

LEGAL UPDATE (December 06th, 2021)

In this issue, we would like to bring to your attention to the following:

- Amendments to the escrow amount required for operating in travel services;
- Procedures for returning the escrow money after revoking travel services business licenses;
- First-time registration fees of automobiles, trailers, semi-trailers drawn by automobiles and other types of vehicles similar to automobiles produced, assembled domestically.

1. Amendments to the escrow amount required for operating in travel services

Decree No. 94/2021/ND-CP amending, supplementing Article 14 of Decree No. 168/2017/ND-CP providing specific provisions on certain articles of the Law on Tourism takes effect on October 28th, 2021.

Accordingly, the escrow amount required for operating in travel services will be amended as follows:

- The escrow amount required for operating in domestic travel services: 20.000.000 (twenty million) dongs;
- The escrow amount required for operating in international travel services:
 - Providing travel services for international tourists traveling to Vietnam: 50.000.000 (fifty million) dongs;
 - Providing travel services for tourists traveling abroad: 100.000.000 (one hundred million) dongs;
 - Providing travel services for tourists traveling to Vietnam and tourists traveling abroad: 100.000.000 (one hundred million) dongs.

2. Procedures for returning the escrow money after revoking travel services business licenses

According to Circular No. 13/2021/TT-BVHTTDL amending, supplementing certain articles of Circular No. 06/2017/TT-BVHTTDL providing specific provisions on certain articles of the Law on Tourism, after 30 days, from the day on revocation of the license for provision of travel

services is published on the licensing authority's website and the regulatory website on travel service providers, in case there are no complaints or denunciations relating to the obligation towards the tourists or the travel service providers, the licensing authority shall request banks to let the travel service provider to withdraw its escrow money. In case there are complaints or denunciations related to obligations towards tourists or travel service providers, the licensing authority shall cooperate with relevant competent authorities to take necessary actions in accordance with regulations of law. The time limit for returning the escrow money has been shortened compared to the previous provision which was 60 days.

In addition, within 05 working days from the day of receipt of the competent agency's investigation or inspection conclusion, the licensing authority shall issue the decision on revocation of the license for provision of travel services.

3. First-time registration fees for automobiles, trailers, semi-trailers drawn by automobiles and other types of vehicles similar to automobiles produced, assembled domestically

On November 26th, 2021, the Government has promulgated Decree No. 103/2021/ND-CP on the rates of registration fees for automobiles, trailers, semi-trailers drawn by automobiles and other types of vehicles similar to automobiles produced, assembled domestically. Correspondingly, from December 01st, 2021 until the end of May 31st, 2022, the registration fee rate is 50% of the rate prescribed in Decree No. 20/2019/ND-CP amending, supplementing certain articles of Decree 140/2016/ND-CP on registration fees. This registration fee shall continue to be calculated in accordance with Decree No. 20/2019/ND-CP from June 01st, 2022 onwards.

We hope this Weekly Newsletter would bring you useful information.

Best regards.

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