



RED ALERT

April 6, 2020

Request that Orange County Treasurer-Tax Collector Waive Late Property Tax Payment Penalties During COVID-19 Emergency

The Apartment Association of Orange County (AAOC) is urging its members to email Orange County Treasurer-Tax Collector Shari Freidenrich and request that she waive all penalties, costs and other charges for late property tax payments during the COVID-19 emergency.

With rental property owners dealing with lost rental income resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, this type of relief would help those who are now dealing with financial hardship.

The Orange County Treasurer-Tax Collector's [website](#) states the treasurer-tax collector does not have the authority to extend the April 10 property tax filing deadline. However, "the Treasurer-Tax Collector is legally authorized under state law to cancel penalties, costs and other charges, but only when a taxpayer is unable to deliver payment due to reasonable cause and circumstances beyond the taxpayer's control, with certain conditions as required by law."

A [press release](#) posted on the website on March 25 states, "For taxpayers that do not make payment of property taxes due to COVID-19 by April 10, we expect them to submit a Penalty Cancellation Request Form and documentation to support the cancellation of penalties as allowed in limited circumstances under current state law. The existing state law, which Treasurer Freidenrich will follow, allows for waiver of penalties, costs and other charges when failure to make a timely payment is due to reasonable cause and circumstances beyond the taxpayer's control, and occurred notwithstanding the exercise of ordinary care in the absence of willful neglect."

AAOC is urging its members to email Orange County Treasurer-Tax Collector Shari Freidenrich today and request that she waive all penalties, costs and other charges for rental property owners who have been impacted by COVID-19.

Click on the button below and send an email!

[CLICK HERE TO SEND AN EMAIL](#)