



**Albert Uresti, MPA**  
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**For Immediate release:**  
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**TAX ASSESSOR URESTI WANTS TO SAVE TAXPAYERS ADDITIONAL COSTS!**

San Antonio, Texas - January 31<sup>st</sup> is the last day to pay your 2012 property taxes without penalty and interest. With the final due date fast approaching, the newly elected Bexar County Tax Assessor-Collector, **Albert Uresti**, has an urgent message for taxpayers: *"We want our taxpayers to understand that our goal is keep families in their homes and that my office is here to help. Part of improving customer service is educating our citizens on how they can avoid additional charges on their tax bill by paying their taxes on time,"* said Uresti.

Beginning February 1<sup>st</sup>, all unpaid tax accounts will be assessed an additional 7% for penalty and interest, which will continue to increase monthly until the taxes are paid in full. The penalty and interest can go as high as 18% by July, **plus**, an additional 15-20% attorney collection fee will also be charged on July 1, 2013. These penalties, interest, and fees are required by law (not the Tax Assessor) to be added to property owners' bills.

*"One of our primary goals continues to be helping our Senior Citizens and our Disabled. These persons with Over-65 and Disability exemptions are offered an additional payment option to choose from, allowing them to pay their taxes in four installments instead of one. Additionally, Senior and Disabled Citizens who do not become delinquent under this 4-Quarter payment plan will not incur any penalties or interest,"* said Uresti.

These two groups have until January 31<sup>st</sup> to make the 1<sup>st</sup> installment of this 4-Quarter payment plan. The bill is broken up into 4 equal installment payments with due dates of January, March, May, and July. Uresti's goal is to make monthly payment plans available to all taxpayers in future years.

To accommodate taxpayers who still need to pay their tax bill by the January 31<sup>st</sup> deadline, the Tax Assessor-Collector's office will extend its hours of operation. All four locations of the Bexar County Tax Assessor-Collector's offices **will be open from 8 a.m. until 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 30<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, January 31<sup>st</sup>**. In addition to the extended hours, the main office at **233 N. Pecos and W. Martin will have two convenient curb payment drop-off sites open from the hours of 7:30 a.m. until 6:30 p.m. The other three Tax Assessor substations will also have payment drop-off sites from 4:00 p.m until 6:30 p.m.** All drop-off sites will only take checks. All cash and credit card transactions must be conducted inside the tax offices.

Taxpayers who may have misplaced their tax bill or have questions about their 2012 tax amount owed should contact the tax office at (210) 335-2251, or they may verify their bill on the internet by going to the website at [www.bexar.org/tax](http://www.bexar.org/tax). The internet site also includes expanded payment methods for those who wish to pay by credit card or e-check. Credit card and E-check payments may be made on-line through the Tax Office website, [www.bexar.org/tax](http://www.bexar.org/tax), or by calling 1-888-852-3572. Transactions must be completed before midnight on January 31<sup>st</sup>. Credit card and e-Check services have an added processing fee customers must pay to the payment processing companies. Payments mailed to the office must be postmarked by January 31<sup>st</sup>. Taxpayers who mail payments on the due date are encouraged to register, certify, or obtain a certificate of mailing for their envelope to ensure an accurate postmark date and timely receipt.

Below is the schedule of penalty and interest charges on delinquent property taxes required by the Texas Property Tax Code:

**Important: Taxes are due on or before January 31, 2013.**

**Late payments are subject to the PENALTY, INTEREST, and FEE SCHEDULE below:**

Month Paid	Penalty	Interest	Total	Collection Fee	Month Paid	Penalty	Interest	Total	Collection Fee
February	6%	1%	7%		August	12%	7%	19%	15-20%
March	7%	2%	9%		September	12%	8%	20%	15-20%
April	8%	3%	11%	*15-20% business personal property only	October	12%	9%	21%	15-20%
May	9%	4%	13%		November	12%	10%	22%	15-20%
June	10%	5%	15%		December	12%	11%	23%	15-20%
July	12%	6%	18%	15-20 %	Interest continues at 1% per month until account is paid in full				

\*In addition to the penalty and interest, some business personal property accounts will incur a 15-20% attorney collection fee on April 1, 2013. All other accounts will incur the attorney collection fee on July 1, 2013 against the remaining tax, penalty, and interest due. Delinquent accounts are subject to lawsuit, and if a suit is filed, additional costs and fees are charged by other offices to process the lawsuit.

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