



RICHARD H. MOORE  
STATE TREASURER

# North Carolina Department of State Treasurer

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July 30, 2002

For Immediate Release  
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## **STATE TREASURER RICHARD MOORE ISSUES THE "\$2 MILLION CHALLENGE" TO STATE LEGISLATORS**

RALEIGH – State Treasurer Richard Moore has issued a special challenge to the North Carolina General Assembly: help return \$2 million of unclaimed money to its rightful owners!

Treasurer Moore is again teaming up with lawmakers as part of his effort to identify and return money and other property to its rightful owners. And, Treasurer Moore is looking to surpass last year's legislative effort of more than \$1.5 million returned. Treasurer Moore has supplied legislators with a statewide list of individuals and businesses who are owed unclaimed money as part of the effort.

"Last year, we returned more than \$10 million to over 9 thousand North Carolinians, and state legislators helped us find more than \$1.5 million of that total," said Treasurer Moore. "I'm confident legislators, working with our staff, can reach \$2 million this year. During tough economic times, there's no greater public service than to be able to give money back to its rightful owners. That's why I'm calling upon our lawmakers again this year to help in the effort to locate these individuals and deliver some good news to them."

Unclaimed money is collected from various companies and financial institutions by the Escheat and Unclaimed Property Division of the North Carolina Department of State Treasurer. Money is considered "unclaimed" when the rightful owner cannot be located. If a company or financial institution is holding money belonging to a North Carolina resident and is unable to locate that person, they must turn it over to the Department of State Treasurer, where it is held until the individual is found. This "unclaimed cash" is often the result of people forgetting about utility deposits they may have made, bank accounts they opened, stocks that were purchased, and checks that have not been cashed. Currently, the NC Department of State Treasurer is holding over \$350 million in unclaimed cash for more than 1.4 million citizens.

To see if a name is on the unclaimed property list, log on to [www.treasurer.state.nc.us](http://www.treasurer.state.nc.us) and click on the "Unclaimed Property Program" link. Information on filing a claim to have unclaimed property returned is also available on the website.

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