



**THE OFFICE OF
STATE TREASURER
DENISE L. NAPIER**

NEWS

PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 19, 2012

***CT BIG LIST* GENERATES CLAIMS VALUED AT MORE THAN \$65 MILLION**

-- SUCCESSFUL OUTREACH CAMPAIGN CITED AS REASON --

HARTFORD, CT -- State Treasurer Denise L. Nappier announced today that in the three months following the November 2011 publication of the ***CT Big List***, more than \$65 million in claims were made for abandoned property.

The claims -- 66,591 in all -- include dormant balances in savings and checking accounts, unredeemed stocks and bonds, unreturned security deposits and uncashed checks, such as wages or commissions. The total represents one of the largest number of claims requested in any three-month period of the program's history.

"In just a few months, thousands of people have learned they may have unexpected cash coming back to them," Treasurer Nappier said. "With so many people struggling to make ends meet, what better time than now to learn that the Treasury is safeguarding their property. That's why I strongly encourage everyone to search our website for their name, or that of a family member or friend."

Of the claims filed in the three-month period, approximately \$2.6 million or 2,611 claims have been paid to rightful owners. While a majority of the claims are valued under \$1,000, many are above that amount. In fact, the largest single claim paid since the ***CT Big List*** was published was \$76,948.

Treasurer Nappier cited her office's ongoing outreach efforts and the ***CT Big List*** for the extraordinary response. On November 17, 2011, newspapers throughout the State published the 152-page insert containing 49,770 names of people and businesses with unclaimed property. Copies of the insert were also sent to town

CONTACT: DAVID RIVERA, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS, (860) 702-3232
DAVID.RIVERA@CT.GOV

halls and public libraries. Every other year, State law requires the State Treasury to publish the names added to its unclaimed property database.

From November 17, 2011 to February 29, 2012 the Treasury also received:

- 348,910 hits on the **CT Big List** website, www.CTBigList.com, and
- 24,257 telephone calls to the toll-free number, 1-800-833-7318.

Since taking office in 1999, Treasurer Nappier's administration has returned more than \$345 million to approximately 201,000 individuals and businesses. A record-breaking \$151.7 million was reunited with almost 46,000 individuals, businesses and organizations in Fiscal Years 2010 and 2011.

"The beneficiaries of our efforts are individuals, families and businesses who are reunited with assets that rightfully belong to them," Treasurer Nappier said. "We are one of the few agencies in state government that has a department dedicated to giving money back to people!"

The Treasury's website updated weekly with new names and now includes more than one-million owners that may be entitled to more than \$563.9 million in unclaimed property. Both searching and filing a claim for property through Treasurer's Office is free.

To check for your name and file a claim:

- Go to the Treasury's website, www.CTBigList.com, download a claim form, or
- Call 1-800-833-7318, weekdays between 8:00am and 5:00pm.

###