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## Rankey to Reduce Fees for Property Taxpayers Using Credit Cards, E-Payment Systems

**DELAWARE, Ohio (Dec. 22, 2022)** – Delaware County Treasurer Donald E. Rankey Jr. today announced that he is reducing the fees associated with paying property taxes with credit cards and online e-payment systems.

Rankey said the move is an effort to assist Delaware County residents and businesses during these inflationary times.

“From day one, I’ve been looking for ways to ease the financial burden on our Delaware County taxpayers,” Rankey said. “We all feel the pain of increasing prices at the grocery store and at the gas pump. I challenged my team to work on ways that we can enhance services and reduce costs. Today, we have achieved this by working with our partners at JP Morgan Chase and the ePaymentus service. This is one way that our taxpayers can continue to have the convenience of using a credit card or an electronic payment system, while keeping more of their hard-earned money.”

Rankey said the partnership that his office has cultivated with JP Morgan Chase and ePaymentus has resulted in their willingness to reduce convenience fees substantially for the payment of property taxes. The new pricing from JP Morgan Chase/ePaymentus service will be:

- 85-cent echeck fee. The current cost is \$2 for payments up to \$10,000. The fee for payments exceeding \$10,000 is \$10. The reduction to 85 cents represents a 58-percent savings and fee reduction to the average taxpayer.
- \$3.95 flat fee for all property tax payments made with a credit card, debit card or electronic wallet. Under the current structure, a 2.5-percent charge is assessed to the payment amount.
- Other non-property tax payments on a credit card transaction through the new program will be reduced from the current 2.5 percent to 2.35 percent.

The new fee structure will be effective in mid-first quarter of 2023 for the 2022 real estate property tax year.

“The fee reduction for someone paying with a card is significant,” Rankey said. “If a taxpayer pays \$10,000 in property tax, they will pay a flat fee of \$3.95 instead of 2.5 percent under the old system. This is a savings of nearly \$250.”

The Treasurer’s Office also will be introducing new payment methods including Venmo, Paypal, ApplePay and GooglePay.

“While I don’t control the amount of property taxes that you pay, I can try to make it simple, minimize the transactional cost, and provide convenient payment location options for our Delaware County taxpayers,” Rankey said.

The Delaware County Commissioners approved the measure on Thursday, which included the additional provision of Lexis Nexis payment services for use with the Delaware County Clerk of Courts and integration with the Court’s Courtview system. This will help improve the financial operations and efficiencies with the courts for the payment of various fees.

Donald E. Rankey was elected Delaware County Treasurer in 2020. He is the county’s chief investment officer and responsible for collecting more than \$660 million in annual property taxes from more than 90,000 parcels. His office also oversees an investment portfolio in excess of \$325 million.

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