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## STATE OF NEVADA OFFICE OF THE STATE TREASURER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE DATE: July 16, 2014 CONTACT: Steve George, Chief of Staff (775) 684-5666 sggeorge@nevadatreasurer.gov

## Division of Unclaimed Property Issues Scam Advisory about Unclaimed Property Calls

**Carson City**—Today the Division of Unclaimed Property issued a warning to Nevada residents about calls they may receive from unscrupulous individuals claiming to be with the Division seeking to help them claim property being held by the State Treasurer's Office.

The office has heard from several individuals who received unsolicited phone calls and/or emails from someone posing as a member of the Nevada Unclaimed Property Division offering to reunite them with their property.

The return of Unclaimed Property is an extremely successful program. Because of its effectiveness, criminals are using it as a guise to perpetrate a fraud. The Division of Unclaimed Property is warning Nevadans not to take the bait and contact the Treasurer's Office if they have any questions about unclaimed property. The Attorney General's Bureau of Consumer Protection has been contacted and is examining the matter.

According to phone calls received from several citizens who did not take the bait, the callers ask for a bank routing number and bank account number, as well as a nominal fee, to process the person's claim. Another person claimed the caller said they had won the Publisher's Clearinghouse contest and that the Nevada Unclaimed Property Division was holding their \$1,000,000 prize.

The Division of Unclaimed Property recommends that if you do receive an unsolicited call from someone seeking your personal or banking information, hang up and contact the company the caller says they are representing directly.

Office contact information is listed at <u>http://nevadatreasurer.gov</u>. Please contact the Division of Unclaimed Property directly before responding to any such solicitation to avoid being the victim of a scam.

Nevadans can utilize the Division's online search engine to find missing abandoned property by going to <u>NevadaTreasurer.gov</u> and then clicking on the yellow "Search for Unclaimed Property" box, or by visiting <u>NevadaTreasurer.gov/UPSearch/</u>.

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CARSON CITY OFFICE

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## STATE TREASURER PROGRAMS

Millennium Scholarship Program Nevada Prepaid Tuition Program Unclaimed Property Nevada College Savings Plans Nevada College Kick Start Program

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