

Request for Waiver of Penalty and Interest

The Commissioners Court of Galveston County seeks to handle all requests for waivers of penalty and interests fairly. In doing so, Commissioners Court members must remain within the legal limitations of their authority, which means not all requests can be acted upon. To see if yours qualifies, review the commonly asked questions below. If you believe your case still qualifies to be considered, please mark the justification and submit the signed form to the Office of the County Judge.

What is the deadline for paying taxes without penalty and interest?

The deadline to pay is January 31. The tax collector will add penalty and interest charges to taxes that are unpaid on February 1. In rare instances, a taxpayer may have a delinquency date later than February 1-check with the Galveston County Tax office.

Can a taxing unit waive penalty and interest due on delinquent taxes?

Penalty and Interest may only be waived on a delinquent tax if an act or omission of an officer, employee, or agent of the taxing unit or appraisal district caused or resulted in the taxpayer's failure to pay the tax before delinquency.

The property owner must pay the tax no later than the 2111 day after he or she knows or should have known of the delinquency. The property owner must request the waiver before the 181st day (six months) after the delinquency to receive a refund of the penalty and interest. (sec.33.011 (a) & (d), Texas Property Tax Code).

If I didn't receive a tax bill, don't I get more time to pay without penalty and interest?

No. State law provides that failing to send or receive a tax bill does not affect the validity of the tax, penalty, or interest due by an individual, the tax's delinquency date, the existence of a tax lien, or any procedure the taxing unit institutes to collect the tax.

Property owners know that property taxes are due each year and should check if they do not receive a tax bill.

You may want to check with your mortgage company to determine if your taxes were paid timely.

Failure to receive a tax bill does not affect the validity of the tax, penalty, or interest, the due date, the existence of a tax lien, or any procedure instituted to collect a tax. (sec.31.01 (g), Texas Property Tax Code).

Please submit this signed form to the Office of the County Judge.

I have reviewed and understood the information above. I understand Commissioners Court can only consider my request for penalty and interest if I can demonstrate one of the following, and I have selected which condition applies to me.

- I can demonstrate that I did not own the property being taxed during the taxable period.
- I can demonstrate that the Galveston County Tax Office or Central Appraisal district made a mistake.
- I can demonstrate that I did in fact pay the tax on or before January 31st.

Name: No, I do not meet the criteria. _____

Date: Cory Bullock 5/28/2026