



## Response to Questions on the FY 2010 County's Line of Business & Schools Program Review Processes Fall 2008

**Request By:** Employee

**Question:** Please explain enforcement efforts (especially as pertaining to vehicles recently moving into Fairfax County) for collecting personal property taxes.

**Response:** The Department of Tax Administration (DTA) maintains an outstanding collection rate on personal property taxes. For the last three years rates in excess of 98 percent have been achieved. This is superb given the mobility of vehicles. In addition, based on State analysis of 72 other localities in Virginia, the average personal property tax collection rate in FY 2006 was 96.7 percent. Among other things, tax collectors seize wages and bank accounts as well as boot and tow vehicles. Automated holds are also placed on DMV accounts and income tax refunds are seized.

As to the discovery of vehicles moving into Fairfax County, DTA computers automatically match to DMV computers to obtain information on vehicles new to the County on a weekly basis. DTA also operates the TARGET program whereby citizens can report suspected tax evaders. Staff researches various databases to validate the tax liability. To this end, DTA has online access to various databases, such as Virginia DMV, state income taxes and Virginia Employment Commission records.