



**OFFICE OF THE TREASURER-TAX COLLECTOR
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PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 1, 2014**

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First Installment Property Tax Payment Deadline

Orange County Treasurer-Tax Collector Shari Freidenrich reports that the first installment of the 2014-2015 secured property taxes must be paid by December 10, 2014 to avoid any late charges. Any first installment payments received after Wednesday, December 10, 2014 that do not have a US Postal stamp of the 10th or earlier will be charged a 10% delinquent fee. The second installment of property taxes is due February 1, 2015 and is delinquent after April 10, 2015.

Treasurer-Tax Collector Shari Freidenrich encourages taxpayers to save the cost of a stamp and pay your property tax bill on-line by eCheck without any convenience fee using your bank checking or savings account at ocgov.com/octaxbill, on the County's secure website. Freidenrich states, "The most cost effective way for my office to process tax payments is by eCheck." To further assist taxpayers, tax payments processed up until midnight Wednesday, December 10, 2014, using the Orange County Treasurer-Tax Collector's website at ocgov.com/octaxbill will be accepted as timely payment of taxes. A taxpayer receives same-day credit for these payments and can either print the payment receipt or receive a payment receipt by e-mail. If you are paying more than one parcel, use our convenient online "cart" function so that you only have to put in your bank account information once, and receive a payment receipt listing each of the parcels paid.

Payments by eCheck, which allows a taxpayer to pay using their bank account on-line without a convenience fee, represents almost 15% of the tax payments received since July 1, 2014, an increase of over 100% since the same period in 2011. Mailed tax payments currently represent 75% of the tax payments received since July 1, 2014, but have declined by 19% from the same period last year.

In October 2014, over 845,000 secured property tax bills totaling \$5.4 billion were mailed out to Orange County property owners, and the amount of the property tax bills has increased by 5.2% from the prior year.



**/S/ Shari L. Freidenrich
Orange County Treasurer-Tax Collector**