



Wichita County Tax Office News



From the desk of
Tommy Smyth

We are living in times that none of us could have ever imagined and certainly something none of us would have thought could *linger this long*. It seemed as though, for a brief moment this pandemic was possibly trending on the right trajectory. Unfortunately, it has continued to evolve despite our efforts to slow its spread. Throughout 2021 we have continued to see families lose loved ones at a far faster pace than we did in 2020. Our hearts go out to those who have lost loved ones and they have our deepest and most sincere condolences. We all share the public's concerns with this matter being handled any better going forward than it has been *up to this point*. Responsible medicine and public safety have been adulterated by politics and that has not helped with anybody's credibility on either side of the medical issues surrounding this matter or the confidence in the strategies for the public's safety and general welfare. We have found out that politics and medicine do not play well together and certainly not on a stage involving the safety of just north of 330 million Americans with approximately 29.2 million of them being fellow Texans. Sadly enough, this has often put us at odds with each other over mandates involving personal liberties. We see it daily on the faces of so many of our citizens who enter our lobbies as they are contending with it both in their personal and professional lives. There is no escaping the fact that our community has an abundance *of business owners at every level* who are dealing with not being able to find an ample labor pool to meet the operational resources that they need to adequately provide the products and services to their customer base on a daily basis. We strongly encourage you to continue to support all of our community businesses as they need it now *more than ever*.

In 2020 our operational success or survival was the result of having a great staff!! At one time, in 2020 we had slightly more than **55%** of our work force in quarantine status. Our staff stayed committed to staying on task in a year that was nothing short of ever changing adverse operational circumstances *day for day!!* It has taken the better part of (9) years to build a great staff that is complimented by five great supervisors and an incredible Chief Deputy. All of whom had the ability to be innovative and creative with adding customer service amenities, modifying work-flow and improving lobby operational models to meet the needs of the public. Some of these changes *are still in place* as they have been *embraced by the public* and have *added convenience* to our services. Last but not least, we could not have made it through 2020 without the public's willingness to adapt to what we had to change in order to meet their very needs. Simply speaking, our citizens were willing to make it work as much or more than we were!! This is the service relationship that any elected office should aspire to have with the citizens whom they serve. In the larger sense, our entire county family which is just south of 500 staff members are to be thanked for their perseverance and the sacrifices that they made in 2020. If there ever was a year that has defined the character of our entire county staff, then look no further than 2020. We have been at a point for quite some time that all we can do for the safety of ourselves and our families is do *what we feel is best for ourselves and our loved ones*. While having *mutual respect* for each other's decisions for those *very same reasons*. Americans are known for their tenacity, their determination, their sense of deliberation and their character and that is what has sustained us thus far and that will continue to sustain us with fighting a war with an invisible enemy. We wish you and your families nothing but the best in 2022. *Most importantly*, we wish you and your loved ones a *very safe and joyful Holiday Season*.

Respectfully,

Tommy R. Smyth, TAC, MPA, CTOF

Wichita County Motor Vehicle Registration & Titling
Services & Property Tax Division

Since January 1st of 2013:

- 2020 Total Aggregate Transactional Volume totaled **\$186,646,148.10** equating to an **HOURLY COLLECTION RATE** of **\$96,408.13**.
- 2020 Wichita County Property Tax Collection Statistics: **98.54%** . Since 2013 we have collected **\$9,750,726.04 in delinquency**.
- Last year we set an all-time **single year** delinquency collections record of **\$1,472,061.32** and this year's numbers are trending even higher!!
- For Wichita County we have collected an **additional \$5,351,972.98** in penalties and interest **above and beyond** the adjusted levies for those calendar tax years.
- Since January 1, 2013 (330) properties have been taken to sale resulting in **\$2,821,126.39** being recovered and being placed **back on** the tax rolls!!
- Last year our total aggregate property tax collections equated to approximately **\$155,112,297.99**
- Last year's total aggregate motor vehicle transactions equated to approximately **\$31,533,850.11**
- Also, last year, our office did **\$440,908.00** in vehicle title transactions, **\$9,741,344.09** in vehicle registrations, and **\$21,348,483.02** in sales tax.
- **IMPORTANT TAX PAYER INFORMATION: YOUR TAX BILL** =Your Property Tax Rates **X** Your Property Evaluations. Our office **absolutely does NOT** play any role whatsoever in **the amount** of property taxes that our citizens pay. Our office **does NOT** play a role in how your property **is evaluated** nor how no less than three governmental taxing entities (city, county and school district) ultimately **set and approve** their annual property tax rates. Any concerns you have with the amount of property **taxes you are paying**, please direct to the officials who comprise the aforementioned governmental bodies. As again, they are the ones who **set your property tax rates**. You may also reach out to officials with our appraisal district if you have concerns with **your property's evaluations**.

"Politicians are the only people in the world who create problems and then campaign against them."

Web address: <http://www.wichitatax.com>

For **property tax information** choose “online taxes”

Enter the property account number or property location address

Click on your record shown to open the record

Click on “all years” to see if any delinquent balances are due or verify past tax year amounts

Click on “e payment” and follow the instructions to pay your taxes online

Using a debit or credit card will incur a convenience fee charged by the servicing company of 2.35% times the amount you pay by card.

An “e check” has a flat \$1.00 fee regardless of amount paid

For **motor vehicle information** choose “auto registration online”

You will be “redirected” to the State of Texas Department of Motor Vehicle web site

Choose “Wichita County” of residence and enter your license plate information

Using a debit or credit card online will incur a \$2.00 electronic processing fee and a \$1.00 mail fee for online registration renewal. The \$3.00 is non refundable from the State.

Property Tax Helpful Hints

Payment deadline: Property taxes are due upon receipt. All payments showing a **Monday, January 31, 2022** or earlier U.S. postmark (not metered postage) will be considered timely. Please include your **account number** on your check.

Payment by phone: Toll-free **1-866-511-6677**. If you choose a live representative for assistance, you will need the bureau code of **7580933** and your 6 digit account number.

Difficulty paying your taxes: We accept partial payments. Pay as much and as often as you decide until February 1, 2022 and then contact the tax office for a payment plan on any remaining delinquent balance.

Exemption applications: All applications for property tax exemptions must be submitted and will be approved through the **Wichita Appraisal District**. Exemptions on your property for 2021 are shown on your tax statement.

Quarterly payments: With the over 65 and/or disability exemption, the owner qualifies for installment payments. **1/4th** the tax amount is required to be paid **before** the February 1st delinquency date to participate.

Address changes: Statements are mailed to the address we have on record. It is **your responsibility** to notify the appraisal district or tax office in writing of any new mailing information for your account .

Motor Vehicle Helpful Hints

Avoid the lines: Conduct business in the middle of the month. **We close 1-2:30 to clean and have lunch.**

Bring your ID: Titling a vehicle in your name requires your ID.

Need a cost estimate: General fee information concerning title, registration, sales tax, penalties and standard presumptive value can be located at txdmv.gov and comptroller.texas.gov. Exact fees cannot be given over the phone. We must **see** all of your documents to be accurate.

Insurance: Bring your proof of insurance. Some records must be verified manually.

Title work: All title transfers require an ownership document and title application (Form 130-U).

Debit or credit card use: Card use in our office will incur a convenience fee by the servicing company of 2.50% times the cost of your registration fee. Online registration see fees above.

Driver’s License information: Contact the Dept. of Public Safety. (940) 851-5600

Certified Copy of a Texas Title: Contact Texas Department of Motor Vehicles. (940) 235-4800.

Wichita Appraisal District:
600 Scott Ave 3rd floor
Wichita Falls TX 76301
PH: (940) 322-2435

Fax (940) 322-8190
Web address: www.wadtx.com
Wichita Appraisal District
PO Box 5172
Wichita Falls TX 76307

OFFICE HOURS SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO COVID-19

Contact us:

Wichita County Tax Office:
Main number: (940) 766-8200
Website: wichitatax.com

Property Tax Department:

PH: (940) 766-8200
Fax: (940) 766-8189
Delinquent tax: (940) 766-8200
EXT 8600

Vehicle Registration:

PH: (940) 766-8200
Fax: (940) 766-8176

Main office hours:

Mon-Fri 8:00 A.M to 1:00 P.M.
2:30 to 4:30 P.M.

Main Location:

County Court House Annex first floor
600 Scott Ave Suite 103
Wichita Falls, TX 76301

Satellite Offices:

Burkburnett : Hours: M-W-F 8 to 12 and 1 to 4:30. Location: 100 W College
PH: (940) 569-3367 Fax: (940) 569-3368

Iowa Park: Hours: T-TH 8 to 12:30 and 1:30 to 4:30

Location: 400 N Wall

PH: (940) 592-2022 Fax: (940) 592-9757

Electra: Hours: T-TH 8 to 1 and 2 to 4 :30
Location: 2023 SH 25N

PH: (940) 495-2016 Fax: (940) 495-4098