

PRESS RELEASE

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## ***Pasco Tax Collector Mike Fasano Announces the Launch of Organ Donor Awareness Month***

**Pasco County Tax Collector Mike Fasano** announces that LifeLink Foundation/ Donate Life will be the tax collector's featured charitable organization for the month of June. One of the responsibilities of tax collectors is to help identify organ donors when individuals get a driver's license or an identification card. The purpose of this campaign is to help bring attention to the need for organ and tissue donors.

The Pasco County Tax Collector will promote organ donor awareness by making information available to every customer who visits one of the four tax collection offices in Pasco County. Currently nearly 5,000 Floridians are on a waiting list for lifesaving transplants. Nationally, 117,000 Americans are waiting for the proper organ needed to continue living. For those interested in becoming an organ donor please visit the tax collectors office or log onto [www.DonateLifeFlorida.org](http://www.DonateLifeFlorida.org)

Customers who wish to support the LifeLink Foundation/ Donate Life may check-off the box on their license renewal and/or auto registration forms to contribute \$1 or more to an education fund to help raise awareness of the need for organ donors in our community. Cash donations will also be accepted by the tax collector.

"Donate Life Florida is very excited about the opportunity to promote Florida's organ & tissue donor registry in partnership with the Pasco County Tax Collector's Office," states **Betsy Edwards, Senior Public Affairs Coordinator** with LifeLink Foundation/ Donate Life. "Through this promotional campaign we hope to increase organ & tissue donor registration rates among driver license customers. With more than 900 patients currently listed for lifesaving organ transplants at

Tampa General Hospital, donation is a critical issue throughout the Tampa Bay area.”

“I encourage customers to consider supporting this excellent program,” **Tax Collector Mike Fasano** comments. “With so many people’s lives depending upon organ donation it is encouraging that we can have an impact upon their ability to access the lifesaving treatment many desperately need. Whether it is becoming an organ donor, or making a contribution to the fund, your help will go a long way towards saving the lives of people both locally and throughout our state.”

The awareness campaign/check-off promotion runs through the month of June. Contributions to the LifeLink Foundation/ Donate Life can be made at all four tax collector locations in Pasco County: New Port Richey, Gulf Harbors, Land O’ Lakes and Dade City. Contributions can also be added to renewals that are processed via the mail. For more information about the check-off promotion, please contact **Greg Giordano, Director of Customer Relations**, at the tax collector’s office: 727-847- 8179.

Please visit [www.pascotaxes.com](http://www.pascotaxes.com) for additional information about services provided by the Pasco County Tax Collector’s Office.