

**COUNTY OF RICHLAND
OFFICE OF COUNTY TREASURER**



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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\$21 MILLION MORE IN 2004

Treasurer's Office Overtime Processed 10,000 More Accounts In January

Columbia, SC - Each member of the Richland County Treasurer's Office spent an additional twenty hours in the office to process tax payments in January. Ten thousand more payments were processed sending \$21 million more to the bank than in January 2003.

"We asked that the entire office pitch-in, and the results have been money in the bank," Treasurer David Adams said. "Even though we still have a lot to get done, and the ice days slowed us down, this is a great start."

There are many types of payments processed by the Treasurer's Office; from payments directly handled by the office to payments that are processed before they arrive in county offices (such as Internet, branch location, bank processed mail, walk-in and credit card payments).

The Richland County Treasurer's Office processed 71,907 payments of \$166.67 million in January 2004. In January of 2003, 61,836 total payments of \$145.79 million were processed.

New mail sorting methods were used to speed payment entries, and a payment processing manual was created to allow everyone in the office to enter tax payments onto the County system.

"We don't have more payments than last year, we are handling them more quickly," Adams continued. "Our goal is to get a real estate property receipt to the taxpayer within days of payment and we are getting closer to that goal."

"People meet their obligations to the county and they deserve to know that their payment is made and their money is being put to work," Adams concluded.

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