



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
Office of the General Treasurer

**Seth Magaziner**  
General Treasurer

September 29, 2015

VIA EMAIL ONLY [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

RE: Public Records Request

Dear [REDACTED]

We write in response to your September 15, 2015 request for information pursuant to the Rhode Island Access to Public Records Act (APRA). Your specific request is noted below:

*I am looking to request the list of unclaimed funds owed to delinquent tax property owners resulting from tax foreclosure auction sales. These unclaimed funds may be referred to as surplus proceeds, excess funds, overbids or tax sale overages.*

*As stated in the Handbook of Local Government Financing in RHODE ISLAND in section 44-9-37 any surplus proceeds resulting from a tax sale is held by the treasury for a period of 5 years unless demanded by whom it is owed. I am looking for the list of these surplus proceeds particularly from tax sales.*

*I would also like to know in which format this list could be delivered and are there any costs to obtain these records?*

*If I am contacting the wrong agency regarding this list would you be so kind as to direct to the correct individual or agency who may or could assist me in obtaining this list?*

Treasury does not have or maintain the requested records. A review of Rhode Island General Law (RIGL) §44-9-37 states that “the balance shall be deposited with the city or town treasurer...” It is recommended you forward your request to the local departments of taxation at the city or town level. A complete copy of RIGL §44-9-37 is enclosed for your reference.

If you contend you have been denied access to public records, pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws §38-2-8, you may appeal this decision to Jeffrey M. Padwa, General Counsel for the Rhode Island General Treasurer’s Office, 50 Service Avenue, 2nd Floor, Warwick, RI 02886. You may also

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file a complaint with the Department of the Attorney General, 150 South Main Street, Providence, RI 02903 or the Rhode Island Superior Court of the county where the records are maintained.

Additional information regarding the Access to Public Records Act may be found at <http://www.riag.ri.gov/civil/opengovernment>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amanda D. Lucas', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Amanda D. Lucas  
Public Records Officer