

Personal Property Audit FAQ

Did I do something wrong?

No. We review all personal property returns and select samples from various groups to streamline the process.

Why was I selected to be audited?

We do not target specific business types or individuals. This process is performed on a cyclical basis and filings are selected in batch for audit based on a wide range of criteria including date of last audit, location of property, type of business, amount of filing etc.

Who will be auditing my return?

You will be contacted by a member of our staff or one of our independent and impartial private auditors.

Why does the Assessor use a third party to conduct some audits?

Professional third party auditors are more cost effective and have no incentive to raise assessments. They also specialize in personal property and tax consulting and specific business types.

How long is this going to take?

Typically the audit process takes less than two hours.

What if I do not respond to the audit letter?

In most cases, tax payers who do not respond or comply to the audit will be assessed on the averages reported by other like kind property owners and market indicators.

Is this related to my income tax return?

Accountants and business book keepers often are unclear about what is taxable at the county level and may not properly reconcile state and federal tax returns to the local personal property filing.

What kind of support information will I need?

Generally, recent income tax returns or, at minimum, depreciation schedules on equipment or other proof of purchase prices on newly acquired business personal property will be requested.

Can my accountant or an employee handle this?

Yes, any authorized representative can work with our auditors.

How can I become exempt?

If your actual personal property is found to be under \$20,000 in original costs you may be able to file for exemption