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PRESS RELEASE

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SCIOTO COUNTY PROPERTY TAX COLLECTIONS EXCEED
TWO MILLION DOLLARS FROM DELINQUENT
TAXPAYERS IN 2023

Scioto County Prosecutor, Shane A. Tieman, announced today that the Civil Division of Prosecutor's Office collected a total of two million four hundred ninety-nine thousand eight hundred and fifty-five dollars from delinquent taxpayers during 2023. According to Chief Assistant Prosecutor Danielle M. Parker that sum not only reflects the collection of delinquent property taxes, but also payments of current property taxes from taxpayers who also owe delinquent taxes.

The Scioto County Auditor certifies the delinquent taxes to the Prosecutor's Office for review and possible collection actions on or about the first of August each year. Prior to filing a foreclosure action, the Prosecutor's Office sends a letter to the last known address of the property owners to notify them that taxes are delinquent. Assistant Prosecutor Parker adds "our office will work with any property owner to assist them with the options that are available to them to get the taxes paid. It is not the goal of the Prosecutor's Office to take anyone's property. The delinquent property taxes need to be paid or payment arrangements must be made by the property owner."

Assistant Prosecutor Maggie Miller emphasized "there are various options available to a property owner that owes delinquent taxes." According to both Parker and Miller, a property owner has three options available to assist them with paying their delinquent taxes and avoid a foreclosure action being filed against the property. First, a property owner can pay the delinquent

taxes in full. Second, a property owner may enter a treasurer's contract which is an agreement with the Scioto County Treasurer's Office that divides the delinquent taxes into five equal payments that are due in February and July when the current taxes are due. Finally, the prosecutor's office offers a prosecutor's agreement for property owners that owe delinquent taxes on their primary residence and are either sixty-five years of age or older or are disabled. Parker stated that there are options available and urged any person who is aware that they owe delinquent property taxes to contact the Prosecutor's Office to discuss their options and make payment arrangements.

Miller added that anyone interested in acquiring a parcel of delinquent real property can contact the Scioto County Prosecutor's Office. Parker and Miller advised that the parcel must have been certified delinquent for two or more years for the tax foreclosure process to be started. Also, if anyone is aware of a "problem" parcel of delinquent real property, whether it is a house where there is drug activity, an abandoned residence, property with structural damage, that has been certified delinquent for two or more years, contact the Scioto County Prosecutor's Office and the tax foreclosure process can be started. Parker stressed that it is not necessary for the person to be interested in acquiring a parcel of delinquent real property to contact the Scioto County Prosecutor's Office regarding a parcel of delinquent real property. There are several programs active in Scioto County, Ohio to help clean up these parcels including the Scioto County Land Reutilization Corporation and the City of Portsmouth Land Reutilization program.

The Scioto County Treasurer's Office may be contacted at 740-355-8282 and the Scioto County Prosecutor's Office may be contacted at 740-981-3112. Please ask to speak with Patricia Click and/or Susan Jones when contacting the Scioto County Prosecutor's Office regarding delinquent real property taxes.