COLLECTIONS BY ELECTRONIC FUND TRANSFER (EFT)

Legislation passed in 1992 (Senate Bill 1780, Chapter 1027), in 1997 (Senate Bill 1107, Chapter 546, Statutes of 1997, Ch. 546, Section 3, effective January 1, 1998), and in 2004 (Senate Bill 1832, Ch. 194, effective January 1, 2005), amending Section 2503.2(b) of the Revenue and Taxation Code, gave the option to tax collectors for any city, county, or city and county to require Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) for taxpayers who make an aggregate payment of fifty thousand dollars ($50,000) or more on property taxes. This law strictly applies also to all paying agents of a taxpayer or taxpayers.

What is an “Electronic Fund Transfer”?

“Electronic Fund Transfer” means any transfer of funds other than a transaction originated by check, draft, or similar paper instrument, that is initiated through an electronic terminal, telephonic instrument, or computer/magnetic tape so as to order, instruct, or authorize a financial institution to credit or debit an account (Revenue & Taxation Code Section 2503.1). Please refer to Page 4 for wire transfer information.

REVENUE AND TAXATION CODE

SECTION 2503.2

Acceptance of electronic funds transfers.

(a) The tax collector for any city, county, or city and county may, in his or her discretion, accept electronic funds transfers in payment for a purchase at a tax sale, or any tax, assessment, or on a redemption.

(b) The tax collector for any city, county, or city and county may, in his or her discretion, require any taxpayer, or any paying agent of a taxpayer or taxpayers, who makes an aggregate payment of fifty thousand dollars ($50,000) or more on the two most recent regular installments on the secured roll or on the one installment of the most recent unsecured tax roll, to make subsequent payments by electronic funds transfer.

(c) Any taxpayer or paying agent making payment by electronic funds transfer shall provide any supporting documentation and electronic information as requested by the tax collector. An electronic funds transfer made pursuant to this section shall be made to the bank account designated by the tax collector.

(d) Any costs incurred by the tax collector as a result of the acceptance of electronic fund transfers pursuant to this section shall be considered administrative costs of tax collection, except that if for any reason the electronic funds transfer is not completed, those costs shall be recovered as provided in subdivision (g).

(e) The acceptance of an electronic funds transfer shall constitute payment of a tax, assessment, or redemption as of date of acceptance when, but not before, the transfer has been completed. An electronic funds transfer is completed by acceptance by the bank designated by the tax collector of the payment specified by the originator’s payment order.

(f) If an electronic funds transfer is not accepted for any reason, any record or payment entered on any official record indicating the acceptance of that transfer shall be canceled, and the tax or assessment shall be a lien as if no payment has been attempted. When a cancellation of a record of payment is made, the canceling officer shall record the cancellation on the record that contained the notation of payment, and immediately shall cause a written notice of cancellation to be sent to the person attempting the electronic funds transfer.

(g) Upon notice of non-acceptance of an electronic funds transfer, the tax collector may charge the person who attempted the electronic funds transfer a fee not to exceed the costs of processing the transfer, providing notice of non-acceptance to that person, and making required cancellations on the tax roll. The amount of any fee charged pursuant to this subdivision shall be set by the governing body of the relevant city, county, or city and county, and may be added to the tax bill and collected in the same manner as costs recovered pursuant to Section 2621.

The wire transfer must be completed on or before the tax payment due dates of December 10 and April 10 for secured and unitary taxes or August 31 for unsecured taxes.
**WIRE TRANSFER INSTRUCTIONS**

Bank Name: **Wells Fargo Bank**
Location: **902 Main Street, Martinez, CA 94553**
Account Name: **Contra Costa County Tax Collector**
ABA Number: **121000248**
Bank Acct. No.: **494-5085850**

In your wire transfer please make sure to include the following information, each typed in a separate “message line”. This will help our office credit your payments accurately and timely.

1. Payor or company name
2. Contact person’s name
3. Telephone number
4. Parcel or account numbers

Installment “coupons” at the bottom of the property tax bills that support the wire transfer must be received in our office before the wire transfer date. Please forward them to our office ahead of time.

To facilitate crediting of payments, it is very important that you contact the Tax Collector’s Office. Please contact us in advance by mail, phone, or e-mail to confirm the intended wire transfer.

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**Why use Electronic Fund Transfer?**

Saves time in issuing and mailing checks, and eliminates the risk of lost or stolen checks.

Snail mail may happen due to workload in the Postal Office.

Avoid possibilities of lost mail in your office or the Postal Office.

You do not want your payments to ...

Helps in the reduction of use of paper.

**ABOVE ALL, YOU CAN AVOID COSTLY PENALTIES.**

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**Electronic Wire Transfer (EFT)**

**Tax Payment Information**

Russell V. Watts
Treasurer/Tax Collector

Brice E. Bins
Chief Deputy Treasurer/Tax Collector

625 Court Street
Martinez, CA 94553-0063

County Website: [www.co.contra-costa.ca.us](http://www.co.contra-costa.ca.us)

Tax Collector Website: [www.cctax.us](http://www.cctax.us)

Treasurer-Tax Collector Email: [taxinfo@tax.cccounty.us](mailto:taxinfo@tax.cccounty.us)

Phone numbers:
TEL: (925) 957-5280
FAX: (925) 957-2898

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