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800 delinquent properties to be auctioned in Luna County this week

Tax Department pilots mass delinquent property tax auction

SANTA FE — The Taxation and Revenue Department will hold the largest delinquent property tax auction in its history on Thursday, Oct. 22, in Luna County.

The department will offer 120 items for auction, with each item including two to 15 parcels of land. Approximately 800 tracts with delinquent taxes due are on the list.

The auction is part of the department's statutory process for collecting taxes that have been delinquent for at least three years. Delinquent taxpayers receive multiple notices of taxes due and the planned sale of their property. When taxes remain unpaid, the state proceeds with auctioning the affected properties.

Following the auction, the state will pay the taxes due and send any excess sale proceeds to the former property owners.

"After exhausting all efforts to collect overdue taxes, the department proceeds to auction properties. This large delinquent property tax auction is an efficient way for the state to recover overdue taxes and even, in most cases, send excess revenue to the former property owners," said **Taxation and Revenue Secretary Stephanie Schardin Clarke**.

The auction will take place on Thursday, Oct. 22, at 9 a.m. at the Luna County Administration Office (700 South Silver, Deming, N.M. 88030), in the Commission Chambers on the third floor.

Bidders must register on-site prior to the start of the auction. Registration opens at 8 a.m. and closes at 9 a.m.

The department is also hosting an auction preview on Wednesday, Oct. 21, from 1-5 p.m., at the same location. Attendees will be able to view maps of properties that will be offered at the auction and ask staff questions.

Successful bidders are required to make payment in full prior to the conclusion of the auction by money order, certified check, cashier's check or a personal or business check if accompanied by a bank letter of credit that guarantees payment in at least the amount bid.

More information, including terms of the auction sales, announcement of future auctions and frequently asked questions, is available on the [Delinquent Property Tax Auctions page](#), at www.tax.newmexico.gov under Business, then under Property Tax. For further assistance, call 505-827-0883.

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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 38 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.

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