## Tax Refund Exchange and Compliance System (TRECs)

Frequently Asked Questions...

#### 1. What is TRECs?

TRECs is a program that allows counties to collect outstanding debts owed to local units of government by intercepting personal state income tax refunds.

#### 2. When did this program start?

Indiana Code 6-8.1-9.5 was passed in 2017 and that law authorizes the program.

#### 3. What makes a property/parcel eligible for the program?

When property taxes are not paid, the delinquent taxes would trigger the eligibility for the program.

#### 4. What is the last day to pay before you send this for interception of my refund?

Payment of the outstanding balance must be received in our office on or before February 9, 2018. Payment must be made with cash, a money order or cashier's check in our office at 916 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 27, Bedford, IN 47421. Credit card payments may be made online at <a href="https://lawrencecounty.egovpayments.com">https://lawrencecounty.egovpayments.com</a>. Personal checks will NOT be accepted.

#### 5. Will this be given to a credit reporting agency?

We do not report delinquencies to a credit reporting agency; however, some credit reporting agencies search our records.

#### 6. Can I get on a payment plan?

No, a payment plan is not available.

#### 7. What are the fees and who receives those fees?

The clearing house will charge \$20 and the Indiana Department of Revenue will impose a 15% fee. The Lawrence County Treasurer does not charge or receive any of the fees.

#### 8. Can the fee be waived if it gets sent to the clearinghouse?

Once our office turns over the information to the clearinghouse, we have no control over any fees.

# 9. What is going to happen if my state income tax refund is not enough to cover the outstanding delinquent amount due?

The remaining balance will still be owed and if it is not paid, the property might become eligible for the 2018 Tax sale; go to judgment, and/or be given to a collection agency.

# 10. Is the Lawrence County Treasurer's office required to give notice to the debtor about their intent to intercept their personal Indiana income tax refund?

Yes, letters are sent to taxpayers prior to turning over the debt to the clearinghouse.

### 11. What types of properties are eligible for the program?

All debt on properties except for those owned by a business, a corporation or an LLC can be eligible.

#### 12. Are debtors notified that their tax refund has been intercepted?

Yes, taxpayers are notified.

#### 13. Will this make me up-to-date on my taxes?

It will pay all charges due on December 31, 2017. However, the amount due will not include any charges that have been added to your parcel since that date or future tax obligations

### 14. What happens if a debtor disagrees with the written decision?

The debtor may file an action with the Court to stay the submission of the debt.