Disclaimer

- We recommend not printing this before October 9
- Some of the following slides may be changed or even removed before first workshop on October 14 to fit in the allowed timeframe of 2.5 hours
- Additional slides may be added prior to the workshops
- Some slides may appear in the actual presentation that are not in this document for security reasons – as presentations and pdfs are posted on the website

Date of this version – October 2, 2025

1



2

• NC Association of County Commissioners • Matt Bigelow • NC Debt Setoff Clearinghouse • Bill Walsh • Alex Smith

2025 Debt 9	Setoff Training	Workshops
(25th Year)		

Tentative Schedule

□9:30 – 10:50 a.m.

□10:50 – 11:00 a.m. (Break)

□11:00 − 11:50

☐ 11:50 – noon (Questions)

Will not go beyond 12:00 – but will stay for questions/conversation



4

Virtual Version of Today's Workshop

- Online meeting for counties, agencies, municipalities, housing authorities and vendors
 - Wednesday, November 5, 2025: 9:30 11:30 a.m.
 - oRequires online registration

https://form.jotform.com/252386044788973

5

Excluded From Today's Agenda

- Client Software
 - Special 1 ½ hour online meeting for counties, agencies, municipalities and housing authorities
 - ○Wednesday, November 12: 10:00 11:30 a.m.
 - Requires online registration

https://form.jotform.com/252386044788973

New Participants

- No Longer a Separate Workshop Session:
- Did for nearly 20 years very few new municipalities, agencies and Housing Authorities remain
- New Participant Checklist:

 $\underline{\text{http://www.ncsetoff.org/NewParticipantChecklist.pdf}}$

■ Audio workshops on http://www.ncsetoff.org/Training.htm

New Participants - Startup (audio presentation 18:11 - 11/9/2020)
 Statute of Lim
 New Participants - Technical (audio presentation 18:50 - 11/9/2020)
 Statute of Lim
 Special Security

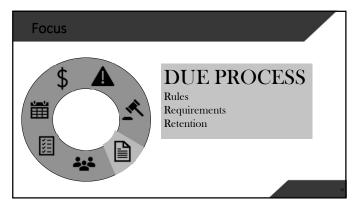
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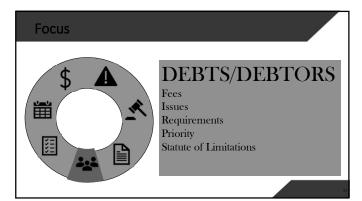
Training Workshop Purpose

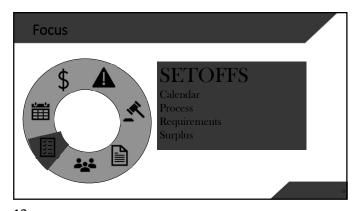
- Once a year opportunity for both new and returning users of debt setoff
 - Discuss security
 - Reiterate hearings, laws, regulations and requirements
 - Preparing for 2025 year-end
 - Preparing for upcoming 2026 tax year

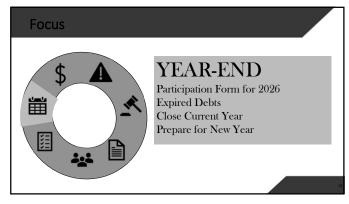
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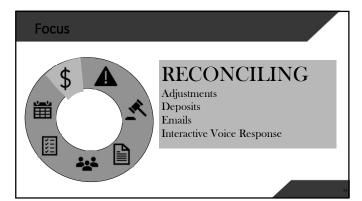


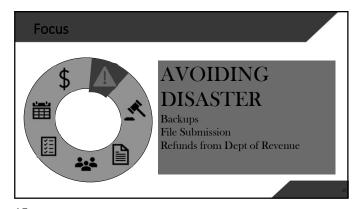


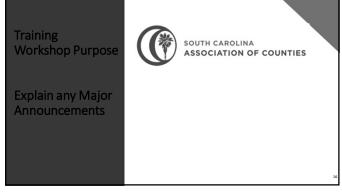












Clearinghouse changes since last year's workshop: Updated branding Enhanced website (in progress) Improved online forms for Participation Form, Workshop Registration, Contact Us and Client software requests using JotForm 2026 Participation form in a single form – no separate electronic signature required New client software update coming

17

Hearings — Basics (1of 3) • Hearing Officer: • Is rarely needed (most debtors do not receive and/or respond to letter) • Is required to be identified on the annual participation form • Can be the Debt Setoff Coordinator but an Attorney is recommended • Should be known to each participating department

Hearings - Basics (2 of 3)

- Hearing Officer:
- Must be Impartial
- Knows the Procedures
- Authority to compromise the debt
- No conflict
- Should not research the debtor or the debt
- Consider only evidence presented at the hearing to render decision
- Provide written decision to all parties

19

Hearings - Basics (3 of 3)

Hearing – Audio Presentation:

http://www.ncsetoff.org/Training.htm

4) Hearings (audio presentation 6:49 - 11/16/2020)

20

Due Process (1 of 6)

- Letters:
- Must be sent to last known address
- o Even if know letter will be returned
- Should forward to new address if obtained (creates new 30 day appeal period)

PROCESS

- Does not have to be sent certified
- Do NOT send BEFORE 60 days delinquent

Due Process (2 of 6)

- · Letters:
- Only have to be sent ONCE



- o Regardless of time debt remains in for collection
- o Amount can change, due to interest/fees
- If send again, or include with new debt, debtor may believe they have new appeal period

22

Due Process (3 of 6)

- Letters:
- Letterhead/envelope
- Must be of local government's, not thirdparty
- Contact information must be local government's
- Local government can refer callers to thirdnarty
- Spanish version not required







23

Due Process (4 of 6)

• Letters:

- Retain a copy of the letter for future proof (for as long as the debt is being submitted (even if using a vendor)
- Pdf recommended and save to external media and save according to retention records (debtors may ask/demand proof once setoff)

Letters: The Clearinghouse does NOT retain a copy of the due process letter, even if using our client software! Generated pdf resides on the local government computer Local governments are responsible for the proof of

25

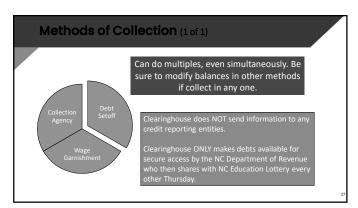
Due Process (6 of 6)

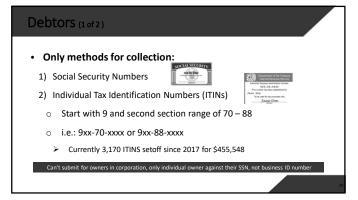
due process!

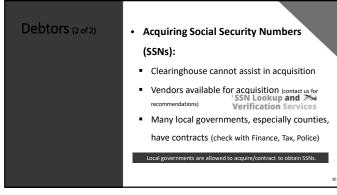
- Due Process Audio Presentation:
 - http://www.ncsetoff.org/Training.htm

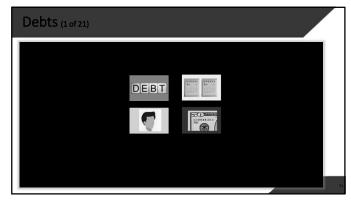
5) Due Process (audio presentation 6:30 - 11/16/2020)

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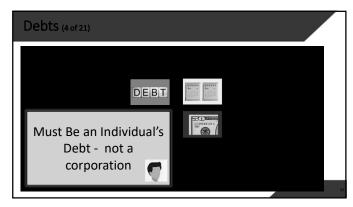




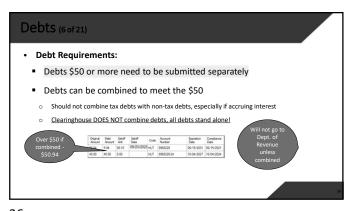


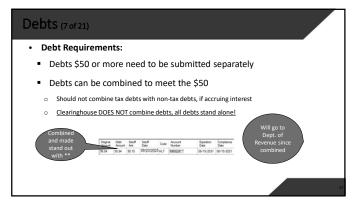


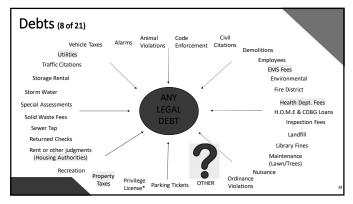












Statute of Limitations: Clearinghouse requires that debts submitted to the debt setoff program adhere to the following: When the due process letters are generated and sent, there is some type of proven activity (invoice/bill, payment) within 3 years for non-tax debts and 10 years for tax debts If so, debt does not have to expire Local government has discretion to be more restrictive and choose not to

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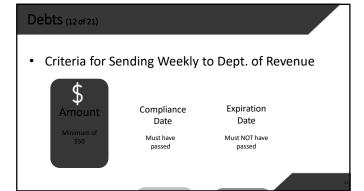
Debts (11 of 21)

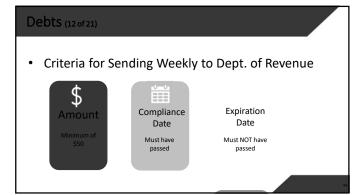
- Statute of Limitations Audio Presentation:
 - http://www.ncsetoff.org/Training.htm

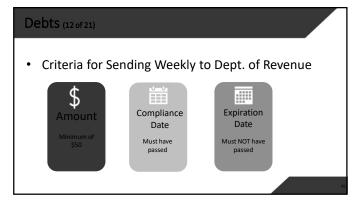
submit debts as far back or keep in for as long

6) Statute of Limitations (audio presentation 6:34 - 11/16/2020)

41







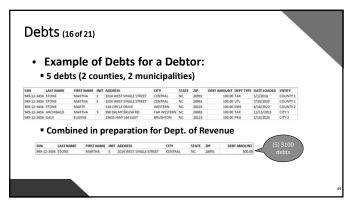
Debts (13 of 21)

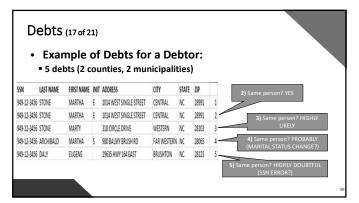
- Fees:
- Clearinghouse adds \$15 to EACH debt BEFORE sending weekly to the
 Dept. of Revenue (who forwards every two weeks to Education Lottery)
- Once a \$15 fee has been taken in a calendar year, no additional fee is added (reset to \$15 next year)
- DOR and Lottery legislated to take \$5 for <u>EACH</u> setoff
- Local governments cannot add their own collection fee!

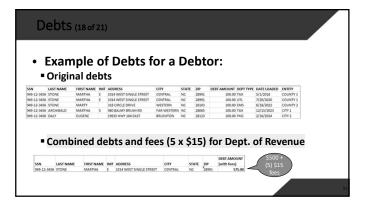
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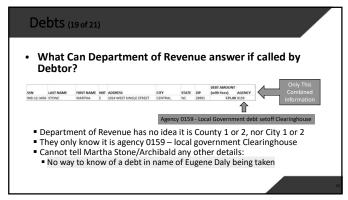
47

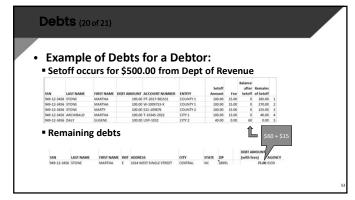
Debts (15 of 21) Details for Debts at Dept. of Revenue and Lottery: - Each SSN/ITIN sent with one combined debt amount, including fees ONLY ONE First Name, Middle Initial, Address and Debt Amount (no local govt. info provided) Clearinghouse uses oldest CURRENT submission of the Full Name with SSN/ITIN May not be the correct Name with this SSN/ITIN Dept. of Revenue no longer provides rejected lists











53

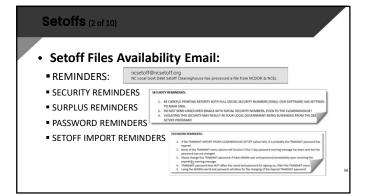
Debts (21 of 21)

- Submission to Clearinghouse:
- Can be submitted daily, file overwrites and remains on secure folder until Friday (or whenever download by Clearinghouse for weekly processing)
- Recommend at least weekly (every Friday afternoon suggested)
- Processed beginning early Monday morning, ends around noon
- Status results provided by email by Monday late morning to early afternoon
- Changes at local government MUST be transmitted to Clearinghouse to be adjusted at Dept. of Revenue (then shared with Education Lottery)

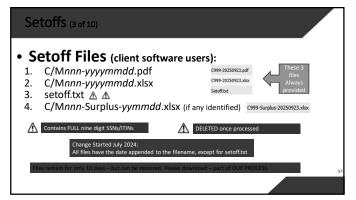
Setoffs (1 of 10)

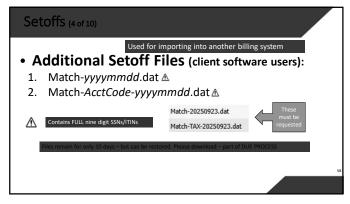
- Occur 21 22 times per year
- http://www.ncsetoff.org/DORCalendar.htm
- Usually 2nd and 4th Tuesdays
- Starts in February, ends mid-December
- Deposits from Department of Revenue and Education Lottery go directly into Capital Management
- Clearinghouse informs Capital Management how much to deposit into each local government account
- Must have a Capital Management account (starts with 47) to participate
- Clearinghouse can only direct deposits into ONE Capital management account
- Local governments can use reports and files to internally make deposits if multiple department/account codes

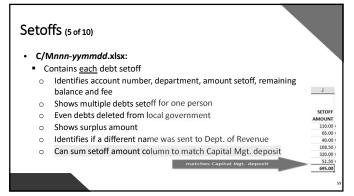
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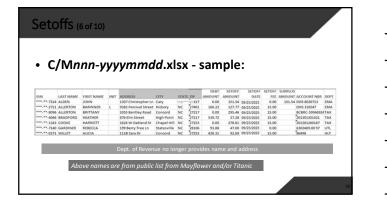


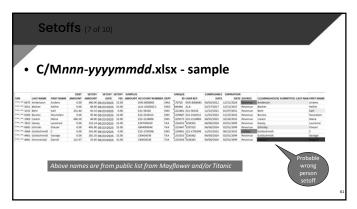
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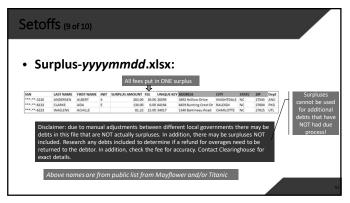




Setoffs (8 of 10)

- Surplus Excel File:
 - Contains debts setoff identified as a surplus:
 - o If recently paid and debt reduced to \$0.00
 - o If debt recently deleted in client software
 - o If debtor filed multiple refunds (amended/past years)
 - o If debtor collected on multiple lottery tickets
 - $\circ\quad \mbox{If setoff by BOTH Dept. of Revenue and Lottery}$
 - o If debt setoff but recently expired (review before refunding)

62



Setoffs (10 of 10)

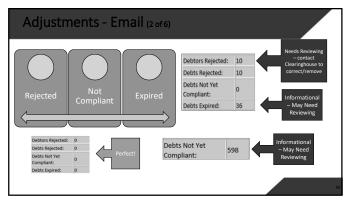
- · Setoff Information timeline:
- File information provided by Dept. of Revenue and Education Lottery (Tuesday) usually 2nd and 4th of the month
- Setoff files and reports available to local governments (Tuesday)
 Remain for 10 days please download as same file names used for next setoff!
- Deposit information provided to Capital Management (Wednesday)
- Deposit from Dept. of Revenue and Lottery to Capital Mgt. (Friday)
- Funds available to local governments from Capital Management (following Tuesday)

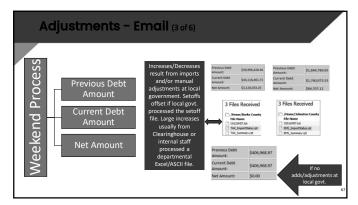
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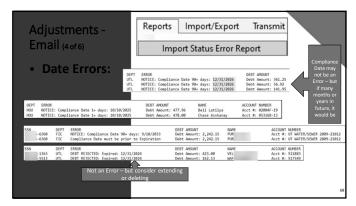
Adjustments -Email (1 of 6)

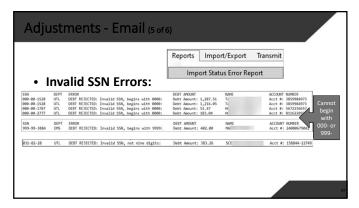
- Announcements
- Important Information
- Setoff Calendar
- Tips and Reminders
- Hours of Operation

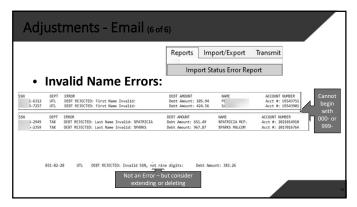
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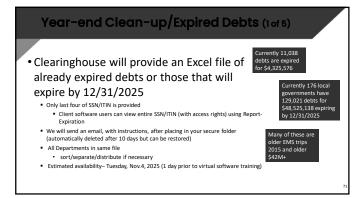


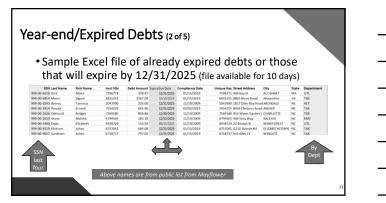




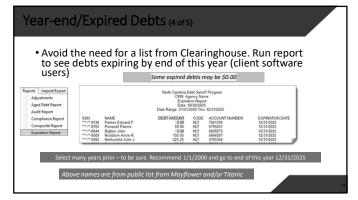


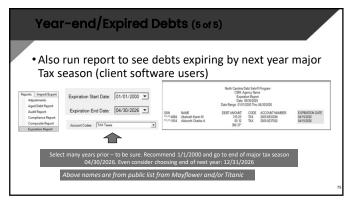


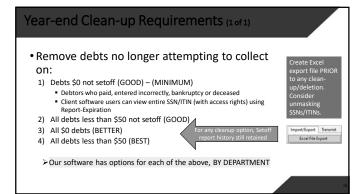










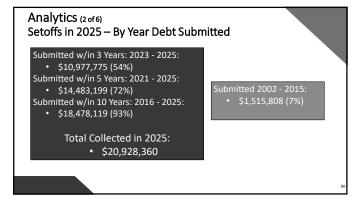






Analytics (1 of 6) Setoffs in 2025 – By Year Debt Submitted 3 / \$301 2015 2,272 / \$402,807 2016 4,100 / \$749,586 2005 0/\$0 2,703 / \$456,841 2017 2006 2/\$196 3,435 / \$613,833 2007 3 / \$170 2018 2019 6,418 / \$1,210,495 2008 0/\$0 6,952 / \$1,223,836 2009 6/\$996 2021 8,137 / \$1,582,786 2010 7 / \$834 335 / \$55,100 2022 10,166 / \$1,922,638 2011 2012 1,900 / \$336,086 2023 12,690 / \$2,475,736 2013 1,720 / \$312,585 2024 29,000 / \$5,973,352 2014 2,128 / \$406,733 2025 12,220 / \$2,528,687

79



80



Analytics (4 of 6) Largest 2025 Setoffs (Tax refu 1) \$9,320 (Tax) 2) \$7,077 (Tax) 3) \$6,665 (Utilities) 4) \$5,740 (Tax) 5) \$5,730 (Miscellaneous)

• Setoffs for 2025:

- **\$0.01 \$49.99: 10,646**
- \$50 \$199.99: 60,358 (27,165 paid in full)
- \$200 \$999: 35,939 (15,125 paid in full)
- \$1,000 \$4,999: 651 (416 paid in full)
- \$5,000 \$9,999: 5 (4 paid in full)
- \$10,000+: 0 setoff Average setoff for 2025: \$194.50

82

Analytics (5 of 6)

• What We Can't Provide:

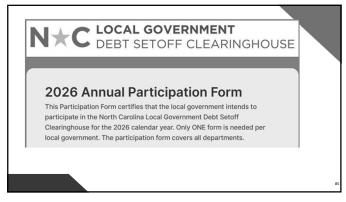
- How much debt has a local government submitted since a certain date
- Why?
- o Local governments are allowed as often as weekly to:
- Add new debts/replace entire departments, edit balances, delete from bankruptcies, death, etc.
- o Year end processes can remove expired debts, debts less than \$50

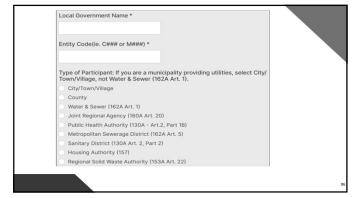
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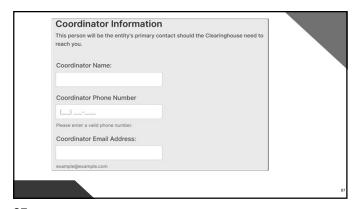
Analytics (6 of 6)

• What We Can't Provide - but might help:

- Statistics website:
- Shows Total Amount Submitted amount January 1 of current and past year
- Fiscal year report (using the software): REPORTS SETOFF REPORT
- Choose department and date range (calendar or fiscal)







Debtor Contact	
This person will be the primary contact when a debtor may be the same person as the coordinator.	r wishes to reach the entity. This
Contact Name:	
Contact Phone Number:	
(000) 000-0000	
Please enter a direct line phone number.	
Contact Email address:	
example@example.com	

Hearing Officer and Title/Position:			
What name and/or department should debtors be referred to when calling he Interactive Voice Response (IVR)?			
What telephone number should debtors be referred to when calling the nteractive Voice Response (IVR)?	or de	have separate of departments/gr bt type. Will ass each frustration is meone can ansy	oups for each ist callers and f can't reach
Phone Number must be to the local government, NOT the vendor!		about their	
lease enter a valid phone number.			
Would you like different contacts and phone numbers for different departments/types of debt?	EMS	Customer Services	919-555-1012
No - just 1 needed	Tax	Tax Office	919-555-1014
Yes- please contact Clearinghouse to discuss	HLT	Patient Billing	999-555-1061
Already set up - No changes needed at this time			ext. 345
	UTI	Susan	919-555-1876

89

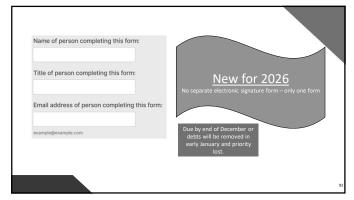
What is your current method for transmitting debts (if already participating)? OR What would you like to choose if you are not yet participating?

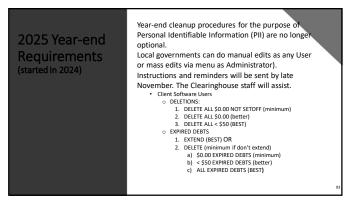
Client Software: Encrypted Data and Encrypted File Transfer (No Cost)

Secure Web Access: Encrypted File Transfers: ASCII ONLY (No Cost)

Hardcopy Forms by Secure Fax (No Cost)

Taxes - Property	Fines (library/other)	
Taxes - Vehicle	Housing	
Utilities	Inspections	Check what currently being submitted or
EMS	Landfill	anticipated soon, no need to resubmit if
Health	Loans	add or delete before next year's participation form.
Alarms	Maintenance (lawn,trees)	participation form.
	Nuisance	
Animal Violations	Ordinance Violations	
Assessments	Parking Tickets	
Civil Citations	Privilege license (debts prior	to 6/30/2015)
Code Enforcement	Returned Checks	
Demolitions	Sewer Tap	Other types of debt not listed above
Employees	Solid Waste	
Environmental	Storage Rental	
Elitholimontal	Storm Water	
	Traffic Citations	
	None (a new participant)	



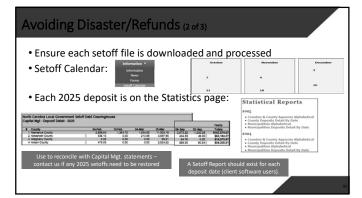


Avoiding Disaster/Refunds (1 of 3)

- Check Weekly Import Status Reports
 - Contact us if a substantial increase or decrease
- Process your setoff files check setoff calendar
- Transmit Updated Balances to Clearinghouse after changes to balances
 - Export to Clearinghouse-Debtor Information
- Check/reconcile Capital Mgt. deposits with Setoff Reports



94



95

Avoiding Disaster/Refunds (3 of 3)

- Ensure your I.T. is backing up your NCDebtsetoff database
- If lost or encrypted/locked via Ransomware
 - Clearinghouse can regenerate database with debtor balances currently at Clearinghouse
 - Un-recoverable data for local government:
 - ➤ Setoff history (Clearinghouse still retains)
 - ➤ Debt history/adjustments
 - ➤Users with logins and passwords
 - ➤ Letter settings

If new computer installed be sure to save NCDebtsetoff database (if used as server) AND pdfs of due process notification letters

place in line with new date first loaded –
occurred many times in 2025

Avoiding Security Issues (1 of 1)

- Never send a file with SSN/ITINs and protected identifiable information via email to us
 - We have secure folders for each local government
 - We can connect to your computer and view/assist
- Do not send an email with full SSN/ITINs
 - Call us for inquiries
- Delete ASCII and Excel files once imported into our client software

97

Avoiding Refunds Scenario (1 of 2)



- Debtor comes in to pay balance on a Monday
- Local government TRANSMITs balances to Clearinghouse next day (Tuesday)
- Clearinghouse processes local government balance file on Friday
- Clearinghouse creates weekly file for Dept. of Revenue on following Monday

98

**Avoiding Refunds Scenario (2 of 2)



- · Clearinghouse transmits to Dept. of Revenue prior to the weekly Tuesday deadline (10 a.m.)
- - Dept. of Revenue loads Clearinghouse file Tuesday evening
- Debtor who paid balance the previous Monday can now file tax refund (9 days later)
- - Debtor who paid balance the previous Monday can now claim a \$600+ lottery ticket

Interactive Voice Response (IVR) • Debtor receives letter from N.C. Department of Revenue with local government toll free number (877) 843-0330 to find out who has submitted debts · Local governments can list as many contacts as have debt types ■ Suggest a department/section or just first name - 3 tourismonton Montrales Territor Montrales

100

Refunds and Surpluses (1 of 2)

- REFUNDS are requested through NCACC or NCLM on behalf of the NC DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
 - Local government returns amount received (can restore debt amount)
 - NCACC/NCLM returns fee (if taken)
- SURPLUS occurs when more than amount owed by debtor was taken by Dept. of Revenue and/or Education Lottery (old legacy systems don't check to see if taken already)
- Debtor files multiple tax refunds in short period of time
 Debtor claims more than one lottery winning of \$600 or more in short period of time
- Debtor pays debt too soon (even AFTER) filling tax refund/claiming lottery winning
 Debt is setoff soon after debt expired (review before automatically refunding)
- · Surpluses (except \$15 fee only) provided in separate excel file with setoff information

- o Cannot apply surplus to other debts that haven't been given due processi

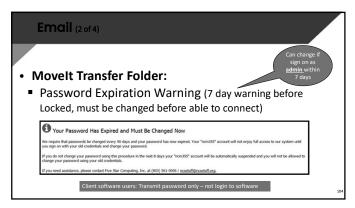
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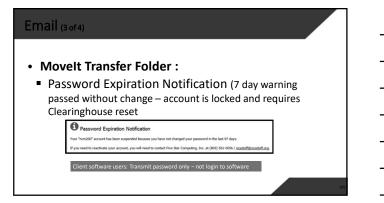
Refunds and Surpluses (2 of 2)

- Clearinghouse provides information regarding surpluses
- Excel file: C/M-Surplus-yyyymmdd.xlsx



- \bullet If a surplus-yyyymmdd.xlsx is provided, be sure someone downloads and
- Probably no need to refund the fee, if timing. However, if local government made an error, probably also need to refund Dept. of Revenue or Lottery \$5 fee





Email (4 of 4)

- To update either or both of these email lists:
- send email to <u>ncsetoff@ncsetoff.org</u> with additions,
 edits or deletions OR request a list of either or both
- If emails cease, ask your I.T. to whitelist:
 - ncsetoff.org

106

Clearinghouse Technical Support

- Monday Thursday: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fridays until 1 p.m.
 - Live toll-free support: (866) 265-1668
 - Conference calls (3 way) with Dept. of Revenue, vendors, I.T., etc.
 - Free remote support using Cisco WebEx
 - Debtor Inquiries current and past years (2018 present)
 - Client Software Support includes these and more:
 - o Change TRANSMIT password
 - o Import ASCII/Excel files from internal and/or vendors
 - \circ Generate notification letters and pdfs STORED ONLY AT YOUR LOCATION!
 - o Change Expiration and Compliance Dates, process Year-end clean-up
 - o Install software, upgrades, provide instructions and training
 - o Set-up and train new users
 - o Transfer encrypted database to new server (certification keys maintained by Clearinghouse)

107

Five Star Computing to SCAC (6 of 7)

• Email addresses

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Bill Walsh Operations Manager NC Local Government Debt Setoff Clearinghouse	ncsetoff@ncsetoff.org www.ncsetoff.org (866) 265-1668
Other Resources: N.C. Department of Revenue	(919) 814-1120
NC Education Lottery	(919) 301-3531 or 301-3331
Capital Management	(800) 222-3232