

# **4444444 Alabama Department of Revenue 4444444**

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**For Immediate Release**

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## **Refund Processing Completed; Payments Deposited**

*Montgomery, July 16, 1999*—The last individual income tax payment for timely-filed returns was deposited into the State Treasury Thursday, July 15, and all refund checks to taxpayers who filed error-free returns on or by April 15, have been mailed, announced State Revenue Commissioner James P. Hayes Jr.

“Over the last four weeks, we have concentrated **all** of our processing efforts on getting the timely-filed individual income tax payments deposited, and the job is done,” said Hayes.

Payment returns refer to those returns filed by Alabamians who owe additional taxes and payment is made by either personal check or certified funds.

Of the 1.7 million returns received by the department this year, almost one-half were received during the week of April 15.

“This year the department received some 387,434 payment returns during the period January through April 1999. On July 14, the last check was processed for deposit. Compared to the January through April 1998 filing season, the department has actually deposited 133,440 more timely-filed individual income tax payments this year than we did last year, and we were required to do so with fewer personnel,” explained Hayes.

“The 2000 filing season will arrive in less than six months. We have a mandate to better manage next year’s filing workload using our current resources, and we fully intend to do so. We will explore ways to revamp our current processing procedures so that we may deliver concurrent results of promptly getting refund checks to taxpayers and depositing tax payments.

Since programming resources are no longer exclusively dedicated to the department’s Year 2000 project, we will expand Alabama’s electronic filing program to include additional tax schedules, allowing more taxpayers to take advantage of electronic filing. This is the course we plan to follow to improve our processing efficiency.” said Hayes.