



January 22, 2018

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2017 PROPERTY TAXES ARE DUE BY JANUARY 31, 2018

Allison Nathan Getz, Jefferson County Tax Assessor-Collector, reminds citizens of Jefferson County that 2017 property tax payments must be paid by Wednesday, January 31, 2018 to avoid penalty and interest charges.

Property tax payments may be made in person at:

- 1) Jefferson County Courthouse, 1149 Pearl, Beaumont;
- 2) Jefferson County Sub-Courthouse, 525 Lakeshore Drive, Port Arthur; or
- 3) Mid County Tax Office, 4605 Jerry Ware Drive, Beaumont (near the Airport).

All three (3) locations will remain open until 5:00 pm on Wednesday, January 31st.

2017 payments by mail must have a Post Office cancellation mark on or before January 31, 2018 to avoid penalty and interest charges. The cancellation mark must be affixed by the Post Office and not a metered postmark. Payments by mail may be sent to Jefferson County Tax Office, P. O. Box 2112, Beaumont, TX 77704.

Beginning February 1st, a penalty and interest of 7% will be applied to unpaid tax balances. An additional 2% penalty and interest will be added each month until the end of June. On July 1, a penalty and interest totaling 18% will be applied, plus a 20% addition of collection fees. Finally, interest of 1% per month will accrue from that time on.

"Jefferson County has an excellent payment rate," Allison said. "We typically collect over 98% of the total tax roll on a current basis. We appreciate the effort our community makes."

"We hope this reminder will help people remember to not overlook taking care of a payment they fully intended to make. Please call our office if you are having difficulty meeting your tax obligation. There are special provisions for payment for citizens with age homestead or disability exemptions. The Tax Office deputies will be more than happy to give information on options that are available under the State Property Tax Code."

Installment Payment Plan for Disaster Victims—In accordance with Section 31.032 of the Property Tax Code, taxpayers who sustained property damage as a result of a declared natural disaster may be eligible to split their property tax payments into four (4) equal interest free installments, to be paid by January 31st, March 31st, May 31st and July 31st. For qualifications and requirements follow the link <https://jeffcotax.com/website-disaster-installment-form>

Taxes may be paid in cash, check, or credit/debit card in person. Telephone payments may be made by calling 1-866-549-1010 and use **Bureau Code: 2228888**. Also, credit card payments or e-check payments may be made online at www.certifiedpayments.net (**Bureau Code: 2228888**) and follow the instructions on the screen. A convenience fee of 2.25% on credit card payments and no fee on e-check payments will occur.

For questions, taxpayers may call the County Tax Office at 835-8516.

Allison will be available to answer any questions from the media by calling 835-8714.