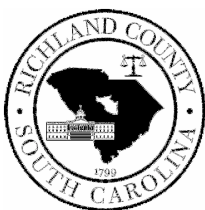


**COUNTY OF RICHLAND
OFFICE OF COUNTY TREASURER**



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BANK BRANCH TAX PAYMENTS INCREASE 28% IN 2005

(COLUMBIA, SC) As the second largest property tax week of the year approaches, there was some good news for Richland County taxpayers. During the 2005 calendar year 14,597 Richland County tax payments were made in NBSC bank branches. The bank payment option was instituted in November 2003 by Richland County Treasurer David A. Adams. In 2004, 11,408 tax payments were handled in the NBSC branches.

“A lot of people want the comfort of seeing someone accept their payment but they don’t want to come downtown to stand in line,” Adams said. “Working with NBSC we have given taxpayers convenient locations all over Richland County where they can meet their tax obligations.”

The two branches most used by taxpayers were Lower Richland (7851 Garners Ferry Road) and Spring Valley (9370 Two Notch Road). Each location logged approximately 3,200 tax payments in 2005 (see below). December has been the busiest month since the inception of the program with an average of 1,582 payments made in bank branches.

“This option will continue to grow as more people become familiar with it,” Adams concluded. “Bank tax payments have added a new convenience and efficiency to the process for everyone. People don’t have to stand in long lines to pay their taxes and the money goes straight into the bank - this has been a fantastic success for Richland County taxpayers.”

In the twenty-six months the program has operated 26,694 payments have been dropped off at the banking centers.

Payment options, including NBSC bank locations, can be found at www.rcgov.us/treasurer.

<u>NBSC Branch Location</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005 (tax payments)</u>
Main St.	680	657
Trenholm Plaza	1539	1977
Pendleton St.	483	648
Broad River Rd.	1619	2090
Lake Murray Blvd., Irmo 1394	1666	
Cayce	326	352
Two Notch Rd.	2507	3195
Devine St.	727	647
Garners Ferry Rd.	2039	3228
Lexington	94	137

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