

Clerk File No. 309771

The City of Seattle – Legislative Department

Clerk File sponsored by: _____

Clerk File No. 309771
Department of Executive Administration Rule No. 5-524, implementing Seattle Business Tax Ordinance relating to abstract, title insurance and escrow businesses.

Related Legislation File: _____

Date Introduced and Referred:	To: (committee):
Date Re-referred:	To: (committee):
Date Re-referred:	To: (committee):
Date of Final Action:	Disposition: Filed

1/23/09
Date Filed with City Clerk
Emilia M. Sanchez
By

Committee Action:

Date	Recommendation	Vote

This file is complete and ready for presentation to Full Council. _____

Full Council Action:

Date	Decision	Vote

THE CITY OF SEATTLE
DIRECTOR'S RULE
IMPLEMENTING SEATTLE BUSINESS TAX ORDINANCE
RULE 5-524

Seattle Rule 5-524 **Abstract, title insurance and escrow business.**

- (1) **Introduction.** The gross receipts of "abstract," title insurance" and "escrow" businesses include all service charges representing an abstract fee, a charge for a title insurance fee or premium, or an escrow fee or service charge received by "escrow agents."
- (2) **Definitions.**
- (a) The term "escrow" means any transaction wherein any person or persons, for the purpose of effecting and closing the sale, purchase, exchange, transfer, encumbrance, or lease of real or personal property to another person or persons, delivers any written instrument, money, evidence of title to real or personal property, or other thing of value to a third person to be held by such third person until the happening of a specified event or the performance of a prescribed condition or conditions, when it is then to be delivered by such third person, in compliance with instructions under which such third person is to act, to a grantee, grantor, promisee, promisor, obligee, obligor, lessee, lessor, bailee, bailor, or any agent or employee thereof.
 - (b) "Escrow agent" means any sole proprietorship, firm, association, partnership, or corporation engaged in the business of performing for compensation the duties of the third person referred to in the foregoing definition.
- (3) **Business License Tax.**
- (a) Abstract, title insurance and escrow businesses are taxable under the retail classification on gross receipts from fees or premiums charged to consumers for abstract, title insurance, or escrow services (see SMC 5.30.040 definition of retail services).
 - (b) The gross income from collection contracts which do not involve an escrow as defined above, is subject to tax under the service and other business activities classification.

Effective: January, 2009.

DIRECTOR'S CERTIFICATION

I, Dwight Dively, Finance Director of the City of Seattle, do hereby certify under penalty of perjury of law, that the within and foregoing is a true and correct copy as adopted by the City of Seattle, Department of Executive Administration.

DATED this 20TH day of January, 2009

CITY OF SEATTLE,
a Washington municipality

By: _____


Dwight Dively, Director
Finance Department