



**The Superior Court**  
COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN  
222 E. WEBER AVENUE, ROOM 303  
STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA 95202

TELEPHONE  
(209) 468-2827  
WEBSITE  
[www.stocktoncourt.org](http://www.stocktoncourt.org)

Contact: Gary L. Spaugh, Grand Jury Foreperson  
(209) 468-3855 or (209) 468-2959  
[grandjury@sjcourts.org](mailto:grandjury@sjcourts.org)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
APRIL 18, 2013

• • NEWS RELEASE • • NEWS RELEASE • •

**2012-2013 GRAND JURY RELEASES REPORT ON DELINQUENT PROPERTY  
TAXES IN SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY**

(Stockton, CA) An investigation by the 2012-2013 San Joaquin County Civil Grand Jury discovered that over the past three years there has been an average of \$64,000,000 in defaulted tax revenues left uncollected each year. While this was due in part to the large number of foreclosures in San Joaquin County, there were several additional contributing factors. The Grand Jury found a problem with interdepartmental communication between the San Joaquin County Assessor-Recorder-Clerk and the San Joaquin County Treasurer-Tax Collector regarding updating of property ownership records. Further, tax collection and revenue is unnecessarily deferred by the Tax Collector holding only one tax sale each year.

The Grand Jury also found communication between the Departments was complicated by the fact that there was no legal owner tracking on foreclosed properties. There have been approximately 3,379 foreclosed properties throughout the County since January 2012 and it was discovered that there is an untold number of properties without an accurate ownership record. The Grand Jury in turn discovered that the use of two different computer programs between the Assessor-Recorder and the Treasurer-Tax Collector which do not interact with each other further hinders the exchange of critical information between the departments. Improving the inter-departmental communications and methods for collection of taxes by both the Tax Collector and the Assessor-Recorder would provide monies to the County in a more expeditious manner.

Recommendations for improvements in these areas have been made to the departments involved, with a response required in the next 60 days.

#####

*A copy of the Report can be accessed by visiting: <http://stocktoncourt.org/grandjury/>*