

FLORIDA TAX COLLECTORS: SAFEGUARDING PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION (PII)

Despite the narrow nature of their title, Florida Tax Collectors do much more than simply collect taxes and service charges. Often receiving more revenue for the government than they spend, Tax Collectors provide a wide range of additional state services for the public – ranging from driver licenses and vehicle registrations to hunting and fishing licenses and applications for concealed weapons licenses.

In order to perform these vital functions effectively, Tax Collectors have access to a substantial amount of personal information about Floridians. To uphold this important responsibility and protect personally identifiable information (PII), Tax Collectors must adhere to strict federal and state regulations, as well as other agreements, to respect and secure this private information.

Here are just a few of the numerous layers of protection Tax Collectors provide to the citizens of Florida in protecting their PII:

The Driver Privacy Protection Act

The federal Driver Privacy Protection Act maintains the privacy of your personal information and restricts access to such private information. This includes an individual's name, address, contact information, social security number, driver license number, and medical or disability information. State law also expands protections to include information about a person's emergency contacts.

State Privacy Protection Laws

The Florida Constitution guarantees citizens a right to privacy, and numerous provisions of state law extend privacy protections for Floridians beyond those provided under federal law. For the issuance of concealed weapons licenses, Tax Collectors adhere to special procedures that further protect the privacy of individual applicants. This information is treated as highly confidential and disclosure to unauthorized individuals or groups is strictly prohibited.

Other Agreements

To enhance security, many Tax Collectors also execute an agreement with the state Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles – known as a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). These MOUs contain several provisions designed to ensure the safety and integrity of PII, including rules guaranteeing that any personal information can be used only by officials when exercising their official duties, and as authorized by law and Department policy and procedure.

Any individual or public officer who violates these rigorous policies and procedures is subject to significant civil and/or criminal penalties. Florida Tax Collectors fully support and embrace these security measures in order to respect the privacy rights of individual Floridians and keep their personal information safe and secure.

Learn more about the strict PII standards adopted by the Florida Tax Collectors at **FloridaTaxCollectors.com**



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