



# RAYMOND J. WOJTOWICZ

## Wayne County Treasurer

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## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Wayne County Treasurer gives delinquent taxpayers an extra month to file for financial hardship application**

#### ***Residents now have until April 30 to file applications***

Recognizing that Wayne County residents are facing extraordinarily tough economic times due to a troubled state and local economy, Wayne County Treasurer Raymond J. Wojtowicz has greatly expanded his community outreach efforts and, as a part of these efforts, has extended the previous March 15, 2008 deadline to file an application for a property tax hardship extension until April 30, 2008. **Residents should be aware that if their application is approved, this does not give them an exemption from paying property taxes.** Instead, anyone receiving a hardship extension will be granted up to one extra year to pay his or her delinquent 2005 property taxes. Related fees and penalties will still apply.

In response to the Treasurer's extensive community outreach program, using cable, network television, internet broadcasting, radio and letters to churches and community groups as well as up-dates to county and local government officials, the Treasurer has already received more than 736 applications, which is a significant increase over this same time last year.

Anyone who is facing property tax foreclosure due to unpaid delinquent 2005 taxes needs to know that ignoring the tax bill hoping that it will somehow go away is the worst thing to do. What that person *needs* to do is get some help, and quick. One thing he/she can do right away is contact the Taxpayer Assistance Section of the Wayne County Treasurer's Office. Taxpayer Assistance is dedicated to assisting taxpayers in any way they can, and that includes handling hardship applications. Taxpayer Assistance can be reached at (313) 224-6105.

Time is running out, but it's still not too late.