



OFFICE OF
STATE TREASURER
DENISE L. NAPIER

NEWS

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TREASURER NAPIER KICKS-OFF CAMPAIGN TO RETURN MILLIONS IN UNCLAIMED FUNDS TO RIGHTFUL OWNERS

***\$270 Million Unclaimed; New Web Site Includes 500,000 Names;
29,000 Recent Additions to be Listed in Newspapers Wednesday***

Stepping up efforts to return millions of dollars to thousands of state residents, State Treasurer Denise L. Nappier kicked-off this year's state treasury "Name It and Claim It" campaign today. The campaign's aim is to locate individuals whose unclaimed funds have been turned over to the state and reunite those assets with rightful owners or heirs.

The State Treasurer's Office collects and safeguards cash and other financial assets that have been unclaimed for a period of generally three to five years. The assets, called "unclaimed property," include savings and checking accounts, stocks, bonds, mutual fund shares, safe deposit box contents, and un-cashed checks, such as insurance benefits or wages.

*If your name is here...
Your money is waiting!*



The Treasurer's Office currently has \$270 million in unclaimed property.

"In fiscal year 2000, my office returned over \$9 million for more than 7,000 claims – more money than has ever been returned in one year," said State Treasurer Denise Nappier. "We have hundreds of millions of dollars more to give back... so we are asking our citizens to scan the newspaper listings, or search the web site for their name or the names of people they know. Help us to give you back your money!"

The Office of the State Treasurer is required, by state law, to publish, every other year, the names that have been added to the Unclaimed Property database during the previous two years. This year's publication includes more than 29,000 names and will be published on Wednesday, September 13, 2000. The 80-page section will be included in the *Hartford Courant*, *Connecticut Post*, *Danbury News-Times*, *Waterbury Republican-American*, *New London Day*, *New Haven Register*, *Stamford Advocate/Greenwich Time*.

More...

Contact: Bernard L. Kaval er
Director of Communication
(860) 702-3277 FAX (860) 702-3043
BERNARD.KAVALER@PO.STATE.CT.US

As part of the "*Name It and Claim It*" campaign, Nappier announced:

- The establishment of a new website, www.nameitandclaimit.org
- A dramatic expansion of the electronic database on the internet to just over 500,000 names, tripling the size of the previous list.
- The establishment of telephone assistance in Spanish, for the first time at 1-800-618-3403.

"All of our efforts aid our fundamental mission--to increase the return of property to rightful owners. Our new web site has an expanded electronic database of more than 500,000 owners," Nappier said. "It's a wonderful way to broaden our outreach, increase customer service to the community, it is user friendly and, like all of our claim services, it is free," she said.

Individuals whose names appear in the newspaper or on the web site can contact the Treasurer's Office in any of three ways:

- Fill out, clip and mail the form included at the back of the newspaper section.
- Use the email form on the website, www.nameitandclaimit.org
- Call the Office, toll-free, weekdays between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm at 1-800-833-7318, or for assistance in Spanish, 1-800-618-3404.

The primary sources of unclaimed property are businesses and organizations which hold uncashed checks, stocks, insurance benefits and other forms of property. Businesses are required to report unclaimed property annually to the state treasurer's office.

The virtual name search will also be available to visitors to the Treasurer's Office exhibit at regional and statewide events, such as The Big E, September 21-25; the Connecticut Agricultural and Food Expo at the State Armory, October 21-22; the 54th Original Connecticut Home Show at the Hartford Civic Center, March 16-18 2001 and the Fairfield County Home Show at Wilton High School, March 31-April 1.

"It's your money, and it's waiting," Nappier said. "We'll do everything we can to reunite you with your money."