



When you have a sales tax problem,
we are the solution!

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Sales Tax Defense Saves Valentine's Day

Whether celebrating Valentine's Day with the same person as last year, the last 20 years or with someone new, everyone wants to make a good impression. It's your chance to score some major points with the object of your affection. So how are you going to score these major points? The old fashioned "roses are red, violets are blue" poem in a heart shaped card filled with sparkles? Nope. Been there, done that. A cute stuffed teddy bear? Yawn. Chocolates? No thank you. Besides nobody wants to listen to how fat you feel after eating the whole box regardless of how delicious the chocolates may have been.



Luckily, as always, Sales Tax Defense LLC is here to help to you. Our official 2014 Valentine's Day Point Scoring Recommendation is to titillate your date with your sales tax knowledge as well as your compliance with sales tax laws and regulations.

Here are our Top Do's and Don'ts of Sales Tax Seduction:

1. Do point out a business's Certificate of Authority – A Certificate of Authority gives a business in New York State the right to collect sales tax and must be displayed in plain view. Your date has likely walked by these certificates a thousand times without realizing it. Pointing out a detail your date likely never noticed can be interesting. Plus, every time your date looks for a Certificate of Authority in the future it will remind your date of you (and yes, it's the kind of thing they will look all the time after you point it out).

2. Don't have a suspended driver's license – Delinquent unpaid tax debts with the New York State Department of Taxation & Finance can lead to the suspension of your driver's license; and you can't pick up your date with a suspended driver's license. Also, talking about your outstanding tax liabilities is usually not considered romantic. If you don't have this issue, you can still bring this enforcement up as you and your date are sure to bond over your dislike of it.

3. Do self-assess use tax when necessary – For a variety of reasons, vendors occasionally fail to collect sales tax when they should. In that situation, you should self-assess use tax. After all, you don't want your amazing Valentine's Day memories ruined by a bill for tax, interest and penalties months later from the gift you bought. You especially don't want to receive this bill if you and your date are not together by the time you receive the bill (while unlikely given your impressive sales tax display, this scenario must still be considered).

4. Don't simply double the tax to calculate the tip at a restaurant – We know that right now many of you are saying, "But Sales Tax Defense LLC, that's always been the rule for tipping". Well, every county in New York State has its own sales tax rate and it's not fair to punish a waiter/waitress because a county taxes transactions at a lower rate (thereby creating a lower tip). By discussing this with your date, it will make you appear generous and more importantly, show off your knowledge of sales tax rates.

Remember, Valentine's Day is all about love and nobody loves sales tax problems. If you have sales tax problems, call us! We can help!



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Success Story Another Impossible Assessment Bites the Dust

The New York State Department of Taxation and Finance describes its Offer in Compromise program as a program that allows qualifying, financially distressed taxpayers the opportunity to put overwhelming tax liabilities behind them by paying a reasonable portion of their tax debt.

Utilizing this program, Sales Tax Defense LLC assisted a business that owed over \$350,000 in tax, interest and penalties as a result of 2 sales and use tax audits. It was an amount that the business could never pay.

One of the things we do to help obtain the most advantageous settlement is understand the tax liabilities. Realizing that there was no corresponding responsible person assessment for the majority of the liability, New York State could only collect most of the amount due from the business. Therefore, if the business closed, New York State wouldn't be able to collect on the majority of the liability.

By negotiating accordingly, the liability was settled for \$50,000; a savings of over \$300,000. This allowed the business to remain open and the business's employees keep their jobs.

About Us

We are a dedicated team of tax professionals who have committed our careers to helping businesses and fellow professionals with tax problems. Since the only work we are focused on is solving tax problems, businesses never have to be concerned that we will try to sell them other services they do not need. And professionals never have to be concerned with us encroaching on their client relationships, because we view you, our fellow professional, as our client.

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