



# OFFICE OF ILLINOIS STATE TREASURER

MICHAEL W. FRERICHS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

April 19, 2023

CONTACT:

Eric Krol 312.814.1252  
Adriana Colindres 217.558.1920

## State Treasurer Michael Frerichs Pushes to Reunite Will County Residents with Unclaimed Property

*\$171.3 million in Will County Waiting  
to be Claimed Through I-Cash*

**JOLIET** – Illinois Treasurer Michael Frerichs is looking to reunite hundreds of thousands of **Will County residents with more than \$171.3 million** in unclaimed cash and property.

The money is waiting to be claimed under the office’s I-Cash program, which safeguards unpaid life insurance benefits, forgotten bank accounts and unused rebate cards until they can be returned to their rightful owner. In **Will County**, there are **more than 1 million** unclaimed properties.

“It’s often a surprise for people to find out they have an overlooked investment account or final paycheck through no fault of their own,” Frerichs said. “This money and property belong to the people of Illinois. It should be in their pocketbook rather than the state’s safe.”

Frerichs’ reminder is part of a statewide digital media, newspaper and direct mail push to reunite residents with more than \$3.5 billion in unclaimed property. State law requires the Illinois Treasurer’s Office to publish newspaper ads in all 102 Illinois counties every six months and to send letters to residents who have newly reported unclaimed property of \$100 or more.

An estimated one-in-four adults in Illinois who search I-Cash find unclaimed property, and the average claim is \$1,000. Treasurer Frerichs has returned a record more than \$1.6 billion in unclaimed property through more than 1.3 million claims during his tenure after he prioritized changes in technology, efficiency and state law to streamline the process.

-MORE-

Thousands of items are reported and remitted to the state annually, and residents are encouraged to check the unclaimed property database twice each year. Set up a reminder on your smart phone's calendar or fire up your computer and do a search when you change your smoke detector batteries every six months. Visit [www.illinoistreasurer.gov/ICASH](http://www.illinoistreasurer.gov/ICASH) to enter your name and find out if unclaimed property is waiting for you.

### **About the Illinois Treasurer**

As Illinois State Treasurer, Michael Frerichs is the state's Chief Investment and Banking Officer and actively manages approximately \$52 billion. The portfolio includes \$26 billion in state funds, \$17 billion in retirement and college savings plans and \$9 billion on behalf of local and state governments. Frerichs' office protects consumers by safeguarding more than \$3.5 billion in unclaimed property, encouraging savings plans for college or trade school, increasing financial education among all ages, assisting people with disabilities to save without losing government benefits, and removing barriers to a secure retirement. The Treasurer's Office predates Illinois incorporation in 1818. Voters in 1848 chose to make it an elected office.

**-END-**