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Annual publication of unclaimed property

The New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department is publishing its annual listing of unclaimed property in newspapers around the state over the next week.

The Department is required to publish the list annually, but New Mexicans <u>can check for unclaimed property</u> at any time by visiting tax.newmexico.gov, opening the "Individuals" menu and choosing "Unclaimed Property." People can also search by visiting the website <u>missingmoney.com</u> directly.

The listing will appear in this Sunday's edition of the Albuquerque Journal, in the Las Vegas Optic on Oct. 29 and in the Farmington Daily Times and Santa Fe New Mexican on Oct. 30.

Banks, insurance companies, investment companies and many other businesses are required by state law to surrender inactive accounts to the state. These accounts are known as "lost," "abandoned," or "unclaimed" funds.

The Department's Unclaimed Property Unit currently is holding about \$309 million in unclaimed funds, including more than \$35 million deposited over the past year. During that same time, the unit paid 3,764 claims totaling \$10,052,419.31.

"Getting unclaimed property into the hands of its rightful owners is one of our favorite things to do at Taxation and Revenue. The state is a custodian of this money and we will happily return it to anyone who can prove they are entitled to it," said Cabinet Secretary Stephanie Schardin Clarke.

More information on the program can be found on tax.newmexico.gov at the link described above.