

ARTICLE V. - SHORT-TERM RENTAL UNITS^[3]

- **Sec. 6-114. - Application for short-term rental unit permit.**

Applicants for a short-term rental unit permit shall submit an initial application for a short-term rental Unit permit, to be renewed annually to coincide with the business license calendar. The application shall be furnished on a form prepared by the Town of Bluffton accompanied by a non-refundable application fee as set forth in the Town's Master Fee Schedule.

- **Sec. 6-120. - Violations and penalties.**

(a) ~~Violations.~~ It shall be a violation of this article to:

(1) Operate a short-term rental unit without complying with the requirements of this article and the Town Code of Ordinances;

(2) Advertise a residential dwelling as being available for a short-term rental unit without first complying with the requirements of this article, including applying for and obtaining a short-term rental unit permit;

(3) Operate a short-term rental unit that has received two or more notifications of violations during any one-year permit period.

a. When there is a change of ownership, the number of allowable notices and violations shall be reset upon the issuance of a new short-term rental unit permit.

(4) **Knowingly provide false information to the Town**

(b) Failure of the short-term rental unit agent to timely appear to two or more complaints regarding violations may be grounds for penalties including but not limited to, revocation of the permit as set forth in this article.

(c) **Upon conviction for a violation hereof, the violator shall be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable as provided in Section 1-7 of this Code.**

(d) **In the event payment for an annual permit is not timely remitted to the Town as set forth in this article, the short-term rental agent failing to remit shall also pay a penalty of five percent of the unpaid amount for each month or a portion thereof until said permit is paid in full.**

(e) For good cause shown, but not otherwise, a short-term rental agent may petition the Town Manager, or designee for a reduction of the penalties otherwise due when the failure to pay is not willful and is more than mere oversight and inadvertence.

- **Sec. 6-122. - Renewals and modifications.**

(a) *Renewals.* All short-term rental unit permit holders must renew the permit with the business license.