

County of Fresno

Oscar J. Garcia, CPA Auditor-Controller/Treasurer-Tax Collector

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Fresno County's 2024-25 Current Secured Property Taxes Due

FRESNO, CA – Fresno County Auditor Controller/Treasurer-Tax Collector, Oscar J. Garcia, reminds all taxpayers that the first installment of the 2024-25 Fresno County Secured Property Tax Bill is due on November 1, 2024, and will be considered delinquent if not paid by 5:00 pm on December 10, 2024. Additionally, the second installment is due on February 1, 2025, and will be considered delinquent if not paid by 5:00 pm on April 10, 2025.

A ten-percent (10%) penalty will be added to all payments received in the office after 5:00 pm on December 10, 2024, unless postmarked by the United States Postal Service (USPS) on or before December 10, 2024. A ten-percent (10%) penalty and a ten dollar (\$10) fee will be added to all payments received in the office after 5:00 pm on April 10, 2024, unless postmarked by the USPS on or before April 10, 2024. All taxes may be paid when the first installment is due.

THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS ARE PROVIDED TO FACILITATE THE PAYMENT PROCESS:

AVAILABLE PAYMENT OPTIONS:

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE: Payments made by check and money order should include a tax bill stub and made payable to "Fresno County Tax Collector". Payments by mail should be sent to:

FRESNO COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR P.O. BOX 1192 FRESNO, CA 93715-1192

PAY BY PHONE or ONLINE: For faster payment processing, payments can be made by credit card (2.25% fee), debit card (\$3.29 fee), and eCheck (\$1.50 fee) by calling our automated phone system at 559-600-3482 or by visiting our Fresno County Property Tax Web Application at: <u>https://sonant.fresnocountyca.gov/paymentapplication/</u>. Please be aware that starting January 1, 2025, the credit card fee will be increased to 2.30% and eCheck will be reduced to \$0.50.

PAYMENT DROP BOXES: Two drop boxes will be available at the locations below to deposit your check or money order payments from November 25, 2024, to 5:00 pm on December 10, 2024. Photos of each location are posted on the website.

- One at the parking lot of the Hall of Records, 2281 Tulare Street, Fresno CA 93721
- One at the parking lot of the Department of Internal Services Campus located at 333 W. Pontiac Way and Never Forget Lane in Clovis, CA

LOBBY OF THE HALL OF RECORDS: For faster processing, we highly recommend you make your payment online or by placing your check or money order into one of the two available Payment Drop Boxes. However, we are accepting all payment types at this location Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm and from 7:30 am to 5:00 pm during our extended hours. All payment types will be accepted on Saturday, December 07, 2024, from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm.

EXTENDED HOURS: For your convenience, beginning on Monday, December 02, 2024, through Tuesday, December 10, 2024, the office will be open at 7:30 am and close at 5:00 pm each weekday. On Saturday, December 07, 2024, we will be open from 8:00 am through 1:00 pm to accommodate those taxpayers unable to visit the office during standard business hours.

FAILURE TO RECEIVE A TAX BILL DOES NOT RELIEVE THE TAXPAYER OF THE RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE TIMELY PAYMENTS.

Anyone who has recently acquired property must verify the taxes have been paid. Tax information and payments may be obtained by accessing the Fresno County Auditor-Controller/Treasurer-Tax Collector Property Tax Information website at

https://www.fresnocountyca.gov/Departments/Auditor-Controller-Treasurer-Tax-Collector/Property-Tax-Information or by calling our automated phone system at (559) 600-3482.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. Under what circumstances could a property tax deadline be extended?

A. Pursuant to Revenue and Taxation Code section 2619, if the Tax Collector's office is closed, the next business day that it is open is when the deadline applies.

Q. Can the County waive the associated service fee of 2.25% for credit card payments online and over the phone?

A. No. The County cannot waive the associated service fee of 2.25% for credit card transactions because the fees are charged by our credit card payment processor to facilitate the transactions. As a reminder, there is only a \$3.29 fee for debit card and \$1.50 fee for e-Check payments.

Q. Will I receive a tax bill if I pay taxes through an impound account?

A. If your taxes are paid through an impound account, your lender will receive your annual tax bill and you will receive an information/assessee copy. Supplemental tax bills, however, are not sent to your lender; they are mailed directly to you. It is your responsibility to contact your lender to determine who will pay the supplemental tax bill, you or your lender.

Q. What determines the amount of taxes that I pay?

A. The County Assessor determines the taxable value of your property. Generally, the taxable value is the cash or market value at the time of transfer. This value generally increases not more than 2% per year until the property is resold or any new construction is completed, at which time the portion which changes must be reassessed. Additional information may be obtained from the Fresno County Assessor at (559) 600-3534.

After the Assessor has determined the property value, the Special Accounting Division of the Auditor-Controller/Treasurer–Tax Collector's office applies the appropriate tax rates, which include: the general tax levy, locally voted special taxes, and any city or district assessments. The general tax levy is determined in accordance with the State law and is limited to \$1.00 per \$100.00 taxable value of your property. After applying the tax rates, they calculate the total tax amount. The Tax Collection Division of the Auditor-Controller/ Treasurer-Tax Collector's office prepares property tax bills based on the Special Accounting Division's calculations, mails the bills and collects the taxes.

Q. What should I do if I disagree with the valuation the assessor has placed on your property?

A. You should first discuss the matter with the Assessor's Office and if the question is not resolved to your satisfaction there is an Assessment Appeals Board established for the purpose of reviewing taxable values and such matters. Appeals on regular assessments must be filed each year between July 2 and November 30. The valuation information may be obtained from the Assessor's Office by July 1 each year. If you choose to appeal your assessment, you should nonetheless pay the tax installment presently due and payable, by the appropriate deadline. If your appeal is granted a refund will be made. If you have not made a timely payment, you may incur penalties while the case is in appeals.