

Thank you all for working together to make a positive change for small businesses like ours.

We have been in business in Josephine County for 35 years as screen printers. We have been faithful at paying all taxes we have incurred during this time.

In September 2011 we had the opportunity to buy embroidery equipment after a successful business in Jackson County was sold and the purchasers defaulted. While Stephanie Mullens LLC, owned it from 2010 to to early 2011 they did not file Personal Property Tax, of course we knew nothing of this.

Our office received a letter from Jackson County on January 7, 2013 stating they had a correction on there tax roll for 2012/2013. We sent the letter back with a note stating we were the current owners, not the Mullens, and we did not have a forwarding address for them.

Immediately following this letters return, Jackson County Tax Collector sent us our first notice of taxes WE owed to them for the total of \$5,795.98!!! Imagine our reaction, after digging out of the worst economy in recent history.

We went right to work contacting Jackson County explaining how this could not be correct. Of course we were soon to find out that in Oregon, unpaid tax follows equipment, a law unknown to just about everyone you talk to.

After resigning ourselves to the thought of paying this outstanding tax we tried to work on paying the tax alone, opposed to paying interest accrued since 2010. It is hard enough to pay a tax you were unaware of but 16% interest on top of that is unbelievable. The tax totaled \$4,350.60, with an additional interest of \$1,347.38 and a \$98.00 fee.

In July of 2013 we printed shirts for Jackson Co and they diverted funds of \$1,364.20 to apply to our outstanding tax bill with them. We were continuing a dialog, trying to resolve this issue which as of June of 2014 they had us owing a balance of \$5,049.20, after applying our \$1,347.38.

This past year has been encouraging after the Jackson Co. Assessor, Joshua Gibson who's hands were tied, sent a letter to the Govener and all our Senators and Representatives of which Scott Jorgensen at Senator Whitsett office was most helpful and Ruth at the NFIB, was a great alai. Once this was looked into more fully, the injustice placed on many innocent tax paying people across the state was exposed. I am glad to hear you are attempting to make unpaid taxes more transparent to buyers of equipment, also that the local tax accessors will have the ability to work with the interest and penalties inherited by these purchases.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter.

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