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Westly Seeks to Reunite Californians With \$8 Million in Returned Tax Refunds

SACRAMENTO - State Controller and Franchise Tax Board Chair Steve Westly today said he is looking for the owners of 34,000 unclaimed 2004 state tax returns valued at \$8.2 million.

“If you never got your 2004 tax refund, give us a call and we can get it to you in time for the holidays,” Westly said.

This year, the FTB issued more than 9.4 million refunds worth an average \$721 to California taxpayers. The unclaimed refunds range in value from \$1 to \$75,000.

Many refunds were never received simply because people moved between the time they filed their taxes and the refund checks were mailed.

Westly said that direct deposit of refunds can prevent delivery problems and make getting a refund faster. More than 3.4 million people out of 14 million taxpayers elected to use direct deposit this year, an increase of 14% over last year.

Westly said taxpayers looking for their refunds should call the Franchise Tax Board at (800) 852-5711 from 7 a.m. and 7 p.m., Monday through Friday.

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