Bittersweet Partners, LLC 460 Elk Mountain Scenic Hwy. Asheville, NC 28804

January 9, 2018

## Dear BCTDA:

We received a letter stating that our occupancy tax payment for October 2017 was postmarked November 21<sup>st</sup> (one day late) and consequently, our account has incurred penalties totaling \$81.46. I believe this was due to putting the check in the mail after the postal service made their daily pickup. Please consider waiving these penalties since this is our first offense in being late.

Sincerely,

Stephen DerMargosian, Owner

Bittersweet Partners, LLC

Email: info@bittersweetcottage.com

Phone: 828-545-8693

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December 29, 2017

Bittersweet Partners LLC 460 Elk Mountain Scenic Hwy Asheville, NC 28804 Account 393

The County received an occupancy tax remittance for October 2017 with a postmark of November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017. Per NC General Statute, both the payment and remittance form are required to be postmarked or hand delivered to the Finance Department by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month following the sales. Your account has incurred the following penalties per NCGS 105-236(a)(3)-(4):

Failure to file (5%) \$27.15
Failure to pay tax when due (10%) \$54.31
Total penalties \$81.46

Please remit the total due to the Buncombe County Finance Department. Penalties are assessed per the NC General Statutes and the Finance Department has no authority to waive any penalties. If you would like to request a waiver of the penalty, please contact the Buncombe County Tourism Development Authority at (828) 258-6111 for information on the waiver request process.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Finance Department at (828) 250-4130 or gl@buncombecounty.org.

Thank you,

**Buncombe County Finance Department** 

## **Jonna Reiff**

From:

Krystal Frizzell < Krystal. Frizzell@buncombecounty.org>

Sent:

Monday, January 22, 2018 11:25 AM

To:

Jonna Reiff

Cc:

Jennifer W. Durrett

Subject:

FW: Bittersweet Partners request for waiver letter

**Attachments:** 

Request for waiver-Bittersweet Partners Ltr..pdf; Occupancy Tax penalty fees.pdf;

\$81.46

\_Bittersweet Partners October Remittance.pdf

Jonna,

We have been receiving occupancy taxes from Bittersweet Cottage & Suites since July of 2015. This is first late payment we have received from them.

Attached you will find the envelope copy you requested.

Thank you, Krystal

From: Jennifer W. Durrett

Sent: Monday, January 22, 2018 8:56 AM

**To:** Krystal Frizzell < Krystal.Frizzell@buncombecounty.org > **Subject:** FW: Bittersweet Partners request for waiver letter

From: Jonna Reiff [mailto:jreiff@exploreasheville.com]

Sent: Monday, January 22, 2018 8:55 AM

To: Jennifer W. Durrett < jennifer.durrett@buncombecounty.org>

Cc: Stephanie Brown <sbrown@exploreasheville.com>

Subject: [External] FW: Bittersweet Partners request for waiver letter

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless verified. Use the "Phish Alert" button to report all suspicious email.

Hi Jennifer,

We have received the attached penalty waiver request. Can you please let me know the property's history of late payments? And send a copy of the postmarked enveloper?

Thanks so much,

--Jonna

## Jonna Reiff

Executive Operations Manager

DerMargosian-Clark 460 Elk Mountain Scenic Hwy. Asheville, NC 28804

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Buncombe County Occupancy Tax Report PO Box 7526 Asheville, NC 28802

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## **Jonna Reiff**

From:

Stephen DerMargosian <stephen@sdmdesigninc.com>

Sent:

Tuesday, January 09, 2018 1:48 PM

To:

Jonna Reiff

Cc:

Matt Clark

Subject:

Request to waive penalties

**Attachments:** 

Occupancy Tax penalty fees.pdf

Dear Jonna,

We received the letter attached regarding late fees for our occupancy tax payment. Our payment was postmarked Nov. 21st, only one day late. Please give consideration to waiving these fees.



Stephen DerMargosian SDMdesign, Inc.

phone: 828-545-8693

website: <a href="www.sdmdesigninc.com">www.sdmdesigninc.com</a>
email: <a href="mailto:stephen@sdmdesigninc.com">stephen@sdmdesigninc.com</a>

postal address: 460 Elk Mountain Scenic Hwy., Asheville, NC 28804



January 26, 2018

Sent via email to stephen@sdmdesigninc.com

Mr. Stephen DerMargosian, Owner Bittersweet Partners, LLC 460 Elk Mountain Scenic Highway Asheville. NC 28804

RE: Petition to Waive Occupancy Tax Penalty

Dear Mr. DerMargosian:

The Explore Asheville Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB) staff received your letter requesting a waiver of occupancy tax penalties totaling \$81.46 assessed by the Buncombe County Finance Department (BCF) for Bittersweet Partners, LLC. The penalty was incurred due to the property's occupancy tax report and remittance check for the month of October 2017 being postmarked after the November 20, 2017 due date.

At the direction of the Buncombe County Tourism Development Authority (BCTDA), and in the first of a two-step approval process, I reviewed your request and, based on your letter of explanation and past payment history, have approved it to move onto the second and final step.

The request will now be presented to the Buncombe County Board of Commissioners for further and final consideration at its Tuesday, February 6, 2018 meeting. It begins at 5:00 p.m. in Commission Chambers located at 200 College Street, Suite 326, in downtown Asheville. The CVB will provide the necessary documentation to the County on your behalf and will inform you of the Commission's decision after the meeting. Please also note that Buncombe County Commission meetings are open to the public and you are welcome and encouraged to attend.

If you have any questions in the interim, please contact Jonna Reiff at 828.258.6111 or ireiff@ExploreAsheville.com. Thank you.

With best regards.

Stephanie Brown, President & CEO

Explore Asheville Convention & Visitors Bureau

For the Buncombe County Tourism Development Authority

cc: Jennifer Durrett, Buncombe County Finance Department

Buncombe County Commissioner and BCTDA member Joe Belcher

SB:jr