COUNTY OF RICHLAND OFFICE OF COUNTY TREASURER



DAVID A. ADAMS
COUNTY TREASURER

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, 12 November 2003

PAY RICHLAND TAXES AT ANY LOCAL NBSC

Avoiding Lines Downtown Saves Everyone

COLUMBIA, SC - Tens of thousands of Richland County residents will be able to pay their taxes in shorter lines with a new payment option unveiled by County Treasurer David Adams, today. Taxpayers can now pay their taxes at any Midlands NBSC branch location to avoid the long lines downtown.

More than 175,000 annual tax bills were sent from Richland County in the past two and a half weeks and come due by January 15, 2004. Approximately 25,000 automobile tax bills are issued each month, also. In the past year, more than 40% of residents paid their taxes at the Treasurer's Office at 2020 Hampton Street.

"We anticipate more than 35,000 tax bills are paid at our office at this time of year (four times the usual amount) and people endure very long lines," said Mr. Adams. "Even if just 10% of those people pay taxes at an NBSC branch, it could eliminate 175 hours of waiting in line during the holiday season."

He continued: "The agreement with NBSC will let county taxpayers safely pay, and allow a face to face transaction many folks desire when paying their tax bills."

Reducing the lines allows the Treasurer's Office more peoplepower to process the huge number of payments that arrive there at the end of the year. The other 120,000-plus payments are made by businesses, mortgage companies, credit cards and regular mail. Those payments must be posted to individual accounts, and have taken months to complete in the past.

"I am very excited that there are eight new locations to meet people's needs. This is the first in several payment options that we hope will make it easier for residents to meet their tax obligations, and make the Treasurer's Office more effective meeting our responsibilities to the people of Richland County," Adams concluded.

<u>NOTE</u>: NBSC cannot alter tax bills and cannot answer questions regarding tax bills. For all tax bill changes and questions, taxpayers still must contact county offices.

(MORE)

Pay Richland Taxes (continued) Page Two

RICHLAND COUNTY NBSC BRANCH LOCATIONS:

Broad River Road 1025 Broad River Rd. Columbia, SC 29210

Irmo 1363 Lake Murray Blvd. Irmo, SC 29063

Spring Valley 9370 Two Notch Road Columbia, SC 29223 Columbia Main 1241 Main St. Columbia, SC 29201

Lower Richland 7851 Garners Ferry Rd. Columbia, SC 29209

Trenholm 27 Trenholm Plaza Columbia, SC 29206 Gamecock 1311 Pendleton St. Columbia, SC 29201

Millwood 3227 Millwood Rd. Columbia, SC 29205

For More Information, Contact: Kendra Dove, 803/576-2275

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