

## OFFICE OF THE TREASURER-TAX COLLECTOR SHARI L. FREIDENRICH, CPA, CCMT, CPFA, CPFIM

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## PRESS RELEASE

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## **First Installment Property Tax Payment Deadline**

Orange County Treasurer-Tax Collector Shari Freidenrich reports that the first installment of the 2012-2013 secured property taxes must be paid by December 10, 2012 to avoid any late charges. Any first installment payments received after Monday, December 10, 2012 that do not have a US Postal stamp of the 10<sup>th</sup> or earlier will be charged a 10% delinquent fee. The second installment of property taxes are due February 1, 2013 and are delinquent after April 10, 2013.

Treasurer-Tax Collector Shari Freidenrich encourages taxpayers to save postage costs and pay your property tax bill on-line by eCheck at no cost using your bank checking or savings account at <a href="mailto:bos.ocgov.com/octaxbill">bos.ocgov.com/octaxbill</a>, a secure website. Freidenrich states "the most cost effective way for my office to process tax payments is by eCheck". To further assist taxpayers, tax payments processed no later than midnight Monday, December 10, 2012, using the Orange County Treasurer-Tax Collector's website at <a href="mailto:bos.ocgov.com/octaxbill">bos.ocgov.com/octaxbill</a> will be accepted as timely payment of taxes, and the receipt you print on-line is as valid as the receipt you would receive in our office. This change from the 5:00 pm deadline was made last year.

Payments by eCheck, which allows a taxpayer to pay using their bank account on-line without a convenience fee, represents over 11% of the tax payments received since July 1, 2012, and the number of taxpayers using eCheck this year has increased 22% from the same period last year. Mailed tax payments currently represent 78% of the tax payments received since July 1, 2012, but have declined by 5% from the same period last year.

In October, 2012, over 845,000 secured property tax bills were mailed out to Orange County property owners, and the amount of the tax bills has increased by 2.6% from the prior year.



/S/ Shari L. Freidenrich Orange County Treasurer-Tax Collector