



PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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City to Implement Enhanced Tax Collection Efforts

Akron, Ohio (January 31, 2012) - The City is rolling out a comprehensive enhanced tax collection effort that will (1) realize operational efficiencies, (2) step-up the identification of delinquent taxpayers, and (3) crack-down on enforcement of the tax laws.

In order to increase efficiency, the City is upgrading its software by upgrading from a mainframe-based tax software to one that is server-based; reengineering its tax audit process so that tax return data will be entered and imaged within days of receipt; and will seek to formalize an association with the Central Collection Agency, which will provide the City access to federal and state taxpayer records.

The City will also initiate an intense process of identifying non-compliant taxpayers. It will do so through a series of techniques, including cross-referencing business wage and tax returns filed with the City, and comparing those returns with state and federal data to identify those who may not have filed with the City at all. State and federal data will be accessed to identify non-compliant individual taxpayers as well.

Taxpayers will also see an increase of enforcement throughout the City. The City will launch its new enforcement program by concentrating on the most egregious offenders – those Akron and JEDD businesses that withhold taxes from their employees, but fail to remit those payments to the City.

The City will start by offering a tax amnesty program for businesses that have failed to report and pay net profit tax and/or wage taxes withheld and due.

- The program will be available to businesses in the City of Akron and each of the Joint Economic Development Districts, beginning on Monday, March 5, 2012 and will continue through Friday, May 4, 2012.
- Businesses that voluntarily come forward will be permitted to settle their account by paying the tax and interest due, without penalties being assessed.
- Under certain circumstances, businesses that voluntarily come forward may qualify for an installment payment agreement.
- Businesses seeking amnesty may contact the Income Tax Division by:
 - Emailing: amnesty@akronohio.gov
 - Calling the Audit—Business Section at (330) 375-2522
- Further information is available at the City of Akron's website, including FAQ, www.akronohio.gov

After the Amnesty period has concluded, businesses found to be non-compliant will be pursued to the fullest extent permitted by law.