

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Mail Delays Continue to Impact Local Government Operations

Citizens encouraged to apply early for license plates, car titles and registrations

Gainesville, GA (June 11, 2024) – United States Postal Service (USPS) delivery delays continue to impact applications and deadline requirements of the Hall County Tax Commissioner's Office and other government agencies.

In a <u>press release</u>, the Department of Driver Services (DDS) "urges customers to plan ahead and pack their patience while waiting to receive their driver's license and IDs." Furthermore, the DDS recommends that residents continue to carry their most recently issued licenses or IDs along with any paper interim issuances or receipts.

Similarly, the Hall County Tax Commissioner's Office says residents can expect delays regarding issued license plates, titles, and registrations. Barring pressing circumstances, such as residents planning to travel out of state, the Tax Office requests that customers wait a full 30 days to receive their items before reporting them lost or requesting a replacement.

Residents currently waiting for their documents or license plates to arrive are encouraged to carry any relevant receipts, bills of sale, or expired registration cards with them. Individuals using Georgia Drives e-Services or the local Tax Office call center to complete their registration renewals may request an electronic receipt emailed to them as proof of compliance until their registration arrives.

"We are committed to working with our residents, law enforcement, and the postal system to ensure compliance with annual registration requirements during this unusual delay," said Darla Eden, Hall County Tax Commissioner. "We appreciate your patience and cooperation as we navigate this situation."

The USPS delays first came to light in late February when the Tax Office, noticing a spike in late payments and applications by mail, immediately contacted the local post office to determine the source and possible remedies. Officials initially indicated the delays were likely related to a distribution center's relocation as well as contractor issues. The issues have since become widely publicized and the subject of a congressional review.

To ensure timely processing of vehicle registration renewals and payments, the Hall County Tax Commissioner's office encourages residents to mail their tag renewals as early as possible, or to utilize the following alternate methods:

Renew & Print Instantly: Visit any tag renewal kiosk located at all Kroger stores in Hall County as well as other locations throughout the state, available seven days a week from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. For a map and location of kiosks, please visit www.gamvexpress.com.

Renewal is also available online via www.hallcountytax.org. Follow the link for "Renew/Cancel Vehicle Tag" at the top of the home page. Renewals completed online are immediately valid, and receipts can be sent to your email address.

Lastly, you may visit the Hall County Tax Commissioner's Office at the Hall County Government Center | 2875 Browns Bridge Rd | 1st Floor | Gainesville GA 30504. The office is open Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Residents with questions or concerns should contact the Hall County Tax Commissioner's Office by phone at 770.531.6950, text at 833.602.8497, or email at tagoffice@hallcounty.org.

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