



# HURRICANE FAQs

The following list of frequently asked questions apply to the storm affected areas including:

CAT ISLAND, MAYAGUANA, INAGUA,  
EXUMA, LONG ISLAND, SAN SALVADOR,  
RUM CAY, ACKLINS, CROOKED ISLAND,  
LONG CAY AND SAMANA CAY.



# CONSUMER TIPS

As your community and business recover from Hurricane Joaquin there are some convenient facts you need to know. Below are also some tips on how you can manage your business while utility and other services are being restored. As a consumer you also need to be protected against fraudulent practices.

## ! ONLY VAT REGISTRANTS CAN CHARGE YOU VAT

The VAT rate is 7.5 percent. The list of businesses in your community who can charge you VAT is contained in this brochure.

## ! ASK FOR A RECEIPT

If the business cannot issue you a printed receipt with a TIN, they must write or stamp their business name and TIN on a manual receipt that contains a receipt number.

## ! YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO FAIR PRICES

Price Controls are still in

effect. You should not pay more than the maximum price allowed by law for any good. If you feel that you are overcharged for any good or service you may report it to your Island Administrator or the Consumer Affairs Division of the Ministry of Labour at 1-242-356-9391.

## ! INSURANCE CLAIMS

If you have property insurance, you may be entitled to compensation for VAT on damages. VAT however, was only mandatory on policies taken out or renewed after June 30, 2015.

If your policy was renewed after June 30th,

your claims settlement must also include compensation for any VAT that you would have to pay to replace your damaged property. The insurance company will still make adjustments for your deductible, and any underinsurance of your property.

If you were exempt from paying VAT on your existing policy, your insurer will explain how this exclusion affects the amount of payment settlement you receive.

## ! DONATIONS

You do not pay VAT on any free or donated supplies you receive.

# BUSINESSES

? I AM NOT ABLE TO FILE MY VAT RETURN. WHAT SHOULD I DO? - If you operate in one of the storm-affected areas the VAT Comptroller has extended your next return filing date by an extra month to November 30, 2015. This is for both quarterly and monthly returns that were due on October 28, 2015. You can contact the VAT Department to take advantage of this extension.

? WHAT SHOULD I DO IF MY VAT CERTIFICATE WAS DESTROYED? - The VAT Department has a copy of your certificate on file. Once you are able go back online, you can download a copy through your account on the secure website. You can also request to receive a printed copy from the VAT Department or the Island Administrators Office.

? WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I AM UNABLE TO PRINT VAT RECEIPTS? - Handwritten receipts are acceptable once your TIN is written or stamped on each receipt that you issue. Your receipts should also be numbered and duplicated.

? HOW DO I DOCUMENT THE LOSS OF INVENTORY SUPPLIES AS A RESULT OF A HURRICANE? - Please send the VAT Department a schedule of your losses.

This information should be submitted to the VAT Department when you submit your next VAT return.

### **? WHAT STEPS SHOULD I TAKE IN THE CASE THAT RECORDS ARE MISSING FOR MY BUSINESS? -**

Businesses with missing records are encouraged to submit an estimate of all taxable activity including purchases and sales.

### **? HOW DO I KEEP TRACK OF BUSINESS RECOVERY EXPENSES? -**

Be careful to check your suppliers. Ask for invoices or receipts for all payments you make for services and goods, including building repairs. Although some receipts may be handwritten, these are acceptable, once they contain the fields required to be included on a VAT receipt or invoice.

### **? MY COMPANY SUSTAINED CONSIDERABLE DAMAGE AND WILL BE CLOSED FOR A SIGNIFICANT PERIOD OR EVEN PERMANENTLY. WHAT SHOULD I DO? -**

If your intention is to rebuild and reopen, you may submit a request to suspend your registration, providing the anticipated reopening date. Form 19 (Notice in Writing of Change of Circumstances) must be used and can be found at [www.bahamas.gov.bs/vat](http://www.bahamas.gov.bs/vat). If you suspend your Registration you must maintain documentation of your VAT invoices and receipts to support any future claims of input tax credits.

If you intend to cease operations, you must submit a request to cancel

your VAT Registration and Business License.

Whether you decide to suspend or cancel, you must ensure that a VAT Return is submitted to cover the period prior to the request being made.

### **? ON WHAT BUSINESS RECOVERY EXPENSES CAN I CLAIM VAT CREDITS? -**

In accordance to section 50 of the VAT Act, as a VAT Registrant you can claim credits on your next return for any inventory that you replace, as well as building materials, equipment and repairs. As long as you continue to make repairs on your property and pay VAT to other VAT registrants you can continue to file for credits.

### **? WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I AM EXPECTING INSURANCE SETTLEMENTS? -**

If as a registrant you are paying VAT on your insurance premium, it means that the policy was renewed or continued after June 30 on a taxable basis. Your insurance settlement will include an allowance to compensate you for VAT. Your claims settlement must be treated like sales revenue, and reported as part of your taxable supply. A fraction of your settlement will be considered output VAT and must be reported on your VAT return form. The claims settlement statement from your insurer will indicate the amount of output VAT that you collected.

### **? WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I AM NOT A VAT REGISTRANT AND I RECEIVE INSURANCE SETTLEMENTS? -**

If your premiums were taxable,

your claims payment must still compensate you for VAT. Your insurer should still explain to you how the VAT factors into your settlement amount.

### **? AM I ELIGIBLE TO BE COMPENSATED FOR VAT ON DAMAGES? -**

Yes, if you were charged VAT on your premiums.

### **? WHAT HAPPENS IF I WAS EXEMPT FROM PAYING VAT ON MY EXISTING POLICY? -**

Your insurer will explain how this exclusion affects the amount of payment settlement you receive.

### **? AS A RESULT OF THE HURRICANE, I HAVE LOST INVENTORY SUPPLIES. CAN I STILL CLAIM INPUT VAT ON THESE SUPPLIES? -**

Businesses which are registered for VAT and have lost inventory supplies can still claim input VAT on these supplies. Ordinarily you would claim your VAT credits in the first filing period after you purchased your stocks. Therefore, if your losses occurred before you were able to file, you can still file for the credits. If your documentation was destroyed, the value of lost inventory may be estimated and verified by a qualified accountant. You may also contact your suppliers or Customs for copies of your receipts.

### **? HOW ARE VAT CREDITS GIVEN? -**

VAT credits are automatically generated in recovery investment expenses. These can be claimed on the VAT Return.

# VAT REGISTRANTS

IN STORM AFFECTED AREAS ( LIST AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2015 )

## ACKLINS, CROOKED ISLAND, INAGUA, LONG ISLAND, MAYAGUANA, RUM CAY, SAN SALVADOR

\* **Exuma** residents should consult the government's website at:  
**[www.bahamas.gov.bs/VAT](http://www.bahamas.gov.bs/VAT)**.

### ACKLINS

Business Name	TIN	Settlement	Island
Deep South Construction Company	100682968	Salina Point	Acklins
Ivel's Bed and Breakfast	100102826	Masons Bay	Acklins
Nai'S Service Station	100335084	Spring Point	Acklins
OBrien Bain Heavy Equipment	100807468	Masons Bay	Acklins

### CROOKED ISLAND

Business Name	TIN	Settlement	Island
Green Valley Food and Variety Store	100105984	Colonel Hill	Crooked Island
Tranquillity on the bay resort	100122284	Colonel Hill	Crooked Island

### INAGUA

Business Name	TIN	Settlement	Island
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C .J's Enterprises	100934342	Matthew Town	Inagua
EJ's Cleaning Company	100175392	Matthew Town	Inagua
Far East Enterprises Limited	100232150	Matthew Town	Inagua
Farcensee Investment Services	100661176	Matthew Town	Inagua
Flamingo Lounge & Restaurant	100361892	Matthew Town	Inagua
Hudson General Maintenance & Construction	100505326	Matthew Town	Inagua
Inagua Construction & Continental Equipment Company	100293184	Matthew Town	Inagua

Inagua General Store Ltd.	100045800	Matthew Town	Inagua
Morton Bahamas Limited	100044926	Matthew Town	Inagua
Nagua Springs	100131792	Matthew Town	Inagua
Pyfrom's Chicken Shop	100365676	Matthew Town	Inagua
Runks Construction	100438176	Matthew Town	Inagua

## LONG ISLAND

Business Name	TIN	Settlement	Island
Adderleys Appliance Plumbing & Electrical Supplies	100605800	Miller's	Long Island
Alex Building Supply	100061192	Miller's	Long Island
Allan Knowles Construction	100362800	McKenzie	Long Island
Bay Side Service Station Ltd	100081684	McKenzie	Long Island
Cape Santa Maria Beach Resort	100504442	Seymour (incl. Galliot Cay)	Long Island
Carroll Shipping Company Limited	100408034	Deadman's Cay	Long Island
Cartwrights Construction	100109634	Salt Pond	Long Island
Chamcem Boats	101143534	Mangrove Bush	Long Island
Constantakis Sea Enterprises	100292042	Pettys	Long Island
Ellen's Inn	100098468	Deadman's Cay	Long Island
Flying Fish Marina Limited	100414226	Clarence Town	Long Island
Flying Fish Marina Limited	100452284	Clarence Town	Long Island
Flying Fish Marina Limited	100901276	Clarence Town	Long Island
Forest Takeaway	100203318	Lower Deadman's Cay	Long Island
Fox Auto	100087518	Salt Pond	Long Island
G & M Distributors	100550876	Glenton	Long Island
Greenwich Creek Lodge Ltd.	100057500	Cartwright	Long Island
Greenwich Creek Lodge Restaurant & Bar	100925250	Cartwright	Long Island
Harding's Seafood Limited	100179626	Salt Pond	Long Island
Hawkline Aviation (Bahamas), Ltd.	100113350	Stella Maris	Long Island
Hillside Food Supply	100062784	Salt Pond	Long Island
Island Connection Ltd.	100476684	Millerton	Long Island
Island Wings Limited	100045518	Stella Maris	Long Island
It's All Under The Sun	100185784	Mangrove Bush	Long Island
J&M Food Store	100350818	Deadman's Cay	Long Island

J. B. Carroll's Supermarket	100466618	Deadman's Cay	Long Island
John Fitzsimons	100552050	Hamilton	Long Island
KAP Electrical Contracting	100134434	Cabbage Point (incl. Wood Hill & Fords)	Long Island
KC's Wine & Spirits	100144826	Salt Pond	Long Island
Knowles Supply	100366718	McKenzie	Long Island
Laurin Knowles and Son's Construction	100468342	Mangrove Bush	Long Island
Lloyd's Sporting Lounge & Entertainment Center	100581768	Clarence Town	Long Island
Long Island Breeze Limited	100402650	Salt Pond	Long Island
Long Island Custom Builders	100139192	Salt Pond	Long Island
Long Island Estate Developers Ltd.	100151576	Stella Maris	Long Island
Long Island Gases	100101492	Cabbage Point (incl. Wood Hill & Fords)	Long Island
Long Island Petroleum Distributors (1976) Limited	100140468	Salt Pond	Long Island
Long Island Prescription Services	100414776	Hamilton	Long Island
Max Conch Bar & Grill	100143818	Deadman's Cay	Long Island
MGS Food Store	100053568	Burnt Ground	Long Island
Midway Mini Mart	100575150	The Bight (Bower's)	Long Island
Miss Stephanie	100380950	Salt Pond	Long Island
Ophelias Rent A Car & Auto Sales	100155934	Lower Deadman's Cay	Long Island
Outer Edge Bar & Grill	100293218	Clarence Town	Long Island
Peter Fox Construction Co Ltd	100063826	Salt Pond	Long Island
Ricardo Harding Construction	100246618	Salt Pond	Long Island
Robert's Hardware And Building Supplies	100320226	Alligator Bay	Long Island
Rowdy Boys Construction	100599550	Deadman's Cay	Long Island
Sea Winds Supermart	100244018	Pettys	Long Island
Seafarer Marine Supply	100096868	Salt Pond	Long Island
Seaside Traders	100335242	McKenzie	Long Island
Simms Enterprises Co.ltdt/A Bunches Gas Station	100090642	Millerton	Long Island
Stefan Knowles Construction	100300576	Mangrove Bush	Long Island
Stefan Knowles Engineering Services	100454200	Miley and Lochabar	Long Island

Stella Maris Inn Ltd.	100182200	Stella Maris	Long Island
Stella Maris Resort Air Service	100194900	Stella Maris	Long Island
Summer Seafoods Limited	100996418	Hamilton	Long Island
Sunflower Food Mart	100248634	Hamilton	Long Island
The Bahamian Calendar	100087642	Clarence Town	Long Island
The Watering Hole	100093676	Stella Maris	Long Island
Treco's Meat Mart	100052550	Hamilton	Long Island
Treco's Service Station	100280050	Hamilton	Long Island
True Value Foodstore	100658592	Clarence Town	Long Island
Wade Knowles Construction Co. Ltd.	100365092	Salt Pond	Long Island
Winter Haven Inn Limited	100280218	Clarence Town	Long Island
Yukon Jack Liquor Store	100325692	Pettys	Long Island
Yuma Oil & Gas Ltd	100070868	Clarence Town	Long Island

## MAYAGUANA

Business Name	TIN	Settlement	Island
Cynthias Gas	100559318	Pirate's Well	Mayaguana

## RUM CAY

Business Name	TIN	Settlement	Island
Josie's Jalopies	100707434	Port Nelson	Rum Cay

## SAN SALVADOR

Business Name	TIN	Settlement	Island
Bahamas Coast Therapy Ltd.	100496750	Cockburn Town	San Salvador
Bobby's Catering & Party Rental	100623084	Sugar Loaf	San Salvador
Cathy's Nursery & Pre School	100732234	Sugar Loaf	San Salvador
Cleophas Storr Builders	100823918	United Estates	San Salvador
Club Mediterranee (Bahamas) Ltd	100192692	Cockburn Town	San Salvador
Columbus Isle Excursions	100223192	Bonefish Bay	San Salvador
Columbus Isles Boutique	100349700	Cockburn Town	San Salvador
Columbus Isles Builders	100119734	Bonefish Bay	San Salvador
Columbus Tarven Restaurant And Bar	100411034	North Victoria Hill	San Salvador

# VAT REGISTRANTS

Da Back A Yard	100208076	Long Bay	San Salvador
Dds One Stop Shop	100422142	North Victoria Hill	San Salvador
Dis Da One Wholesale & Retail	100162268	North Victoria Hill	San Salvador
Diver's Reef Ltd.	100764000	Cockburn Town	San Salvador
Dorette's Grocery Store	100529018	Cockburn Town	San Salvador
Get It 4 Less Convenience Store	100358476	United Estates	San Salvador
Guanahani Beach Club Resort	100261150	Sandy Point	San Salvador
Hal Properties Ltd	100448142	Cockburn Town	San Salvador
Hf Construction	100962176	Cockburn Town	San Salvador
Hip Way Bahamas Boutique	101216584	Cockburn Town	San Salvador
Ian And Alison Mortemore T/A J' S Discount Drugs	100119318	Cockburn Town	San Salvador
Jake Jones & Sons Construction	100848742	Cockburn Town	San Salvador
Javlin Security Company	100574276	Bonefish Bay	San Salvador
K D Enterprises	100535200	Hall's Landings	San Salvador
Kings Landscaping	100753868	North Victoria Hill	San Salvador
Lagoon Tours Bahamas Ltd	100932450	Cockburn Town	San Salvador
M T Hardware & Building Supplies	100132126	North Victoria Hill	San Salvador
Marcus Jones Bussing	100121692	Cockburn Town	San Salvador
Mckenzie Plumbing	100401776	Cockburn Town	San Salvador
Paradis Restaurant And Bar	100455342	Cockburn Town	San Salvador
Pee Wee's Construction	100152292	Hall's Landings	San Salvador
Riding Rock Inn	100543676	Cockburn Town	San Salvador
Russell's Island Distributors	100561568	Cockburn Town	San Salvador
Russell's Island Distributors	100629176	Cockburn Town	San Salvador
San Salvador Gift Shop	100132542	Cockburn Town	San Salvador
Seafari (Bahamas) Limited	100756926	Cockburn Town	San Salvador
The Almond Tree Wholesale and Retail Bar	100225400	United Estates	San Salvador
Three J'S Take-Away	100200126	United Estates	San Salvador



## FOR MORE INFORMATION :

Email [taxinquiries@bahamas.gov.bs](mailto:taxinquiries@bahamas.gov.bs)  
or contact **THE DEPARTMENT OF INLAND REVENUE**  
at (242) 225-7280 or (242) 461-8050.