NOTICE

TO:  ALL CIGARETTE DISTRIBUTORS, WHOLESALERS AND RETAILERS

SUBJECT:  CIGARETTE TAX INCREASE – EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2009

Pursuant to the adoption of P.L.2009, c. 70, the New Jersey Cigarette Tax will increase on July 1, 2009. The new tax rate applies to all New Jersey cigarette stamps, stamped floor stock and to all cigarettes in the possession of any distributor, wholesaler or retailer licensed by the State of New Jersey as of July 1, 2009. The new rates per pack are:

- $2.70 on a pack of 20 cigarettes;
- $3.375 on a pack of 25 cigarettes;

On July 1, 2009 at 12:01 a.m., every pack of cigarettes held for sale by New Jersey licensees bearing an excise tax stamp is subject to the additional tax. In order to account for the additional tax, before moving or selling any cigarettes on July 1, all cigarette distributors, wholesalers and retailers must complete an inventory of all affixed and unaffixed excise tax stamps. For purposes of the July 1st floor tax inventory, the additional tax due is:

- $.125 on a pack of 20 cigarettes;
- $.15625 on a pack of 25 cigarettes;

The Cigarette Floor Tax Return (enclosed and also available at: http://www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/prntmisc.shtml#cigarette ) and the additional cigarette tax due can be filed and paid anytime after July 1 but must be submitted no later than September 1, 2009 to: New Jersey Division of Taxation, Cigarette Tax Group, Quakerbridge Plaza, Bldg 5, P.O. Box 187, Trenton, NJ 08695-0187.

The Division of Taxation may elect to do a physical inventory at distributor, wholesaler and/or retailer locations on or about July 1, 2009. All cigarettes stamped on or after July 1, 2009 must be stamped with either an old stamp that has been inventoried and listed on the Floor Tax Return or a new stamp to evidence payment of the increased tax. The new stamps will be available for purchase at the new rate.

Should you have any questions regarding the above, please contact the Cigarette Tax Group at (609) 588-3323. We ask for your usual cooperation to help make this a smooth transition.