list shall be prima facie evidence that the failure was willful." Per N.C.G.S. 14-3, a class 2 misdemeanor.

**FEDERAL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER:** The Federal ID# relates to any business other than a sole-proprietorship. This number is needed to establish the identity of any business operating under a corporation, partnership, LLC or other business entity. Disclose only your Federal ID number on this form, not your Social Security.

## When and where do I list?

Listings are due on or before February 1<sup>st</sup>. They must be filed with the Cumberland County Tax Department at:

Cumberland County Tax Administration, 117 Dick St. 5th Floor, Room 530 Courthouse, Fayetteville NC 28301.

As required by state law, late listing will receive a penalty. An extension of time to list may be obtained by sending a written request showing "good cause" to the County Assessor by February 1<sup>st</sup>.

## How do I list? - Two important rules:

- 1) Read these Instructions for each schedule or group.
- 2) If a Schedule or Group does not apply to you, indicate so on the listing form, DO NOT LEAVE A SECTION BLANK, DO NOT WRITE "SAME AS LAST YEAR". A listing form may be rejected for these reasons and could result in late listing penalties.

## INFORMATION SECTION

Complete all sections at the top of the form, whether or not they are specifically addressed on these INSTRUCTIONS. Attach additional sheets if necessary.

- 1) Business address: Please note here the location of the property. The actual business location may be different from the mailing address. Post Office Boxes are not acceptable. Please correct all Rural Routes to 911 address updates.
- 2) Principal Business in this County: What does the listed business do? For example: Tobacco Farmer, Manufacture electrical appliances, Laundromat, Restaurant.
- 3) Other N.C. Counties where personal property is located: If your business has property normally located in other counties, list those counties here.
- 4) Contact person for audit: In case the county tax office needs additional information, or to verify the information listed, list the person to be contacted here.
- 5) If out of business: If the business we have sent this form to has closed, please complete this section and attach any additional information regarding the sale of the property.
- 6) Make any necessary address changes.

## INSTRUCTIONS

### SCHEDULE A

This portion of the form must be completed in entirety. Statements such as "same as last year" will not be accepted and will be returned to taxpayer. All applicable penalties may apply due to a late listing which may arise from returning the listing form to the taxpayer.

The year acquired column: The rows which begin "2009" are the rows in which you report property acquired during the calendar year 2009. Other years follow the same format.

Schedule A is divided into nine (9) groups. Each is addressed below. Round amounts to the nearest dollar. If there are any additions and/or deletions, please attach a separate sheet which describes and gives the cost of each of those additions and/or deletions. If the deletion is a transferred or paid out lease, please note this, and to whom the property was transferred.

**COST**—Note that the cost information you provide must include all costs associated with the acquisition as well as the costs associated with bringing that property into operation. These costs may include, but are not limited to invoice cost, trade-in allowances, freight, installation costs, sales tax, and construction period interest.

The cost figures reported should be historical cost, that is the original cost of an item when first purchased, even if it was first purchased by someone other than the current owner. For example, you, the current owner, may have purchased equipment in 2009 for \$100, but the individual you purchased the equipment from acquired the equipment in 2001 for \$1000. You, the current owner, should report the property as acquired in 2001 for \$1000.

Property should be reported at its market cost at the retail level of trade. For example, a manufacturer of computers can make a certain model for \$1000 total cost. It is typically available to any retail customer for \$2000. If the manufacturer uses the model for business purposes, he should report the computer at its market cost at the retail level of trade, which is \$2000, not the \$1000 it actually cost the manufacturer. Give itemized list of equipment so that the appropriate depreciation can be given.

#### Group (1) Machinery & Equipment

This is the group used for reporting the cost of all machinery and equipment. This includes all warehouse and packaging equipment, as well as manufacturing equipment, production lines, hi-tech or low-tech. List the total cost by year of acquisition, including fully depreciated assets that are still connected with the business.

For example, a manufacturer of textiles purchased a knitting machine in October 2009 for \$10,000. The sales tax was \$200, shipping charges were \$200, and installation costs were \$200. The total cost that the manufacturer should report is \$10,600, if there were no other costs incurred. The \$10,600 should be added in group (1) to the 2009 additions and the 2009 current year's cost column.

#### Group (2) Office Furniture & Fixtures

This group is for reporting the costs of all furniture & fixtures and small office machines used in the business operation. This includes, but is not limited to, file cabinets, desks, chairs, adding machines, curtains, blinds, ceiling fans, window air conditioners, telephones, intercom systems, and burglar alarm systems.

#### Group (3) Leasehold Improvements

This group includes real estate improvements to leased property contracted for, installed and paid for by the lessee which may remain with the real estate, thereby becoming an integral part of the leased fee real estate upon expiration or termination of the current lease, but which are the property of the current lessee who installed it. (Examples are lavatories installed by lessee in a barber shop, special lighting, or dropped ceiling.) If you have no leasehold improvements write "none".

#### Group (4) Expensed Items

This group is for reporting any assets which would typically be capitalized, but due to the business' capitalization threshold, they have been expensed. Section 179 expensed items should be included in the appropriate group (1) through (4). If you have no expensed items write "none".

#### Groups (5) Signs & (7) Copiers

These groups are for reporting all signs and copiers used in the operation and advertising of your business.

#### Group (6) Computer Equipment

This group is for reporting the costs of non-production computers & peripherals. This includes, but is not limited to, personal computers, midrange, or mainframes, as well as the monitors, printers, scanners, magnetic storage devices, cables, & other peripherals associated with those computers. This category also includes software that is capitalized and purchased from an unrelated business entity. This does not include high tech equipment or computer controlled equipment, or the high-tech computer components that control the equipment. This type of equipment would be included in Group (1). POS Point of Sale Equipment Is Not Considered as Computer Equipment.

#### Group (8) Fully Depreciated Items

All fully depreciated items not listed in schedule A1-7 should be listed here at 100% of the original cost installed.

### Group (9) Construction in Progress (CIP)

CIP is business personal property which is under construction on January 1. The accountant will typically not capitalize the assets under construction until all of the costs associated with the asset are known. In the interim period, the accountant will typically maintain the costs of the asset in a CIP account. The total of this account represents investment in tangible personal property, and is to be listed with the other capital assets of the business during the listing period. List in detail, if you have no CIP, write "none".

### Group (10) Supplies

Almost all businesses have supplies. These include normal business operating supplies. The "TYPE" column is for, but is not limited to the following "types" of supplies: OFFICE SUPPLIES, MAINTENANCE & JANITORIAL SUPPLIES, MEDICAL, DENTAL, OR OTHER PROFESSIONAL SUPPLIES, BEAUTY & BARBER SHOP SUPPLIES, FUELS OF ALL KINDS, EQUIPMENT SPARE PARTS, HOTEL & MOTEL SUPPLIES. List the type and cost on hand as of January 1. Remember, the temporary absence of property on January 1 does not mean it should not be listed if that property is normally present. Supplies that are immediately consumed in the manufacturing process or that become a part of the property being sold, such as packaging materials, or raw materials, for a manufacturer, do not have to be listed. Even though inventory is exempt, supplies are not. Even if a business carries supplies in an inventory account, they remain taxable.

### Billboards

All billboards should be reported using the Billboard and Outdoor Advertising Structures Instructional Page and Schedule I-1.

### SCHEDULE B — ACQUISITIONS AND / OR DISPOSALS

All machinery, equipment, furniture, fixtures, etc, acquired since January 1 of the prior year must be itemized for appropriate depreciation showing the total installed cost of each item.

In addition, all disposals made since January 1 of the prior year must be itemized in detail in the appropriate columns. Important: ACQUISITION YEAR AND ORIGINAL COST MUST BE GIVEN FOR DISPOSALS. An additional schedule may be attached if necessary.

### SCHEDULE C — AIRCRAFT, MOBILE HOMES & OFFICES, UNLICENSED VEHICULAR EQUIPMENT —ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY

This category is for these types of equipment. Do not list motor vehicles with a current North Carolina registration. Also list any motor vehicles which are not registered and trailers with a multi-year tag. Short term rental or lease vehicles with (UDR) U-Drive It Tags are exempted from property tax. Season Law 2000-2 Gross Receipts Tax replaces the ad valorem tax previously levied on these vehicles.

### SCHEDULE D — LEASED EQUIPMENT AND OR LEASED HEAVY EQUIPMENT 1500 LBS. OR MORE WITH SHORT-TERM LEASE OR RENTAL IN YOUR POSSESSION ON JANUARY 1.

If on January 1, you have in your possession any business machines, machinery, furniture, vending equipment, game machines, postage meters, or any other equipment which is loaned, leased, or otherwise held and not owned by you, a complete description and ownership of the property should be reported in this section. This information is for office use only. Assessments will be made to the owner/lessor. If you have already filed the January 15th report required by §105-315, so indicate. If you have none write "none" in this section. If property is held by a lessee under a "capital lease" where there is a conditional sales contract, or if title to the property will transfer at the end of the lease due to a nominal "purchase upon termination" fee, then the lessee is responsible for listing under the appropriate group. Equipment purchased under a capital lease should be listed in schedule A. Operating leases should be listed in schedule D.

**Short-Term Heavy Equipment** that is leased or rented is exempt from property tax. Session Law 2008—144 Gross Sales Receipts replace Ad Valorem tax previously levied on the equipment. This includes Heavy Equipment such as earthmoving, construction or industrial equipment that is mobile and weighs 1500 lbs. or more and that is industrial lift equipment, industrial material handling equipment, industrial electrical generation equipment, or similar piece of industrial equipment and any attachment regardless of the weight of the attachment.

### AFFIRMATION

If the form is not signed by an authorized person, it will be rejected and could be subject to penalties. Please read the information on this section of the form regarding who may sign the listing form.

Listings submitted by mail shall be deemed to be filed as of the date shown on the postmark affixed by the U.S. Postal Service. Any other indication of the date mailed (such as your own postage meter) is not considered and the listing shall be deemed to be filed when received in the office of the tax assessor.

Any person who willfully attempts, or who willfully aids or abets any person to attempt in any manner to evade or defeat the taxes imposed under this Subchapter (of the Revenue Laws), whether by removal or concealment of property or otherwise, shall be guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor (punishable by imprisonment up to 6 months).