



TREASURER-TAX COLLECTOR COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

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DAN McALLISTER
Treasurer-Tax Collector

MEDIA RELEASE

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COUNTY TREASURER – TAX COLLECTOR WARNS: HEFTY PENALTIES AWAIT LATE TAXPAYERS IF BILLS ARE NOT PAID BY JULY 2nd

Over 18,000 heed earlier warnings

San Diego, CA... County Treasurer Tax-Collector Dan McAllister warned today that 47,681 property owners stand to incur hefty additional penalties if their property tax payments are not made by **Monday, July 2nd**. His warning follows an announcement in mid-May that 65,428 taxpayers had failed to pay either installment of their 2006-07 tax obligations.

“We are pleased that nearly 18,000 stepped up during the past two months to meet their annual property tax obligations,” stated McAllister. “However, it should be noted that all of these taxpayers incurred a 10% late fee and for those who wait beyond next Monday, their tax bill will grow by an additional 1.5% per month or 18% per year.”

Countywide, 964,347 tax bills were mailed to property owners last September. Property taxes are due twice annually and installments are deemed “late” if paid after the final due dates of December 10th and April 10th, respectively. Many people pay both installments on or before December 10th to benefit for Federal tax write-offs for a given year. Nearly 1/3 of all payments are made by lenders through the use of impound accounts and many payments are now paying “on-line” for convenience (www.sdtreastax.com). The San Diego Treasurer-Tax Collector also has five office locations throughout the county for the convenience of taxpayers.

“Historically, about 93% of San Diego County taxpayers meet their tax obligations in a timely fashion. Our overall collection rates have been among the best in the state of California. Things happen to people though and for a variety of reasons, by May of each year, we find it necessary to remind taxpayers who have not made their payments that they need to pay. We let them know if they don’t, they will face severe monetary consequences. This year is no different.

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This past May, approximately 7% of our tax bills remained unpaid. After our reminder notices were delivered, a significant number of taxpayers stepped up to pay. Now, just 3.6% of our tax bills remain unpaid and we are confident that during the next week that number will be further reduced,” McAllister concluded.

The first and second property tax installment payments were due on December 10, 2006 and April 10, 2007, respectively. Failure to meet the deadlines resulted in a 10% penalty installment immediately following the due dates plus a \$10 penalty charge. If payment is not received for either the first and/or second installment by Tuesday, July 3rd, the installment payments will default and will begin to accrue at an 18% annual interest charge plus a \$15 redemption fee when the bill is paid.

County Treasurer- Tax Collector Dan McAllister is responsible for tax collection, banking, investment, disbursement and accountability of public funds.

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