



TAX TALK

WITH ANNE M. GANNON
CONSTITUTIONAL TAX COLLECTOR



Serving Palm Beach County, *Serving You.*

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September is a busy month. Kids are settling into their school routine, Florida is in peak hurricane season and families are gearing up for Labor Day celebrations. In this edition of Tax Talk you can read useful information for visiting our offices, mosquito control around your home, helpful tips for new residents and study tips for new drivers.

Wishing you and your family a happy and safe Labor Day.

Best regards,

Anne M. Gannon
Constitutional Tax Collector

State System Slowdowns

The Florida Department of Highway Safety & Motor Vehicles is installing new computer systems for vehicle titles, registrations and driver license services over the next two years. All Florida Tax Collectors are required to use the State of Florida systems and have been advised to expect periodic service outages and slow-downs for the foreseeable future during this system transition. We are already experiencing the outages and slow-downs. They primarily impact walk-in customer wait times and transaction processing. To avoid longer wait times due to this transition, pay online or mail-in payments.

Constitution Celebration

Constitution Day commemorates the formation and signing of the U.S. Constitution on September 17, 1787. The U.S. Constitution splits power among the three branches of government. The Florida Constitution does the same. It defines the separation of power between the branches of state and local government. These separations limit power so that each branch of government “checks and balances”

the powers of the others.

Florida's Constitution also established five Constitutional Officers of Sheriff, Tax Collector, Property Appraiser, Supervisor of Elections and Clerk of the Circuit Court. Locally, this means that the powers of the Board of County Commissioners are separate from county wide Constitutional Officers. For example, taxation powers are split between County Commission, who set the tax rate, Property Appraiser, who set property value and Tax Collector, who collects and distributes the taxes. Without this separation, one government branch would have all the taxation powers.

Since 1885, 13 people have been elected Tax Collector in Palm Beach County. Anne M. Gannon is the first woman elected to this position.

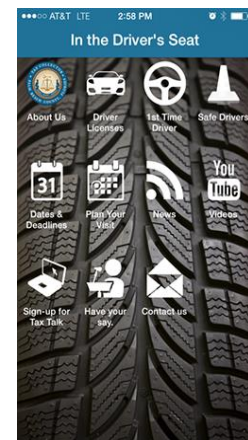
Welcome New Neighbors

Our office offers New Neighbor Kits to ease the stress of moving to Palm Beach County. This kit helps guide you through the transactions you'll need to complete with our agency. These may include property tax payments, updating your driver license, registering and titling cars and boats and more. Download your copy at www.pbctax.com/NewNeighbor.



Teen Drivers Make the Grade

Learning to drive and passing the driver license exam is a rite of passage. Approximately 50% of Teen drivers fail their first exam. Don't be a statistic! Teens looking to take and pass the exam should be prepared and know the rules of the road. We can help! Our free app helps teens study for the test, plan an office visit, check out videos and much more. [Download our 'In the Driver's Seat' app](#) from the app store to begin studying today.



Installment Payment Due

Do you currently participate in the Property Tax Installment Payment Plan? If so, the second installment payment is due September 30. [Go online today](#). Skip the trip to our office and pay taxes from the comfort of home. New this tax season, eCheck is free.

Installment Payment Plan members receive a discount slightly under 4%. Looking

to enroll for the 2017 Property Tax season? Visit our website for more information. Those of you who are currently enrolled do not need to reapply to continue on the Installment Payment Plan.

Mosquito Control

Palm Beach County residents are growing concerned over the Zika Virus. I recommend reading the [Palm Beach County Zika Virus Fact Sheet](#). It identifies the steps you can take to reduce your exposure to mosquitoes and the diseases they carry. A single mosquito that carries Zika can lay 100 to 300 eggs at a time in standing water. Check your flower pots and gutters and pour out collected water. If you have unwanted old tires, which also collect standing water, drop them off at Solid Waste Authority. Learn more about Zika prevention by contacting Palm Beach County's Mosquito Control Division (561) 967-6480.

Important Dates

Tax Related Deadlines

- Sept. 5** Labor Day – Offices CLOSED
- Sept. 17** Constitution Day
- Sept. 20** Tourist Development Tax Payment Deadline
- Sept. 30** Local Business Tax Payment Deadline
- Sept. 30** Second Installment Payment due for 2016 property taxes.

Interested in having Anne M. Gannon speak at your next event? Email your request to ClientAdvocate@taxcollectorpbc.com, be sure to include the name of the organization, contact information, details and audience for the event.

NEVER MISS A DEADLINE - Sign up to receive Tax Talk!

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