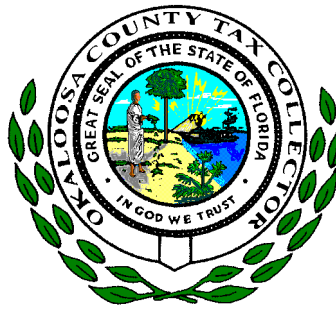


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## PRESS RELEASE

### VEHICLE REGISTRATION RENEWAL FEES

April 2, 2014

Press Release 14-09

Contact: Shari Bruns (media inquiries only) 850- 651-7669 [SBruns@OkaloosaTax.com](mailto:SBruns@OkaloosaTax.com)

**Ft. Walton Beach, FL** – Okaloosa County Tax Collector Ben Anderson announces the State's reduction of Vehicle Registration Renewal Fees. "I want to applaud Governor Scott, Senate President Gaetz and House Speaker Weatherford for honoring the Legislature's commitment to the Citizens of Florida. The Governor has signed legislation that will save Florida motorists \$395 million dollars in Vehicle Renewal Fees, based on an average savings of \$25.00 per registration."

In 2009 the Legislature and Governor Crist raised the registration fees out of the necessity to balance the State Budget, a Constitutional requirement. Anderson says, "Seldom do we see Government give up a tax once they establish it on the people, but today that has happened. This fee reduction appropriately keeps more of the hard earned money in the hands of the Citizens and their Families to help with their monthly expenses. These savings will work their way into Florida's economy while benefiting our Citizens, a true Win – Win for the State and the People".

Tax Collector Diane Nelson (Pinellas County), President of the Florida Tax Collectors Association, stated "The Tax Collector Offices throughout Florida provide many State services, including vehicle registrations for the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles. Our Collectors have communicated directly on behalf of their Citizens with their Legislators on the significance and integrity of this legislation. Returning this money to the pockets of our Citizens is the right thing to do!" Anderson commented, "As a collective group of all 67 Florida Counties, we carried a single voice of the People. Our Legislators listened, and now our Citizens will benefit".

"Our Office and the Florida Tax Collector's Association were proactive when this bill was making its way through the Legislature." Anderson continues, "In Okaloosa County we have recommended single year renewals while discouraging biennial renewals, since the Legislature introduced the bill this year. This single year renewal should save our Citizens \$220,000.00 between then and the effective date of the new law on September 1, 2014."

For questions on the renewal process, please visit one of our 6 conveniently located Offices, call our Customer Service Processing Center at 850-651-7300, or go online to [www.OkaloosaTax.com](http://www.OkaloosaTax.com).

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