# MINNESOTA STATUTES 1975 SUPPLEMENT

## SALES TAXES; CERTAIN USES THEREOF 297.07

[1975 c 203 s 3]

#### 296.15 Nonpayment of tax, penalties.

**Subdivision 1. Penalty, interest.** (a) In case a properly licensed distributor, special fuel dealer, bulk purchaser or motor carrier does not pay any tax or inspection fee when due, a penalty of one percent per day for the first ten days of delinquency shall accrue, and thereafter the tax, fees and penalty shall bear interest at the rate specified in section 270.75.

(b) If any person operates as a distributor, special fuel dealer, bulk purchaser or motor carrier without first securing the license required under this chapter, any tax or inspection fee imposed by this chapter shall become immediately due and payable. A penalty of 25 percent shall be imposed upon the tax and fee due thereon. The tax, fees and penalty shall bear interest at the rate specified in section 270.75

Subd. 2. Failure to pay taxes; proceedings. Upon the failure of any person to pay any tax or inspection fees within the time provided by sections 296.01 to 296.49, all taxes and inspection fees imposed by this chapter shall become immediately due and payable, whether or not the person has previously reported the tax and inspection fees to the commissioner, and after the default in payment the commissioner may deliver to the attorney general a certified statement of the amount due from each person hereunder whose excise tax and inspection fees are delinquent. The statement shall give the address of the person owing such tax and inspection fees, the month for which the tax and inspection fees are due, the date of the delinquency, and such other information as may be required by the attorney general. It shall be the duty of the attorney general, upon receipt of the statement, to bring an action in the district court of Ramsey County, or of the county in which the delinquent taxpayer resides, to recover the amount of such tax and inspection fees, with penalty, interest and costs and disbursements, and the action may be tried in the county in which it is brought. The judgment of the court when so obtained shall draw interest at the rate specified in section 270.75 and shall be enforceable in the manner provided by law for the enforcement of judgments obtained in civil actions.

[1975 c 377 s 32,33]

[For text of subds 3 to 6, see M.S.1974]

### CHAPTER 297. SALES TAXES; CERTAIN USES THEREOF

Sec. 297.07 Distributor to file returns.

297.08 Contraband. 297.35 Distributors, monthly returns.

297.07 Distributor to file returns.

[For text of subds I to 3, see M.S.1974]

Subd. 4. Monthly tax payments; penalty for nonpayment. All taxes shall be due and payable not later than the eighteenth day of the month following the calendar month in which they were incurred, and thereafter shall bear interest at the rate specified in section 270.75. The commissioner in issuing his final assessment pursuant to subdivision 3 shall add to the amount of tax found due and unpaid a penalty of ten percent thereof, except that, if he finds that the distributor has made a false and fraudulent return with intent to evade the tax imposed by sections 297.01 to 297.13, the penalty shall be 25 percent of the entire tax as shown by the corrected return. If any such tax is not paid within the time herein specified for the payment thereof or within 30 days after final determination of an appeal to the Minnesota tax court relating thereto, there shall be added thereto a specific penalty equal to ten percent of the amount so remaining unpaid, but in no event shall the penalty for failure to pay such tax within the time provided for such payment be less than \$10. The commissioner is authorized to extend the time for paying such tax without penalty for good cause shown.

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## 297.07 SALES TAXES; CERTAIN USES THEREOF

[1975 c 377 s 34]

[For text of subds 5 and 6, see M.S.1974]

#### 297.08 Contraband.

## Subdivision 1. Contraband defined. The following are declared to be contraband:

- (1) All packages which do not have stamps affixed to them as provided in sections 297.01 to 297.13 and all devices for the vending of cigarettes in which such unstamped packages are found.
- (2) Any device for the vending of cigarettes and all packages of cigarettes contained therein, where the device does not afford at least partial visibility of contents. Where any package exposed to view does not carry the stamp or imprint required by sections 297.01 to 297.13, it shall be presumed that all packages contained in the device are unstamped and contraband.
- (3) Any device for the vending of cigarettes to which the commissioner or his authorized agents have been denied access for the inspection of contents. In lieu of seizure, the commissioner or his agent may seal the device to prevent its use until inspection of contents is permitted.
- (4) Any device for the vending of cigarettes which does not carry the name and address of the owner, plainly marked and visible from the front of the machine.
- (5) Any device including, but not limited to, motor vehicles, trailers, snowmobiles, airplanes and boats used with the knowledge of the owner or of a person operating with the consent of the owner for the storage or transportation of more than 5,000 cigarettes which are contraband under this subdivision. When cigarettes are being transported in the course of interstate commerce, or are in movement from either a public warehouse to a distributor upon orders from a manufacturer or distributor, or from one distributor to another, the cigarettes are not contraband, notwithstanding the provisions of clause (1).
- **Subd. 2. Seizure.** Any cigarettes or other property made contraband by subdivision 1 may be seized by the commissioner or his authorized agents or by any sheriff or other police officer, with or without process, and shall be subject to forfeiture as provided in subdivisions 3 and 4.

#### [For text of subd 3, see M.S.1974]

Subd. 4. Disposal. The property described in subdivision 1, clause 5 shall be confiscated after conviction of the person from whom it was seized, upon compliance with the following procedure: the commissioner or his agents, shall file with the court a separate complaint against the property, describing it and charging its use in the specified violation, and specifying substantially the time and place of the unlawful use. A copy of the complaint shall be served upon the defendant or person in charge of the property at the time of seizure, if any. If the person arrested is acquitted, the court shall dismiss the complaint against the property and order it returned to the persons legally entitled to it. Upon conviction of the person arrested, the court shall issue an order directed to any person known or believed to have any right or title or interest in, or lien upon, any of the property, and to persons unknown claiming any right, title, interest or lien in it, describing the property and stating that it was seized and that a complaint against it, charging the specified violation, has been filed with the court, and requiring the persons to file with the clerk of the court their answer to the complaint, setting forth any claim they may have to any right or title to, interest in, or lien upon the property, within thirty days after the service of the order as herein provided, and notifying them in substance that if they fail to file their answer within the time, the property will be ordered sold by the commissioner or his agents. The court shall cause the order to be served upon any person known or believed to have any right, title, interest or lien as in the case of a summons in a civil action, and upon unknown persons by publication, as provided for service of summons in a civil action. If no answer is filed as and within the time prescribed, the court shall, upon affidavit by the clerk

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of the court, setting forth the fact, order the property sold by the commissioner or his agents, and the proceeds of the sale, after deducting the expense of keeping the property and fees and costs of sale, paid into the state treasury, to the general fund. If answer is filed as and within the time provided, the court shall fix a time for hearing, which shall be not less than ten nor more than 30 days after the time for filing answer expires. At the time fixed for hearing, unless continued for cause, the matter shall be heard and determined by the court, without a jury, as in other civil actions. If the court shall find that the property, or any part thereof, was used in the violation specified in the complaint, he shall order the property unlawfully used, sold as herein provided, unless the owner shall show to the satisfaction of the court that he had no notice or knowledge or reason to believe that the property was used or intended to be used in the violation. The officer making a sale after deducting the expense of keeping the property, the fee for seizure, and the costs of the sale, shall pay all liens according to their priority, which are established at the hearing as being bona fide and as existing without the lienor having any notice or knowledge that the property was being used or was intended to be used for or in connection with the violation specified in the order of the court, and shall pay the balance of the proceeds into the state treasury to the general fund. Any sale under the provisions of this section shall operate to free the property sold from any and all liens thereon. Appeal from the order of the district court will lie to the supreme court as in other civil actions. At any time after seizure of the articles specified in this subdivision, and before the hearing herein provided for, the property shall be returned to the owner or person having a legal right to possession thereof, upon execution by him of a good and valid bond to the state of Minnesota, with corporate surety, in the sum of not less than \$100 and not more than double the value of the property seized, to be approved by the court in which the case is triable, or a judge thereof, conditioned to abide any order and the judgment of the court, and to pay the full value of the property at the time of seizure.

[1975 c 340 s 1-3]

### 297.35 Distributors, monthly returns.

[For text of subds 1 to 4, see M.S.1974]

Subd. 5. All taxes shall be due and payable not later than the eighteenth day of the month following the calendar month in which they were incurred, and thereafter shall bear interest at the rate specified in section 270.75. If any tax required to be paid under the provisions of this section is not paid within the time herein specified, a penalty of five percent of the unpaid tax remaining each month up to a maximum of 25 percent is herein imposed but in no event shall the penalty for failing to pay such tax within the time so provided be less than \$10. The commissioner of revenue is authorized to extend the time for paying such tax without penalty for good cause shown.

Where, under the provisions of subdivisions 2 and 3, the amount of tax due for a given period is assessed without allocating it to any particular month or months, the interest shall commence to run from the date of such assessment.

The commissioner shall have power to reduce or abate the penalty or interest when in his opinion the facts warrant such reduction or abatement. The exercise of this power shall be subject to the provisions of chapter 270 if the reduction or abatement exceeds \$500.

[1975 c 377 s 35]

[For text of subds 6 to 9, see M.S.1974]