

PRESS RELEASE

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Tax Collector Mike Fasano Announces Hourly Starting Salary Increase to \$15.00 at Pasco's Tax Collector Offices

Mike Fasano, Pasco County's Tax Collector since 2013, announces that with the New Year comes a new starting salary for employees. New hires who join the office after January 5 will receive a starting salary of **\$15.00** per hour. Any existing employee who may currently be earning less than that amount will be increased to at least the new wage.

Increasing staff salaries was one of the first goals **Mike Fasano** set when he took over reins of the office 5 ½ years ago. Appalled at how low many employees, most long-term career staff members, were receiving, he set out on a deliberate course of increasing salaries so that they truly will be a living wage for employees.

"In 2013 starting salaries were only \$9.25 an hour," states **Tax Collector Mike Fasano**. "Our jobs are complicated and require in-depth training and experience. When I learned that people, especially those who have loyally served this organization for many years, were making so little, I knew I had to make it a priority to increase their wages."

Over the next several years **Mike Fasano** and his fiscal and human resources teams set about to incrementally increase wages to the level they are today.

"Over the past 5 plus years we've been able to raise the starting salary by **62%**," **Tax Collector Mike Fasano** continues. "In 2013 the starting salary was \$19,240 per year. Today, it is **\$31,200** per year. Professionals who rely on this job for their livelihood deserve to be paid what they are worth. Their jobs are not easy. The transactions we do for local and state agencies are many and require accuracy and precision. It is my belief that to attract and maintain good employees they must be paid commensurate with their skills, abilities and experience."

For more information regarding the Pasco County Tax Collector's Office and the services it provides, please visit our website at: www.Pascotaxes.com