

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

WOONSOCKET, RHODE ISLAND

Mayor Lisa Baldelli-Hunt

Press Release

Mayor Announces the Interim Results of the Tax Amnesty Program

March 23, 2015

Mayor Lisa Baldelli-Hunt is pleased to announce the interim results of the Tax Amnesty Program. This program allows taxpayers who have not been able to keep up with their tangible and motor vehicle taxes assessed prior to 2014, to pay the principal balance only without having to also pay the interest and penalty charges.

Proposed by the Mayor after working with State Representatives Bob Philips, Stephen Casey, and Michael Morin and enacted by the City Council on January 20, 2015, the Tax Amnesty Program was devised to assist those who may not have been able to keep current in their taxes due to the recession and other financial hardships.

"The program is available to any taxpayer who is willing to catch up on their tangible or motor vehicle taxes," noted Mayor Lisa Baldelli-Hunt.

The Tax Amnesty Program runs from February 6, 2015 through April 7, 2015. During this period, individuals are encouraged to submit the one-page application form, requesting in writing that their interest be waived for all overdue tangible and/or motor vehicle taxes prior to 2014, in exchange for the taxes due to be paid in full at that time. These applications can be obtained through the Tax Assessor's office or on the City's website.

As of March 23, 2015, two hundred four people have taken advantage of this opportunity to become current within the first forty-five days of the program's

enrollment period, resulting in over \$67,000 collected for taxes prior to and including 2013, as well as over another \$53,000 in taxes and interest for 2014.

Mayor Baldelli-Hunt added, "This Tax Amnesty Program was ultimately designed for the financially burdened taxpayers – those who had difficulty staying current with their tax payments. This Program provides financial relief to delinquent taxpayers, and enables the City to collect overdue taxes that may have otherwise gone unpaid."

###**END**###