# COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TUESDAY, JULY 18, 2023

#### MINUTE ORDER NO. 5

# SUBJECT: ESCHEATMENT OF UNCLAIMED PROPERTY TAX REFUND MONEY IN COUNTY TRUST FUNDS (PROPERTY TAX) (DISTRICTS: ALL)

#### **OVERVIEW**

This is a request to approve the escheatment of unclaimed property tax refunds pursuant to section 5102 of the California Revenue and Taxation Code.

# RECOMMENDATION(S) TREASURER-TAX COLLECTOR

Approve the escheatment of unclaimed property tax refunds and direct the Auditor and Controller to transfer \$319,382.93 from the Treasurer-Tax Collector trust funds and deposit in the County General Fund.

## **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The Treasurer-Tax Collector recognizes the systemic impacts that inequitable policies may create for residents of the County of San Diego. Impacts have historically included outcomes related to racial justice and issues of belonging that are reflected in the programs, services and resources allocated to communities. The Treasurer-Tax Collector has provided wide-spread public notice that these property tax refunds are available to claim by displaying a full list of items on its website for the past four years, and by placing display ads in local community news publications throughout the County and supplying local shelters with the display ad information to post in their establishment as means to notify the public of the upcoming deadline to claim refunds before they are escheated. The notices and display ads utilize plain language and graphics to convey the message and action that is needed to claim a refund. Concurrent to these efforts staff perform extensive research and make attempts to contact the rightful owner the refund and encourage a claim be submitted. It is anticipated that these actions have a positive impact on groups including Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC), women, people with disabilities, immigrants, youth, and the LGBTQ community.

# SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The proposed actions to escheat unclaimed refunds and return the revenue to the County General Fund are appropriate as they support the County of San Diego's Strategic Initiative of Sustainability to align the County's available resources with services to maintain fiscal stability and ensure long-term solvency. The proposed actions to escheat revenue is in alignment with the County of San Diego's Sustainability Goal of providing just and equitable access as the process to claim refunds is widely accessible to all claimants.

#### FISCAL IMPACT

If approved, this request will result in \$319,382.93 of revenue to the General Fund. Appropriation and use of these funds will require subsequent action by the Board of Supervisors. The funding source is unclaimed property tax refunds. This request will result in no current year cost, no annual cost and will require the addition of no staff years.

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## **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

## **ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Desmond, seconded by Supervisor Vargas, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, on Consent.

AYES: Vargas, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Desmond

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ABSENT: (District 4 Seat Vacant)

State of California)
County of San Diego) §

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the Original entered in the Minutes of the Board of Supervisors.

ANDREW POTTER

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

**Signed** 

by Andrew Potter

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