



## **Customs Duty Exemption, Frequently Asked Questions:**

### **What does the exemption order do?**

The exemption Order will allow importers to import the selected goods into the Turks and Caicos Islands duty free.

### **What goods are listed under the current Customs Order?**

For full details of the items listed under the Order, you may visit the TCI Customs Department website at [www.customs.gov.tc](http://www.customs.gov.tc)

However, below are a list of items that are currently included in the Customs Order:

#### **Selected Building materials, namely:**

Concrete Blocks  
 Sheetrock  
 Aggregate/Fill/Material/Asphalt  
 Lumber  
 Plywood  
 Structural steel and sheets  
 Fasteners (screws, nails, bolts)  
 Zinc sheets and other roofing material  
 Electrical conduits, boxes, fixtures, wires etc.  
 Plumbing pipes, fittings and fixtures  
 Finishing materials (paint, shore coat, etc.)  
 Windows and doors materials  
 Hurricane straps  
 Floor finishes (hardwood flooring, tiles, stain, varnish, etc.)  
 Construction tools and equipment(excluding equipment under chapter 84 of the Customs Tariff such as Work Trucks, Cranes, Excavators, Fork lift Trucks, Bulldozers, Levelers and similar equipment)  
 Electrical wires  
 Fencing  
 Roof Sealing

#### **Selected Furniture, namely:**

Sofa  
 Love seat  
 Accent chairs

Cocktail table  
Sofa table  
End table  
Bed frame  
Bed headboard  
Bed footboard  
Dining room table  
Dining room and chairs  
Mattress  
Box spring  
Dresser and mirror  
Nightstands  
Chest of drawers

### **Selected Appliances, namely**

Television (one per importer/declarant)  
Refrigerator  
Stove  
Microwaves

### **When does the order expire?**

The Current Customs Order expires on the 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2018, at 11:59pm.

### **What happens if my goods are shipped before the order expires but arrives after the order expires?**

In order to qualify for this Customs duty exemption the goods must be “landed” in the Turks and Caicos before the expiry of the Order on the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018.

*\*\*\*Landed means the date that the vessel or aircraft arrives in the Turks and Caicos Islands.*

### **Who do I contact to benefit from the Customs Order?**

To benefit from this Customs Order a written request must be submitted to the Collector of Customs, requesting the exemption and producing documents stipulated in the order.

### **What are the contact details for those who process these request?**

The Concessions desk contacts are as follows:

[gmoultrie@gov.tc](mailto:gmoultrie@gov.tc) or 338-5500

[drobinson@gov.tc](mailto:drobinson@gov.tc) or 244-2355

[ldmalcolm@gov.tc](mailto:ldmalcolm@gov.tc) or 331-3221 or 231-3221

For General Inquiries:

Providenciales:

[cmwilliams@gov.tc](mailto:cmwilliams@gov.tc) or 245-9205

[rggibbs@gov.tc](mailto:rggibbs@gov.tc) or 241-4260

[iharry@gov.tc](mailto:iharry@gov.tc) or 244-8049

Grand Turk:

[ncgarland@gov.tc](mailto:ncgarland@gov.tc) or 241-7454

[ljoutten@gov.tc](mailto:ljoutten@gov.tc) or 241-1941

[dsmith@gov.tc](mailto:dsmith@gov.tc) or 231-0819

#### **What supporting documents do I need to provide to benefit from the order?**

Your letter to the Collector must be accompanied by the following:

1. Proof of ownership of the property, or long term residence there
2. Proof of damage to the property
3. Proof of damage to the furniture and appliances
4. Invoices for good replaced/purchased

#### **Who qualifies under the order?**

Only individuals qualify under the order, Businesses and Companies do not qualify.

**Do I need to bring hard copies to the office or may documents be scanned and emailed?**

You may drop copies to the office, and you may also scan and email to us.

**What can be used to show proof of ownership of property?**

As proof of ownership of property, you may submit a copy of the register page for the property, which is obtained from the Land Registry.

**What may be used to show long term residence at the property?**

A sworn Affidavit to that effect, lease or utility bills.

**Does the Exemption cover the 7.5% Customs Processing Fee?**

No, the exemption is a full duty exemption ONLY, which means that you will pay 0% duty, but the 7.5% Customs Processing Fee must be paid in full.

**What happens if items acquired abroad are not shipped in my name?**

In your letter to us, you must indicate that the goods belong to you but was consigned to another individual, and produce documents requested.

**What happens if the land documents are in my wife's name, but the items are shipped in my name?**

In this case you would apply in the usual way stating this in your letter, and producing a copy of your marriage certificate.

**What happens if I have items which are not on the exemption list?**

If you have imported items not on the exemption list, they will not be duty free, and you will have to pay the full duty rate.

**What happens if I am granted the exemption but some of the items arrive in a later shipment?**

Once you have been approved for the concession and items are short shipped, you will not have to be processed again, and you will not have to pay again. Your broker will use the same letter and follow the procedure for short-shipments. You must ensure that the Department is notified of a short shipment either directly or through your broker.

**What happens if I am renting an apartment, but the furniture and appliances belong to me, would I be covered by the order?**

Yes, if you are able to satisfy the Concessions desk that you are the owner.

**What happens if I have multiple shipments? For example, Rooms to go shipped my furniture on the 13<sup>th</sup> of January, Brandsmart shipped my appliances on the 24<sup>th</sup> of January, and Home Depot shipped my ceiling fans on the 14<sup>th</sup> of February?**

Each shipment will require approval. This means that request will be made in each case.

**Once I have received approval what do I do then?**

Your approval letter must be submitted to your Broker (if you have one), who will attach it to your Customs Declaration, so that you pay 0% duty.