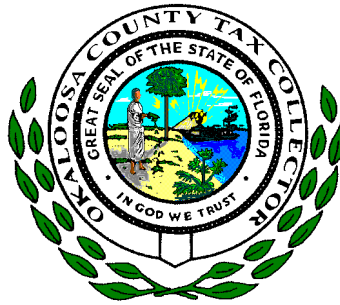


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120 Simpson Ave.
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BEN ANDERSON
OKALOOSA COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR

www.OkaloosaTax.com

PRESS RELEASE

TAX CERTIFICATE SALE RESULTS ANNOUNCED

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Press Release 18-11

Contact: Sheila Boutwell (media inquiries only) SBoutwell@Okaloosatax.com (850) 609-3507

Shalimar – Okaloosa County Tax Collector, Ben Anderson is pleased to announce that the annual Tax Certificate Sale held on June 1, 2018 was a Huge Success. “Just as in previous years, we were able to help the citizens of Okaloosa County by holding this event and educating the public on the Tax Certificate Sale process with (2) Tax Certificate Workshops and by Live Streaming on Facebook” states Anderson.

The 2018 Tax Certificate Sale generated \$4,748,251.47 in revenue for the Okaloosa County Taxing Authorities from 3,147 tax certificates sold. According to Tax Administrator, Justin Gordon, over \$223,000,000 in 2017 Real Estate and Tangible Personal Property taxes have been distributed to date.

Anderson credits the success of this year’s sale to workshops and Facebook Live Stream events held throughout the County in May. “The Tax Department’s workshops educated both property owners and investment bidders, and as a result, 242 certificates were awarded to local bidders at an average rate of 5.09%.

Anderson continues, “The success of the Online Certificate Sale Platform is a testament to our efforts to more efficiently collect taxes on behalf of our citizens. We continually strive to innovate more efficient processes for our customers to do business Online not In Line.” Anderson adds, “We currently offer BillExpress, an e-billing service, for Real Estate and Tangible Personal Property taxes, e-checks are a **FREE** service offered to citizens who choose to pay current taxes by check. In addition we offer EscrowExpress, an online payment portal for our Escrow Companies.”

Please contact the Tax Department at 651-7604 for information about the Tax Certificate Sale or to inquire about signing up for BillExpress.

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*The State of Florida created this State Constitutional County Office as
a separate and independent government entity to ensure freedom from influence
by local or state agencies that have the power to levy taxes, spend tax dollars and assess property.*