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Bulletin

Constance Beard, Director

This bulletin is written to inform you of recent changes; it does not replace statutes, rules and regulations, or court decisions.

For information

Visit our website at:
tax.illinois.gov

Call us at:
217 785-5299

State Tax Lien Registry

To: Taxpayers, Tax Preparers, Local Government Officials, Title Companies, Banks, Mortgage Lenders, Realtors, Settlement Agencies, and Real Estate Attorneys

Public Act 100-0022 created the State Tax Lien Registration Act.

What is the State Tax Lien Registry?

The Registry will be an online, statewide system for maintaining notices of tax liens filed or released that are enforced by the Illinois Department of Revenue. Prior to the development of the Registry, the Department filed liens with each individual county. With the implementation of this Registry, the lien will continue to be associated with the Illinois county where we have reason to believe the taxpayer has, or had, a presence.

When will the Registry be effective?

The Registry will be available online, at the Department's website, beginning January 1, 2018.

Will taxpayers benefit?

The Registry will improve timeliness of lien releases and provide more up-to-date information. In addition, there will be no fees charged to the taxpayer for lien filings or releases. Taxpayers still have all rights to appeal a debt before it becomes final.

What are the benefits for local governments?

In the first year, the Department will accelerate tax receipts going to state and local tax funds. Tax compliance will improve so that in subsequent years additional state and local tax allocations are expected from increased efficiency.

How will researchers benefit?

All liens filed by the Department will be recorded in one system saving researchers time from having to research multiple county records. Researchers can use multiple search criteria for increased efficiency. The search criteria includes name, address, lien ID, date filed, and county.

How can someone access the Registry?

The Registry will be accessible, and searchable, from any location or device with Internet access. We will provide a link to the Registry through the Department's website at tax.illinois.gov.

What are the benefits to the State of Illinois?

On average, the Department files and releases more than 39,000 liens, in 102 counties, each year at a cost of approximately \$700,000 in fees and labor costs. The electronic Registry eliminates paper filing costs while also providing more timely filings and releases to Illinois taxpayers.