

Media Contact: Charlie Moore
Charlie.Moore@tax.nm.gov
(505) 670-5406

September 12, 2023

New scam targets property owners with delinquent tax notice
Taxation and Revenue, Attorney General warn taxpayers about bogus letters

SANTA FE — The New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department and the Office of the Attorney General are warning property owners of a scam targeting taxpayers who may be delinquent on their property taxes.

The scam appears to use public information gathered from counties to send bogus demand for payment letters. The letters tell the taxpayer to call a 1-800 number by a certain date, threatening that the state will seize the owner's property and may garnish their income and bank accounts.

So far, the letters have been sent to owners in Doña Ana and Cibola Counties.

“These kinds of despicable scams are unfortunately all too common. Taxpayers can always contact us or their county directly if they have questions,” said Taxation and Revenue Secretary Stephanie Schardin Clarke.

“Members of the public need to be on the lookout for these kinds of scams,” said Attorney General Raul Torrez. “They also need to know that our advocates and investigators are ready to assist them if they receive a notice and aren't sure what to do.”

Taxation and Revenue does attempt to collect unpaid property taxes when counties are unable to do so. Department field examiners will attempt to reach property owners by phone or mail when contact information is available. The examiners will identify themselves as state employees, the county they are working with and provide contact information.

Taxpayers who have any questions about a contact concerning delinquent property taxes should reach out to their county treasurer's office or the Taxation and Revenue Department at 505-827-0883 to verify the information and what steps they need to take to settle any debt.

When the state is unable to collect delinquent property taxes, the property may be sold at public auction in the county where it is located.

###

The Taxation and Revenue Department serves the State of New Mexico by providing fair and efficient tax and motor vehicle services. It administers more than 35 tax programs and distributes revenue to the State and to local and tribal governments throughout New Mexico.

The Department strives to reduce taxpayer burden through clearer communication, statutes, regulations, forms, correspondence and instructions.

Connect with us on tax.newmexico.gov, LinkedIn, YouTube and Twitter @NM_MVD