NEWS RELEASE – For Immediate Release

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County Officials Warn Residents of Payment Scam

San Bernardino, CA — Auditor-Controller/Treasurer/Tax Collector Ensen Mason and Assessor-Recorder-County Clerk Chris Wilhite have issued a joint warning to San Bernardino County residents to beware of fraudulent telephone calls using false information to collect a debt or property tax payment with the threat that the resident's driver's license will be suspended if payment is not received. The caller is using a telephone line spoofed to appear as an actual County telephone number. Both the Tax Collector and Assessor will not initiate unsolicited phone calls in this manner.

"County residents need to stay vigilant when providing personal and financial information over the phone or by email," cautioned Mason. "Anyone receiving a phone call or email requesting payment with pressure or a threat of any kind should immediately contact our office and report the incident."

"The Assessor-Recorder-Clerk's office will never call a resident to collect a debt or initiate a call to request personal information over the phone," stated Wilhite. "Should you receive a call that seems suspicious, do not provide the information the scammer is asking for."

Both officials encourage County residents to be very careful when providing personal information over the phone or by email and to call their offices if a suspicious call or email is received.

For general questions, the Auditor-Controller/Treasurer/Tax Collector can be reached at 909-387-8322. Taxpayers can pay their property taxes securely online at mytaxcollector.com, by phone at (909) 387-8308, in person, or by mail to the Tax Collector's Office at 268 West Hospitality Lane, First Floor, San Bernardino, CA 92415-0360.

The Assessor-Recorder-County Clerk can be reached at 909-387-8307 for Assessor services, 909-387-8306 for Recorder-Clerk services, or online at arc.sbcounty.gov. The office is located at 222 West Hospitality Lane San Bernardino, CA 92415.

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