



RAYMOND J. WOJTOWICZ

Wayne County Treasurer

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To the Citizens of Wayne County:

I want to inform you of a major change in how the Office of the Wayne County Treasurer will conduct the September and October Public Auction of Tax Foreclosed Properties. ***The auction WILL NOT take place at the Office of the Wayne County Treasurer.*** The September auction will be take place online beginning Friday, September 17, and ending Thursday, September 23, 2010.

There are several reasons for the change. At this time nearly 13,000 properties are scheduled to be auctioned in September, a 44 % increase versus last year. In prior years, live auctions have required the commitment of nearly two-thirds of my staff, significantly impairing the ability of the office to provide other essential customer services. Given the substantial increase in auction activity, it became necessary to explore alternative approaches to performing the statutorily-mandated auction. It was obvious that this year's auctions could not take place without critically impacting service to the public.

In selecting an internet auction service, we sought a firm with extensive experience in county government online tax foreclosure auctions and a proven record of increasing sales and revenues. The firm had to provide a clear cost/benefit advantage to a live auction and a process that is easy to use, and affords those without computer access an alternate method of bidding. Our goal is to ensure that the internet auction not only streamlines the process and increases property sales and revenue but also enables anyone who wants to participate to be able to do so.

It is my intention to make sure those who want to purchase property are aware of how and when to bid. It is my belief that given current market conditions, as well as the mandate of Michigan law, the on-line auction process is an essential and timely tool for efficient delivery of county service. My staff and I stand ready to assist you in any way we can with whatever questions/issues you may have with the auction process.

For more auction information and to review the list of properties offered for sale, please visit the Office of the Wayne County Treasurer website at: www.waynecounty.com/treasurer.

Respectfully,

RAYMOND J. WOJTOWICZ

Wayne County Treasurer