



DIPLOMATIC TAX EXEMPTION PROGRAM

U.S. Department of State
Office of Foreign Missions
3507 International Place, NW
Washington, DC 20008-3034

THESE ARE SAMPLES OF THE TAX EXEMPTION CARDS ISSUED BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE TO CERTAIN FOREIGN GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL AND OFFICES. THE PLASTIC CARDS, WHICH ARE THE SIZE OF CREDIT CARDS AND HAVE A HOLOGRAM, ARE VALID NATIONWIDE. CARDS ARE USED AT THE POINT OF SALE FOR EXEMPTION FROM STATE AND LOCAL SALES, RESTAURANT, LODGING, AND SIMILAR TAXES NORMALLY CHARGED TO CUSTOMERS. SOME CARDS HAVE RESTRICTIONS ON TAX-FREE PURCHASES. SEE EXPLANATIONS BELOW. TAX EXEMPTION CARDS ARE NOT VALID FOR EXEMPTION FROM TAXES ON TELEPHONES, OTHER UTILITIES, OR GASOLINE PURCHASES. CARDS ARE NOT TRANSFERABLE; ONLY THE PERSON WHOSE PHOTOGRAPH APPEARS ON THE FRONT SIDE OF CARD MAY USE IT. VENDOR MAY ASK FOR ADDITIONAL ID SUCH AS A DRIVER'S LICENSE.

TAX EXEMPTION CARDS FOR PERSONAL PURCHASES



BLUE STRIPE

Full tax exemption on all personal and official purchases.



YELLOW STRIPE

Full tax exemption on all personal purchases and official purchases except restricted category(ies) identified on the face of the card.

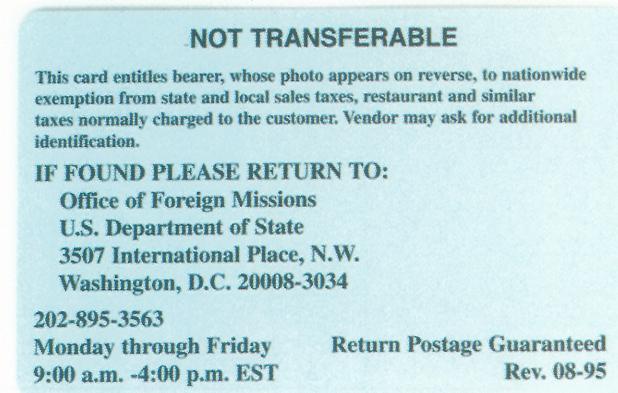
TAX EXEMPTION CARDS FOR MISSION (OFFICIAL) BUSINESS



PLEASE NOTE: OLD FORMAT LAMINATED CARDS ARE VALID UNTIL EXPIRATION DATE ON THE CARDS.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE Mission Tax Exemption Card			FOR OFFICIAL PURCHASES ONLY. THIS CARD ENTITLES BEARER, WHOSE PHOTO APPEARS ON REVERSE, TO EXEMPTION FROM SPECIFIED TAXES ON PURCHASES FOR THE MISSION REPRESENTED.	
MISSION OF REPUBLICO DE SOLITCO			ALL SALES TAXES EXCEPT HOTEL ROOM TAXES	
DATE OF BIRTH 01/01/95	EYE COLOR BLK		EXPIRATION DATE 10/31/94	TAX EXEMPTION NO 3000-0244-92
HAIR COLOR BLK	WEIGHT 170		HEIGHT 5 06	SEX M
NAME VALETEZ, REFINIO		If Found, Return To: Office of Foreign Missions U.S. Dept. of State Washington, D.C. 20520 Return Postage Guaranteed		123634 This card may not be transferred.
SEE REVERSE FOR EXEMPTION INFORMATION				

REVERSE OF BOTH MISSION AND PERSONAL TAX EXEMPTION CARDS



Mission tax exemption cards are issued to embassies, consulates, and international organizations for official purchases only and for the sole benefit of the mission identified on the face of the card. All purchases must be made in THE NAME OF THE MISSION AND PAID FOR BY MISSION CHECK OR CREDIT CARD (NOT CASH OR PERSONAL CHECK). PERSONAL PURCHASES PROHIBITED.

THE NEW YELLOW STRIPE CARD LISTS ALL RESTRICTIONS ON TAX EXEMPTION. THIS COLOR WILL EVENTUALLY REPLACE ALL OTHER COLOR STRIPES EXCEPT THE BLUE STRIPE. UNTIL DECEMBER 31, 2001 THE FOLLOWING CARDS ARE VALID AND MAY BE ACCEPTED BY VENDORS:

GREEN STRIPE: Full tax exemption on all purchases except restricted category(ies) identified on the face of the card.

RED STRIPE: Full tax exemption on all purchases over a minimum amount identified on the face of the card.

RED/GREEN STRIPE: Full tax exemption on all purchases over a minimum amount identified on the face of the card. Not valid for exemption on purchases from category(ies) on the face of the card.

For questions regarding the tax exemption program, contact your State Tax Authority. You may also contact the regional office of the Office of Foreign Missions located nearest you.

CHICAGO: (312) 353-5762
LOS ANGELES: (310) 235-6292
WASHINGTON, DC: (202) 895-3563

NEW YORK: (212) 826-4500
SAN FRANCISCO: (415) 744-2910

Under the authority of the Foreign Missions Act, (22 USC 4301 et seq.), TAX EXEMPTION CARDS are issued to certain official personnel from foreign countries who are stationed in the United States while working as diplomats, consular officers, or staff members at foreign embassies and consulates, and other organizations such as the United Nations.

Cards with a blue stripe exempt the bearer from state and local taxes on retail purchases. The yellow-striped, red-striped, green-striped, and red/green-striped TAX EXEMPTION Cards restrict the entitlement to sales tax exemption. The nature of the restriction is indicated on the colored stripe. This restriction is imposed because certain foreign governments restrict the tax exemption privileges of United States Missions and personnel overseas.

Tax exemption is a treaty obligation of the United States under Article VI of the Constitution. The United States is a party to various treaties and agreements which recognize diplomats as official, duly accredited representatives of foreign sovereign countries. Under international law, sovereign countries cannot impose certain taxes on accredited diplomats or other representatives of foreign countries. These treaties include the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations (VCDR), the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations (VCCR), and the United Nations Headquarters Agreement (UNHQ).