

# The Official Publication of the Tax Assessor-Collectors Association of THE COUNTY TAX \$TATEMENT



## SAVE THE DATE

JUNE 4-7

2023 TACA Conference in Dallas

Registration opens March 1st!

## "FORWARD TOGETHER"



2023

## **TXDMV UPDATES**

- Registration and Title System Release 23.2
- County Workstation Refresh

### **TPWD UPDATES**

- Basics to Boat Trans.
- Temp Use Tax Permit

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#### Hello Everyone!

The 88th Texas Legislature is in full swing with more than 4,000 bills being filed dealing with many issues including property tax, motor vehicle and elections. Hats off to our legislative team headed by Ronnie Keister, Christina McMurray, Shay Luedeke and Jennifer Carey and all of you who have been a part of our weekly legislative Webex meetings. Also, a shout out to Caroline Love, our legislative consultant with TAC and our legal team at Davis Kaufman.

February 7th was "Counties at the Capitol Day". We met at the TAC building for breakfast and a meeting with other elected county officials before heading over to the Capitol to meet with some of our legislators. It was reassuring to know that those we talked to were interested in hearing what we had to say. We'll keep you updated as we get more information on those bills that have a direct impact on our offices and counties.

Don't forget to register for our 89th Annual Conference June 4th-7th at the Hilton Anatole Hotel in Dallas.

We look forward to seeing you all there as we move FORWARD TOGETHER!

Bruce Stidham, PCAC Grayson County Tax Assessor-Collector President – Tax Assessor-Collector's Association of Texas



The photo is of the TACs who attended "Counties at the Capitol Day" on February 7th, 2023

Tax Assessor-Collector of the year: The Honorable Gary Barber - Smith County



Serving as Tax Assessor-Collector for Smith County since he was first elected in 2004.



Congratulations to all the nominees for this prestigious award. You are all deserving.





40<sup>th</sup> Annual School for County Tax Assessor-Collectors





Shay Luedeke presenting the Legislative Leadership Award to Brad Buckley District 54 on behalf of TACA







## **TxDMV Update**

#### Registration and Title System (RTS) Release 23.2

The department updated various systems including webDEALER and the Registration and Title System (RTS) in Release 23.2, over the weekend of February 18. User acceptance testing (UAT) for programming changes to the department's automated systems ran from January 30 through February 10.

The department has been keeping stakeholders informed of the changes through a webDEALER User Guide Addendum, RTS Release Notes, and additional communications relating to the updating of online renewal systems and other enhancements.

While there were a variety of enhancements in the release, the more significant items are as follows:

- Added functionality to invalidate Texas registration when out of state ownership evidence is submitted in a title transaction.
- Added previous title information to the RTS Title Application Receipt to help aid in the review of rejected title transactions.
- Added enhancements to online renewal platforms (IVTRS and TxT) to allow users the option to select their Vehicle Registration Renewal Notice delivery preference, via email or mail.
- Established a unique pattern for each permit type:
  - o One-Trip Permit
  - o 30-Day Permit
  - o 72-Hour Permit
  - o 144-Hour Permit
  - Vehicle Transit Permit
- Created of a judicial remark to be added to a vehicle record, for law enforcement visibility, when a judge elects to retain general issue license plates.
- Created a mini-Rental Trailer license plate (same size as a Motorcycle license plate) option for commercial rental trailers utilizing the Texas International Registration Plan (TxIRP) system.
- Made multiple vendor and state specialty license available.
- Added webDEALER software application enhancements:
  - Removal of rejected title applications once corrected in RTS.
  - o Added ability for certain dealers to process sales of off-highway vehicles.
  - Added ability to configure a dealer deputy with Standard Exempt inventory.
  - Implemented pagination for webDEALER payments searches.

#### County Workstation Refresh and Circuit Line Upgrade Projects

There are two ongoing equipment-related projects happening in county offices. The county workstation refresh project is in the first year of a multi-year project to replace workstations in county offices. The circuit line upgrade project is in phase one of a two-phase project to replace T1 circuit lines with ethernet fiber lines, where possible. The first phase involves the installation of the new line, and the second phase will involve the replacement of routers and switches and the cutover from the T1 to the ethernet line. Thank you for your continued cooperation as we work simultaneously on these projects with various vendors.

#### VTR Leadership Workshop

VTR held its semiannual Leadership Workshop December 14-15, 2022, in Cedar Creek. The fall training focused on further developing and refining individual and organizational leadership skills, while focusing on communication, strategic planning, and team building.

The VTR team, which included management staff from headquarters and Regional Services, enjoyed several guest presentations including updates from FAS and Human Resources divisions, and a special presentation on Active Shooter Response conducted by the Texas Department of Public Safety.



#### **Regional Services Section**

#### Hispanic Community Outreach Program

On January 18, 2023, Officer Waters of the Wylie Police Department conducted a Hispanic Community Outreach Program in Wylie (Collin County).

Officer Waters requested that a Spanish speaking representative of the TxDMV conduct a presentation to educate the Hispanic Community of Wylie how to successfully transfer a title into their name, register vehicles, and what kinds of resources are available online to help them, in addition to recognizing fake titles, fake plates, etc..

Dallas Regional Service Center Manager Fetina Green and Customer Service Representative Hozefa Ahmedali attended the event.

#### Texas Association of Assessing Officers (TAAO) Affiliate of the Year Award

The North Plains Chapter of TAAO awarded Patty Combs, manager of the Amarillo Regional Service Center, the Affiliate of the Year Award at their quarterly meeting on December 9, 2022. Patty was recognized for her assistance to the county tax assessors with their business in the office, and her contributions to their meetings in the form of trainings or updates to policies and procedures. The Association told Patty they appreciate all that she has done for the 25 county tax offices in the Texas Panhandle over the past 41+ years.

#### American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA) Customer Service Award

Waco Regional Service Center Manager Sarah Balderas has been nominated for the new AAMVA Customer Service Award. This award is presented to jurisdiction individuals who have excelled in customer service delivery in a call center or on the front line of motor vehicle administration. Criteria for selection include impact on customer service delivery, positive effect on agency, serves as a model for other employees, and customer testimonials endorse service.

Sarah's county background and eagerness to learn has distinguished her as a peak performer. She balances her administrative duties while collaboratively working with her team to maintain ideal service times in her office. Sarah can be found daily assisting with phone calls throughout the state. She is always the first office to volunteer when help is needed. She is respected and valued by her team, peers, and leadership.



# Boat Titling, Registration & Marine Licensing

Peak boating season is right around the corner so here are a couple of reminders to get us through another successful season:

#### **Temporary Use Tax Permit**

The Temporary Use Tax Permit form PWD 1434 is used to apply for a temporary tax permit by the owner of a taxable vessel/boat or outboard motor who qualifies for a specific tax exemption to have their boat or outboard motor in Texas for not more than 90 days without paying sales/use tax.

Separate permits are required for each vessel/boat and/or outboard motor. The fee for each permit is \$150.00.

This permit does **not** apply to registration and operation of a vessel/boat or outboard motor on public waters.

This permit is valid for 90 days and is **non-renewable**, **non-transferable**, and **non-refundable**. Only two temporary tax permits may be issued for the same taxable vessel/boat or taxable outboard motor within a calendar year. The second permit in a calendar year may not be issued before the 30th day after the date the first permit expires.

Complete instructions and requirements are available on the form, which can be found at: <u>https://tpwd.texas.gov/fishboat/boat/forms</u>.

#### **Basics to Boat Transactions**

This training document provides the basic legal background information intended to aid staff in understanding basic boat/outboard motor transactions, including information in the following areas:

- Answers to Common Questions
- Exemptions (with a Quick Reference List)
- Who can do What
- Differences and Requirements for Titling or Registration or Federal Documentation
- Requirements Under the Law
- Definitions
- Additional Available Resources
- Forms (names, associated numbers, and descriptions of their use)
- Common Form Selections
- Fee Chart

This training aid can be found under the BRITS Documentation link located after the initial login to the TPWD network, as well as on the TPWD public website here: <u>https://tpwd.texas.gov/fishboat/boat/forms</u>.

If you have any questions about any of the information provided by TPWD in this newsletter, or about any other aspects of the Boat Titling & Registration Program, please contact a TPWD Boat Liaison at (512) 389-4393 for assistance.







A little work, a little play...













As always, the Tax Assessor-Collectors Association would like to offer our sincerest appreciation to the V.G. Young Institute of County Government and all the sponsors of the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual School for County Tax Assessor-Collectors held in Galveston. You all make the success of our conference a reality.

