

§ 179.31

and set forth the reasons for it. Variations may not be employed until the application is approved.

(c) *Retention of approved variations.* The person granted the variance shall retain and make available for examination by ATF officers any application approved by the Director under this section.

[T.D. ATF-270, 53 FR 10508 Mar. 31, 1988]

Subpart D—Special (Occupational) Taxes

§ 179.31 Liability for tax.

(a) *General.* Every person who engages in the business of importing, manufacturing, or dealing in (including pawnbrokers) firearms in the United States shall pay a special (occupational) tax at a rate specified by §179.32. The tax shall be paid on or before the date of commencing the taxable business, and thereafter every year on or before July 1. Special (occupational) tax shall not be prorated. The tax shall be computed for the entire tax year (July 1 through June 30), regardless of the portion of the year during which the taxpayer engages in business. Persons commencing business at any time after July 1 in any year are liable for the special (occupational) tax for the entire tax year.

(b) *Each place of business taxable.* An importer, manufacturer, or dealer in firearms incurs special tax liability at each place of business where an occupation subject to special tax is conducted. A place of business means the entire office, plant or area of the business in any one location under the same proprietorship. Passageways, streets, highways, rail crossings, waterways, or partitions dividing the premises are not sufficient separation to require additional special tax, if the divisions of the premises are otherwise contiguous. See also §§179.38–179.39.

(26 U.S.C. 5143, 5801, 5846)

[T.D. ATF-271, 53 FR 17550, May 17, 1988]

§ 179.32 Special (occupational) tax rates.

(a) Prior to January 1, 1988, the special (occupational) tax rates were as follows:

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	Per year or fraction thereof
Class 1—Importer of firearms	\$500
Class 2—Manufacturer of firearms	500
Class 3—Dealer in firearms	200
Class 4—Importer only of weapons classified as “any other weapon”	25
Class 5—Manufacturer only of weapons classified as “any other weapon”	25
Class 6—Dealer only in weapons classified as “any other weapon”	10

(b) Except as provided in §179.32a, the special (occupational) tax rates effective January 1, 1988, are as follows:

	Per year or fraction thereof
Class 1—Importer of firearms (including an importer only of weapons classified as “any other weapon”)	\$1,000
Class 2—Manufacturer of firearms (including a manufacturer only of weapons classified as “any other weapon”)	1,000
Class 3—Dealer in firearms (including a dealer only of weapons classified as “any other weapon”)	500

(c) A taxpayer who was engaged in a business on January 1, 1988, for which a special (occupational) tax was paid for a taxable period which began before January 1, 1988, and included that date, shall pay an increased special tax for the period January 1, 1988, through June 30, 1988. The increased tax shall not exceed one-half the excess (if any) of (1) the rate of special tax in effect on January 1, 1988, over (2) the rate of such tax in effect on December 31, 1987. The increased special tax shall be paid on or before April 1, 1988.

[T.D. ATF-271, 53 FR 17550, May 17, 1988]

§ 179.32a Reduced rate of tax for small importers and manufacturers.

(a) *General.* Effective January 1, 1988, 26 U.S.C. 5801(b) provides for a reduced rate of special tax with respect to any importer or manufacturer whose gross receipts (for the most recent taxable year ending before the first day of the taxable period to which the special tax imposed by §179.32 relates) are less than \$500,000. The rate of tax for such an importer or manufacturer is \$500 per year or fraction thereof. The “taxable year” to be used for determining gross receipts is the taxpayer’s income tax year. All gross receipts of the taxpayer