

**COUNTY OF RICHLAND  
OFFICE OF COUNTY TREASURER**



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**TAX PAYMENT OPTIONS TAKE A BITE OUT OF LINES**

COLUMBIA - 10,633 tax payments were made outside of the Richland County Treasurer's Office in the first six months of 2004 - a 581% increase over the same period last year - reducing lines and processing times for the county and its citizens. The increase was attributable to 5,174 payments at NBSC midlands branches, 620 telephone payments and 4,839 Internet payments.

"Finding new options for people to meet their tax obligation has been a top priority of mine since day one," said Richland County Treasurer David Adams. "We are working to give people choices, and we are aggressively informing them what those choices are - the results are great changes for our office and the people we serve."

Using the Internet, a new telephone system, or bank drop-off locations gives people new choices that make it more convenient to pay taxes. Those new options also make the collection process more efficient and accurate for Richland County because payments are deposited directly into the county's accounts.

As a result of increased payment options, 4,800 fewer transactions were taken in the lines at the Treasurer's Office and 4,000 fewer mailed payments were processed from January through June 2004 than during the same time in 2003.

"We are grabbing onto new ideas and new technology that will help our office meet the needs of Richland County taxpayers by making our office more efficient than ever before," Adams concluded. "Our improvement is showing in shorter lines, quicker processing, and the extra attention we can give to individuals who need our help."

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For More Information:  
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