

State Tax Matters

The power of knowing. May 12, 2023

Sales/Use/Indirect:

Washington: US District Court Holds Sales of Gift Cards for Video Game Digital Currency are Not Exempt

Case No. 2:21-cv-01213-TL, W.D. Wash. (5/8/23). In a civil class action lawsuit alleging a breach of contract and violations of Massachusetts, New York, and Washington consumer protection laws by an online marketplace for improperly charging and collecting state-based sales tax on the plaintiffs' purchases of gift cards for digital currency used in a video game, the US District Court for the Western District of Washington (Court) held that such items were *not* exempt from taxation under the states' respective laws and the plaintiffs failed to show otherwise. As such, the Court dismissed the matter with prejudice and without leave to amend. Please contact us with any questions.

Robert Wood (Seattle)
 Senior Manager
 Deloitte Tax LLP
 robwood@deloitte.com

Myles Brenner (Seattle)
Senior Manager
Deloitte Tax LLP
mybrenner@deloitte.com

This communication contains general information only, and none of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited ("DTTL"), its global network of member firms or their related entities (collectively, the "Deloitte organization") is, by means of this communication, rendering professional advice or services. Before making any decision or taking any action that may affect your finances or your business, you should consult a qualified professional adviser.

No representations, warranties or undertakings (express or implied) are given as to the accuracy or completeness of the information in this communication, and none of DTTL, its member firms, related entities, employees or agents shall be liable or responsible for any loss or damage whatsoever arising directly or indirectly in connection with any person relying on this communication. DTTL and each of its member firms, and their related entities, are legally separate and independent entities.

About Deloitte

Deloitte refers to one or more of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited ("DTTL"), its global network of member firms, and their related entities (collectively, the "Deloitte organization"). DTTL (also referred to as "Deloitte Global") and each of its member firms and related entities are legally separate and independent entities, which cannot obligate or bind each other in respect of third parties. DTTL and each DTTL member firm and related entity is liable only for its own acts and omissions, and not those of each other. DTTL does not provide services to clients. Please see www.deloitte.com/about to learn more.

Deloitte provides industry-leading audit and assurance, tax and legal, consulting, financial advisory, and risk advisory services to nearly 90% of the Fortune Global 500® and thousands of private companies. Our professionals deliver measurable and lasting results that help reinforce public trust in capital markets, enable clients to transform and thrive, and lead the way toward a stronger economy, a more equitable society and a sustainable world. Building on its 175-plus year history, Deloitte spans more than 150 countries and territories. Learn how Deloitte's approximately 415,000 people worldwide make an impact that matters at www.deloitte.com.