

ROOM OCCUPANCY TAX Summary of Guidelines and Penalties

The Room Occupancy Tax (ROT) for Kure Beach, which is collected by the New Hanover County Tax Office on behalf of the town, is six percent. If you are renting out your property on a short term basis and are not currently collecting and reporting this tax, please contact Keith Harabin with the County's Room Occupancy Tax department as soon as possible so that he can mail you the proper reporting forms to set up an account in your name for this tax. He can be reached at 910-798-7113 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Please note that property owners who rent out their private residences and cottages in Kure Beach for short term use, as well as real estate brokers or rental agents/operators who rent out said properties on behalf of the property owner for short term use, shall collect the appropriate ROT. The tax shall be added to the rental price that is passed on to the renter, and shall not be borne by the owner, rental agent or operator. The tax is due and payable to the County in monthly installments on or before the 20th day of the month following the month in which the tax accrues. Every person, firm, corporation or association liable for the tax shall, on or before the 20th day of each month, prepare and render a return on the County's Room Occupancy Tax Report. A penalty of five percent of the amount of the tax will be assessed if the return is not filed by the 20th day of the month in which it is due, with an additional five percent for each additional month, or fraction thereof; maximum twenty-five percent penalty or \$5.00, whichever is greater. A penalty of ten percent will be assessed if the tax is not paid by the 20th day of the month in which it is due; minimum \$5.00 penalty. Any person who willfully attempts to evade and/or who willfully fails to pay the tax and make and file the return, shall be guilty of a Class One Misdemeanor, in addition to all other penalties provided by law.

Also note that this tax would NOT apply: (a) to any private residence or cottage rented for less than 15 days in a calendar year unless listed with a real estate broker or agent, or (b) to any room, lodging or accommodation furnished and applied to the same person for a period of 90 or more continuous days, or (c) to an accommodation arranged and provided to a person by a school, camp, or similar entity where a tuition or fee is charged to the person for enrollment in the school, camp, or similar entity. (2014-3, s.8.1(b).)