



April 2018

Dear Friend,

Now that March is behind us, we are closing the books on the 2017 Property Tax Season. If you haven't paid your 2017 taxes, pay now to avoid a tax certificate being sold on your property. The tax certificate sale will be held June 1.

After April 1, all unpaid taxes include a 3-percent interest charge and advertising fees. Delinquent taxes cannot be paid online. You must pay in person at our service centers except our Palm Beach Gardens office on PGA Boulevard. This service center provides motor vehicle and driver license services only.

Best regards,

Anne M. Gannon

What You Should Know About Delinquent Property Taxes

2017 property taxes are delinquent on April 1. Pay now to avoid the annual tax certificate sale on June 1, 2018. A tax certificate is a lien on your property. The lien is created when someone else pays your delinquent taxes. If you fail to pay delinquent taxes within two years, the tax certificate buyer can file a Tax Deed Application. This begins the foreclosure process, where your property can be sold at public auction.

Delinquent property taxes are charged a minimum of 3% interest plus advertising fees. We only accept cash and certified funds including bank draft, money order, cashier's check or wire transfer. Delinquent taxes cannot be paid online.

Last Chance to Sign Up for Our Installment Payment Plan

Did you know you can pay property taxes in smaller quarterly payments instead of one lump sum? If you prefer this option, act now! The clock is ticking on the April 30 deadline to enroll in our Installment Payment Plan. Participants make four payments with a discount of slightly under 4%. Installments are due by the last day in June, September, December and March. Sign up at www.pbctax.com/installment-payment-plan.

Time Saving Tips From Our Managers

We asked our service center managers for their best time-saving tips. Here's what they say you should do to make your transaction efficient and easy:

- 1. Go online.** You can renew motor vehicle and boat registrations, pay business taxes and make driver license appointments at www.pbctax.com. You can also check wait times at each of our service centers. Please keep in mind that posted wait times are constantly updated in real time and will change by the time you arrive at a service center.
- 2. Avoid peak hours.** Offices are busiest from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and also from 4 p.m. until we close at 5 p.m. For the shortest wait, arrive before our offices open at 8:15 a.m. We also recommend visiting Tuesdays through Thursdays. Lines are usually longest at the beginning and end of the week and month.
- 3. Don't wait until the last minute.** Offices stop driver license services when wait times exceed hours of operation. Plan to visit early in the day. If you need to take the computer-based driving test, arrive before 3 p.m. to give yourself enough time to finish. Better yet, make an appointment at www.pbctax.com.
- 4. Pass your eye exam.** If you must take an eye exam to renew your driver license, remember to wear any required corrective lenses. It's very disappointing when a client fails the eye exam and cannot renew their license after waiting in line.

Request an Annual Report

If you're like most taxpayers, you want to know where your tax dollars go. Do you ever wonder who is the single largest taxpayer in Palm Beach County? These are just some of the tax facts we present in the 2017 *Annual Report to Our Citizens*. I also share agency accomplishments and a look ahead at our plans for fiscal year 2018.

To request free copies of the *Annual Report to Our Citizens*, please contact us at ClientAdvocate@taxcollectorpbc.com. If you have not yet received a copy of our award-winning *Tax Planner and Services Guide*, add it to your request. We usually run out of copies by April so request yours today!

Hands-Free is not Risk-Free

April is National Distracted Driving Awareness Month. Unfortunately, distractions are everywhere. Car technology allows drivers to make hands-free phone calls, update social media and dictate text messages. However, hands-free is not risk free. The Tax Collector's Office prohibits employees from using cell phones behind the wheel when driving for business purposes. I encourage you to put your cell phone down as well.