



DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION

News Release

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**STATE BEGINS ISSUING REMAINING
2009 STATE INCOME TAX REFUNDS**

HONOLULU — The State Tax Department announced that effective July 1, 2010 it has begun issuing delayed refunds from 2009 individual, corporate, and fiduciary income tax returns filed by the April 20, 2010 due date.

Taxpayers who requested their refunds to be directly deposited into their local bank accounts should receive their refunds on or before July 15, with an additional working day being added for out-of-state banks. Taxpayers who opted to have their refunds issued via paper checks should expect to receive their refund checks by mail a few weeks later. Refunds on tax returns filed after the April 20 due date will be processed under normal turnaround conditions.

The State delayed 2009 tax refunds within the legally allowed 90-day refund period to help mitigate the State's projected \$721 million revenue shortfall for fiscal year 2010 (FY10), which ended on June 30, 2010. The Administration opted for the refund delay in order to avoid the need for additional massive cuts to education, health and human services and other programs, as well as avoid tax increases next year.

(more)

In May, as a result of improving tax revenue collections for the first 10 months of FY10, the Department of Taxation began issuing state income tax refunds that were processed during the months of January and February. Approximately 208,000 tax filers, or 44 percent, have already received their tax refunds.

The Tax Department extends its appreciation to the public for their patience and understanding regarding the delayed issuance of the 2009 income tax refunds.

Taxpayers can check on their refund status by accessing the Department's website at www.hawaii.gov/tax and clicking on "Looking for Your 2009 Individual Refund Status" under SPOTLIGHT on their homepage.

Taxpayers may also contact the Taxpayer Services Call Center during business hours at 808-587-4242 or 1-800-222-3229 (toll free) and select the refund status option on the department's telephone system.

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