

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

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## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE August 28, 2015 Contact: Shari L. Freidenrich (714) 834-7625; <u>Treasurer@ttc.ocgov.com</u>

## **Unsecured Property Tax Payment Deadline on August 31**

Orange County Treasurer-Tax Collector Shari Freidenrich reminds those with unsecured property taxes due for fiscal year 2015/16 relating to business property, leased equipment, boats and aircraft to submit payment by August 31, 2015 to avoid late charges. Any unsecured property tax payments received after Monday, August 31, 2015 that do not show a US Postal Service date stamp on the 31st or earlier will be charged a 10% delinquent fee and a \$75 late charge.

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 <u>ocgov.com/octaxbill</u>, 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 11:59 pm PST, Monday, August 31, 2015, using the Orange County Treasurer-Tax Collector's website at <u>ocgov.com/octaxbill</u> will be accepted as timely payment of taxes, receive same day credit, and a receipt from the online payment can either be printed or emailed.

The owner of record as of January 1, 2015 is responsible for paying the unsecured property tax even if they sell or otherwise dispose of the property being taxed after January 1, 2015. The new owner is not responsible for paying the 1% tax on the personal property purchased until January 1, 2016.

Payments by eCheck, which allows a taxpayer to pay using their bank account online without a convenience fee, represents almost 20% of all property tax payments received in FY 2014-2015, and are up over 100% since 2011. The number of mailed payments has been decreasing and currently represents less than 45% of all property tax payments.

The Treasurer billed over \$400 million in unsecured property taxes for fiscal year 2015/16. Unsecured property tax bills were sent to approximately 106,000 businesses, 32,000 boat owners, and 750 aircraft owners. The amount of the unsecured property taxes has decreased 4% from the prior fiscal year.



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