

COUNTY JUDGE
Fort Bend County, Texas

Robert E. Hebert
County Judge

May 19, 2017

(281) 341-8608
Fax (281) 341-8609

Michael Lateur - Duff & Phelps LLC on behalf of Schlumberger Tech Corp - HFEC
PO Box 2629
Addison, TX 75001

Reference: Account Number: 9960-19-094-0008-907
Tax Year 2016, Precinct 3

Dear Mr. Lateur:

The County has received your request to waive penalty and interest on Fort Bend County property taxes. Fort Bend County is also authorized to act on behalf of Fort Bend Independent School District and the City of Sugar Land which represents a total amount of \$69,804.47 for penalties assessed on the referenced account for tax year 2016. The Tax Assessor's Office has conducted research on your account; a copy of the research is enclosed with this letter, and has also been provided to the Commissioners Court.

The information you provided, along with the Tax Office research, has been placed on the Agenda, becoming part of public record, for the Commissioners Court meeting on Tuesday, June 6, 2017 at 1:00 p.m. Commissioners Court is located at the Historic Courthouse, 401 Jackson Street, 2nd Floor, in Richmond, Texas.

You are not required to appear in order for the Court to consider your request. Action by the Court is governed by guidelines under Texas Tax Code, Chapter 33, Section 33.011*, Commissioners Court cannot waive penalty, interest and/or collection fees unless there is evidence of an error by the appraisal district or the County. However, if you have any new information showing proof of an error that was not researched by the Tax Assessor and wish to discuss, please contact your Commissioner, Andy Meyers, prior to June 6, 2017, at telephone 281-238-1400 or by email at andy.meyers@fortbendcountytexas.gov, to discuss any additional documentation you may wish to provide to the Court when they consider your request.

Sincerely,

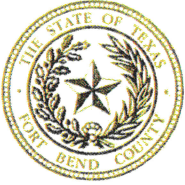
A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Robert E. Hebert", is written over a horizontal line.

Robert E. Hebert

Enclosure

Copy: Commissioner Andy Meyers, Precinct No. 3

*Section 33.011(a)(1) of the Texas Tax Code states, "The governing body of a taxing unit: shall waive penalties and may provide for the waiver of interest on a delinquent tax if an act or omission of an officer, employee, or agent of the taxing unit or the appraisal district in which the taxing unit participates caused or resulted in the taxpayer's failure to pay the tax before delinquency."



COUNTY TAX ASSESSOR / COLLECTOR

Fort Bend County, Texas

Patsy Schultz, PCC
County Tax Assessor/Collector
1317 Eugene Heimann Circle
Richmond, TX 77469-3623

(281) 341-3710
Fax (281) 341-9267
Email: patsy.schultz@fortbendcountytexas.gov
www.fortbendcountytexas.gov

DATE: May 18, 2017

TO: County Judge Robert E. Hebert
Commissioner Vincent Morales
Commissioner Grady Prestage
Commissioner Andy Meyers
Commissioner James Patterson
Roy Cordes, County Attorney

County Judge
Received

MAY 18 2017

FROM: Tammy Staton T.S.,
Chief of Property Taxes

Re: Waiver of Penalty and Interest – Duff & Phelps, LLC: 2016 Tax Year; Account # 9960-19-094-0008-907, Owner Name: Schlumberger Tech Corp - HFEC, Legal Description: Personal Property, (Main Plant) Inventory-SPC (HLA) 110 Schlumberger Drive, Sugar Land, TX

Precinct 3 ✓

Duff & Phelps, LLC, on behalf of Schlumberger Tech Corp - HFEC is requesting a waiver of penalty and interest, stating that the account should have been coded as Agent and the tax statement should have been sent to the agent (Duff & Phelps, LLC):

Account: 9960-19-094-0008-907

- November 6, 2016 – The Original 2016 Tax Statement was mailed to Schlumberger Tech Corp – HFEC, 100 Gillingham Ln MD8, Sugar Land, TX 77478-3127. **The statement was not returned by the Post Office.**
- February 15, 2017 – 33.11 Delinquent Notice sent by Linebarger, Goggan, Blair & Sampson, LLP was mailed to Schlumberger Tech Corp – HFEC, 100 Gillingham Ln MD8, Sugar Land, TX 77478-3127. **The statement was not returned by the Post Office.**

- February 16, 2017 – 33.11 Delinquent Notice sent by Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins & Mott was mailed to Schlumberger Tech Corp – HFEC, 100 Gillingham Ln MD8, Sugar Land, TX 77478-3127. **The statement was not returned by the Post Office.**
- February 24, 2017 – Zack with Tax Agent called to see if the 2016 statements were mailed to the agent, he was told that no agent was listed on the account and was referred to the Fort Bend Central Appraisal District.
- February 28, 2017 - Fort Bend County Tax Office received payment in the amount of \$1,067,011.26 (this amount includes February penalty and interest).
- April 25, 2017 – Received copy of Appointment of Agent from the Fort Bend Central Appraisal District reflecting the tax statement should have gone to the Agent.
- There is evidence of an error by the Fort Bend Central Appraisal District.
- Fort Bend ISD and City of Sugar Land have authorized Fort Bend County Tax Office to handle the processing of the waiver of penalty and interest and allow the Fort Bend County Commissioners Court to make the determination based on Section 33.011 of the State Property Tax Code.

Breakdown of Taxes Paid:

2016 Tax Year

Account 9960-19-094-0008-907:

Tax Unit	Base	Penalty & Interest	Collection Fees	Total Waiver Request
Fort Bend ISD	\$535,753.98	\$37,502.78		\$37,502.78
City of Sugar Land	\$185,767.64	\$13,003.73		\$13,003.73
FBC	\$275,685.17	\$19,297.96		\$19,297.96
Total	\$997,206.79	\$69,804.47		\$69,804.47 ✓

Total Penalty and Interest: \$69,804.47 ✓

I **do** recommend waiver of penalty and interest for 2016. Property Tax Code Section 33.011 (a) (1). "The governing body of a taxing unit: shall waive penalties and may provide for the waiver of interest on a delinquent tax if an act or omission of an officer, employee, or agent of the taxing unit or the appraisal district in which the taxing unit participates caused or resulted in the taxpayer's failure to pay the tax before delinquency..."

DUFF & PHELPS

COURT DOCK
RECEIVED

MAR 16 2017

County Judge Robert E. Herbert
401 Jackson
Richmond, TX 77469-3110

March 8, 2017

Re: 2016 PROPERTY TAX WAIVER OF PENALTY REQUEST

ACCOUNTS: 9960-04-095-0011-907, 9960-19-094-0008-907, & 9960-19-214-0205-907
TAX YEAR: 2016

Duff & Phelps is the authorized tax agent for Schlumberger in Fort Bend County. It came to our attention in late February that the three property tax accounts listed above had become delinquent and remained unpaid. With full intentions of paying all three accounts timely, Schlumberger immediately sent payment in after becoming notified of the delinquency on each account.

After further review, it's come to our attention that the original bills were not mailed to Duff & Phelps offices, whom is Schlumberger's designated agent of record. Duff & Phelps was registered and listed as the agent of record on the CAD system but was not coded as the agent of record with the tax collector's office despite filing renditions for 2016 and being recognized as an authorized agent with the CAD office.

Sec. 31.01 of the Texas Property Tax Code states that the assessor for each taxing unit shall prepare and mail a tax bill to each person in whose name the property is listed on the tax roll and to the person's authorized agent. These bills were mailed only to the old Schlumberger physical location of 100 Gillingham Lane and not to the registered agent of record as directed by the appointment of agent on file. Again, Schlumberger had no intention of withholding payment from the taxing jurisdictions and made every effort to pay all accounts in a timely manner once they became aware of the delinquencies. The attached delinquent notices were dated 2/15/17 and all payments on our end were postmarked by 2/28/17.

Due to the error made on tax records system, which failed to mail the tax bills to Schlumberger's authorized agent, we request that the February penalty and interest amounts on each account be reviewed for removal and refund. Sec. 33.011. of the Texas Property tax code allows for the waiver of penalties and interest and the body of a taxing unit (1) shall waive penalties and may provide for the waiver of interest on a delinquent tax if an act or omission of an officer, employee, or agent of the taxing unit or the appraisal district in which the taxing unit participates caused or resulted in the taxpayer's failure to pay the tax before delinquency and if

the tax is paid not later than the 21st day after the date the taxpayer knows or should know of the delinquency.

Schlumberger has a tremendous history of being a great corporate citizen in the community and we appreciate the opportunity to discuss this matter further. Should you have any questions or concerns, I can be reached at

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Lateur".

Michael Lateur

Managing Director

T:

DUPLICATE TAX RECEIPT



PATSY SCHULTZ, PCC
FORT BEND COUNTY TAX ASSESSOR/ COLLECTOR
1317 EUGENE HEIMANN CIRCLE
RICHMOND, TEXAS 77469-3623

Certified Owner:

SCHLUMBERGER TECH CORP - HFEC
100 GILLINGHAM LN
MD 8
SUGAR LAND, TX 77478

Legal Description:

PERSONAL PROPERTY, (MAIN PLANT)
INVENTORY-SPC (HLA)

Parcel Address: 110 SCHLUMBERGER DR
Legal Acres: 0.0000

Remit Seq No: 34962928

Receipt Date: 02/28/2017

Deposit Date: 02/28/2017

Print Date: 04/04/2017 03:30 PM

Printed By: LORIMA

Deposit No: P170228U1

Validation No: 900000048559430

Account No: 9960-19-094-0008-907

Operator Code: SUSANT

Year	Tax Unit Name	Rec Type	Tax Value	Tax Rate	Levy Paid	P&I	Coll Fee Paid	Total
2016	Fort Bend Isd	TL	39,981,640	1.340000	535,753.98	37,502.78	0.00	573,256.76
2016	City Of Sugar Land	TL	58,796,530	0.315950	185,767.64	13,003.73	0.00	198,771.37
2016	Fort Bend Co Drainage	TL	39,981,640	0.016000	6,397.06	447.79	0.00	6,844.85
2016	Fort Bend Co Gen Fnd	TL	58,796,530	0.458000	269,288.11	18,850.17	0.00	288,138.28
					\$997,206.79	\$69,804.47	\$0.00	\$1,067,011.26

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Check Number(s):

7046837

PAYMENT TYPE:

Checks:

\$1,067,011.26

Exemptions on this property:

FREEPORT

Total Applied:

\$1,067,011.26

Change Paid:

\$0.00

PAYER:

SCHLUMBERGER TECHNOLOGY CORP
MAIL DROP 417
1200 ENCLAVE PARKWAY
HOUSTON, TX 77077-1764

ACCOUNT PAID IN FULL

(281) 341-3710