

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Amusement Tax

Q. – *Starting in 2006, why is the Amusement Tax 2.5% for Institutions of Purely Public Charity which are engaged in performing arts but the rate of all other producers is 5%?*

A. - Act 186 of 2004 provides that, notwithstanding the provisions of any other act, the City of Pittsburgh must use two-thirds of the Non-Resident Sports Facility Usage Fee collected pursuant to the Act of December 31, 1965, known as the Local Tax Enabling Act, to reduce the amount of tax on admissions to places of amusement that are involved with performing arts for which the net proceeds therefrom inure to the benefit of an institution of purely public charity. If it is ever determined that the City of Pittsburgh cannot impose and collect a Non-Resident Sports Facility Usage Fee pursuant to the Local Tax Enabling Act, the City of Pittsburgh will not establish a rate for Institutions of Purely Public Charity that exceeds five per centum (5%) for the Amusement Tax.

Q. – *Are admissions to a movie theater taxable at 2.5% for Institutions of Purely Public Charity? Is a movie theater considered a Performing Art?*

A. – Admissions to a movie theater would be subject to the Amusement Tax at 5%. This is considered entertainment. Admissions are taxable at 5% because this is not a live performance. Moving picture shows are specifically included within the definition of amusement, appearing within the Pittsburgh Code.

Q. – *Does a home builders' show have to collect the Amusement Tax?*

A. – The admission receipts from a home builders' show are properly subject to the Amusement Tax. The Amusement Tax Chapter 241 of the Pittsburgh Code extends, by definition to trade shows and similar exhibitions.