



NEWS NOTES

2024 Quarter 3

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALASKAN OLYMPIANS!



▲ Sagen Maddalena
Photo: @sagemaddalena



▲ Rylan Kissell
Photo: @rylankissell



▲ Alev Kelter
Photo: @alevkelter



▲ JT Thor
Photo: Courtesy



Kristen Faulker

We are proud of our Alaskans that made it to Paris to represent the United States of America in the 2024 Summer Olympics! They inspire all of us to strive to pursue our goals and dreams.

Kristen Faulker (Homer) – Cycling

Alev Kelter (Eagle River) – Rugby

Rylan Kissell (University of Alaska Fairbanks) – Shooting

Sagen Maddalena (University of Alaska Fairbanks) – Shooting

JT Thor (raised in Anchorage) – Basketball (played for South Sudan)

Special congratulations to those that made it to the medal podium! They join an elite group of 20 Alaskan athletes that have medaled at the Olympics. Faulker won two gold medals in team pursuit cycling and road cycling, the first time since 1984 that an American won gold in cycling. Maddalena won the silver medal in 50m air rifle. Kelter earned a bronze medal in Paris with the rugby team, building on her achievements as a three-time Olympian.

Sales Tax Updates – Removal of Transaction Threshold



The board for the Alaska Remote Seller Sales Tax Commission (ARSSTC) recently approved a number of amendments to the ARSSTC Uniform Code. These changes go into effect January 1, 2025. The biggest change affecting sellers is the removal of the transaction threshold for implementing the remote sales tax rules. Now, only businesses with more than \$100,000 gross sales into Alaska, statewide, annually, are required to register with ARSSTC. Businesses who do not meet this threshold are still able to register with ARSSTC and voluntarily collect sales tax. More information can be found [here](#).

Notification Library

ARSSTC staff send notices through our tax filing portal regarding new jurisdictions, changes to sales tax code, and clarifying the remote sales tax rules. The notifications are sent out 30 days in advance of the effective date and go to the email of the user on the business account. If you are getting this email, you are on an account with ARSSTC. Let us know if you need to update the email on file with us. All notifications are listed in our [library of notifications](#).

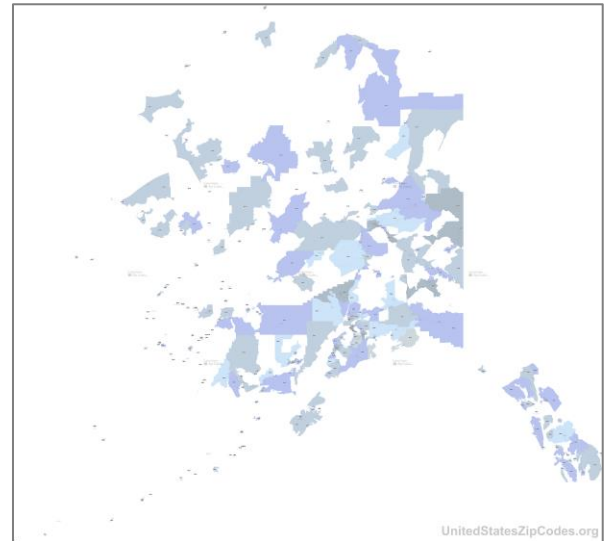
Error Codes in Filing Platform

For Alaska tax filings, our online filing platform requires filers to upload their tax data using the current filing template for the month. Filers can encounter errors during the filing upload or the checkout process. We understand that it can be frustrating to get an error and ask anyone who runs into a problem to **take a screenshot** and **send it to us**. The most common errors include:

Filing Template Upload	Shopping Cart/Checkout Process
<ul style="list-style-type: none">uploading a PDF or non-Excel spreadsheet – <i>the system only accepts Excel documents</i>Vertex customers who get an error should pull a new report from the Vertex system and try againHaving an equation in filing templateNot correctly reporting nested jurisdictions (Kenai Peninsula and Ketchikan Gateway Boroughs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Clicking too many times in the payment method screen – <i>just click once and wait a moment</i>E-check bounces happen outside of the filing platform due to the filer entering wrong account numbers or not having ARSSTC's debit block id set up with the seller's bank – <i>our system does not save payment account information, always double check numbers</i>

ZIP + 4 in Alaska

Alaska is a large state with rural communities spread far and wide. Our United States Postal Service ZIP codes cover areas which may include both taxing and non-taxing districts. Companies that rely on ZIP+4 to determine sales tax rates may have erroneous tax collection. We provide a GIS-based [tax map lookup](#) that delivers accurate tax rates for any address within a Commission member's boundaries. We verify all jurisdiction boundaries, down to PO boxes on one side of the street versus the other (yes, there are communities that are taxable on only one side of the street). Please check with your tax service whether they use ZIP + 4 for Alaskan tax rates. If so, contact us and we can provide them access to the correct data. As a reminder, **any seller that erroneously collects sales tax without using our tax map lookup is responsible for correcting the issue with the buyer.**



Alaska PFD



Alaskans start receiving their Permanent Fund Dividends (PFD) in October. This year, the PFD is \$1,702.00 and includes a one-time energy relief payment of \$298.17. Alaskans use their PFD to buy essential items such as fuel, food, and housing. We also use it to pay medical bills, credit card debt, and purchase equipment and travel. The \$900 million injection to the state's economy may well also extend to online and remote shopping. You may see a bump in your Alaskan sales over the next few months!

Quarterly filing is available for businesses with less than \$100,000 taxable sales annually. Annual filing is available for businesses with all tax-exempt sales.

Contact us to change your filing frequency.
