

PP&Co Action Alert **Property Tax Penalties & Interest** Waived Until May 6, 2021

On Wednesday May 6th Governor Gavin Newsom announced that the penalties and fees assessed for late property tax payments for "residential real property occupied by the taxpayer or real property owned and operated by a taxpayer that qualifies as a small business" will be waived through May 6, 2021. Eligible taxpayers must "demonstrate they have experienced financial hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic..." The measure was prompted, in part, by the numerous hardship claims received from taxpayers with respect to the financial difficulties the additional fees would pose.

As with many relief measures enacted during this pandemic, the order is nuanced, and property owners should be aware. For example, those who have created impound accounts that collect property taxes do not qualify for a waiver, since the mortgage company pays the county tax collector.

Here are additional conditions under which the order applies:

- 1. The taxes owed on the property in question cannot have been delinquent prior to March 4, 2020,
- 2. The taxpayer must have timely filed a claim for relief in the form designated by the respective tax collector, and
- 3. The taxpayer must demonstrate to the satisfaction of the respective tax collector that he or she has suffered economic hardship due to COVID-19.

Finally, the deadline to timely file a personal property tax statement has been effectively extended to May 31, 2020. No penalties or fees will be assessed if said property tax statement is filed by that date.

Have questions or need help? We're here for you. Contact us at info@ppandco.com or (408) 287-7911 for assistance. For more information and updates, check out our COVID-19 Resources & Updates webpage.

Have questions or need help? We're here for you. Contact us at info@ppandco.com or (408) 287-7911 for assistance. For more information and updates, check out our **COVID-19 Resources & Updates** webpage.

Our focus. Your freedom.