Telecommunications

The Louisville Municipal Code (LMC) provides the following definitions:

“Telecommunications Service” means:
The service of which the object is the transmission of any two-way interactive electronic or electromagnetic communications, including but not limited to voice, image, data and any other information, by the use of any means, including but not limited to wire, cable, fiber optical cable, microwave, radio wave, Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP), or any combinations of such media, including any form of mobile two-way communication.

“Toll Free Telecommunications Service” means:
A telecommunications service that allows a caller to dial a number without incurring an additional charge for the call.

“Carrier Access Services” means:
The services furnished by a local exchange company to its customers who provide telecommunication services, which allow them to provide such telecommunications services.

“Private Communications Services” means:
Telecommunications services furnished to a subscriber, which entitles the subscriber to exclusive or priority use of any communication channel or groups of channels, or to the exclusive or priority use of any interstate intercommunications system for the subscriber’s stations.

Sales Tax

The City of Louisville imposes a sales tax upon all telecommunication services for all intrastate (originating and ending within the City) telecommunications service and mobile telecommunications service originating from or received on telecommunication equipment in the City when the charge for the service is billed to an apparatus, telephone or account in the City, to a customer location in the City, or to a person residing in the City without regard to where the bill for such services is actually received.

Sales tax is imposed upon the purchase price paid or charged upon all sales, rentals, leases and purchases of telecommunications equipment. In the case of a sale or transfer of wireless telecommunication equipment as an inducement to a consumer to enter into or continue a contract for telecommunication services that are taxable pursuant to the LMC, the “purchase price” shall be limited to the monetary amount paid by the consumer and shall not include any sales commission or other compensation received by the retailer as a result of the consumer entering into or continuing a contract for telecommunication services. The foregoing definition of “purchase price” shall not be construed to apply to the amount a retailer collects from a consumer who defaults or terminates a contract for telecommunication services.

Use Tax

The LMC imposes a use tax on the sale or transfer of telecommunication equipment to a consumer as an inducement to enter into, or continue, a contract for telecommunications services.

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Exemptions

Carrier access services are exempt from Louisville sales tax.

Interstate calls (calls originating within Colorado and ending outside Colorado) are exempt from Louisville sales tax.

International, Toll Free, or WATS/800 telecommunication services are exempt from Louisville sales tax.

Interstate private communication services furnished to subscribers are exempt from Louisville sales tax.

Separately stated non-transmission services which constitute computer processing applications used to act on the information to be transmitted are exempt from Louisville sales tax.

Telephone Utility Tax

Each telephone utility provider operating within the City must pay a tax upon the occupation and business of providing basic local exchange service within the City and upon supplying basic local exchange service at retail to the inhabitants of the City.

The annual amount of tax levied shall be equal to $8.00 per telephone account.

The number of accounts for which basic local exchange service is provided within the corporate limits of the City will be determined on January 1 of the current year for which the tax is owed, and upon each anniversary thereof.

E-911 Emergency Telephone Service Surcharge

The Boulder Regional Emergency Telephone Service Authority (BRETSA) provides E-911 service to the City of Louisville.

The surcharge is on a per subscriber line/per month basis and the remittance should be made directly to BRETSA, not to the City of Louisville.

Please contact BRETSA directly for the current surcharge rate and payment information at (303) 441-4816 or (303) 441-4444.

Internet Access

Internet access services that provide or enable computer access by multiple users to the Internet are exempt from City sales tax. The remaining portion of any packaged or bundled services providing phone services, when the package or bundle includes the sale of Internet Access Services, is subject to Louisville sales or use tax.

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