

PUBLIC NOTICE PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SEC. 2254.1036
SAN JACINTO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
JUNE 14, 2025

WHEREAS, SAN JACINTO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT ("College"), will consider entering into a contingent fee contract with the law firm of Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins & Mott, L.L.P. ("Firm") and hereby posts this notice pursuant to Sec. 2254.106 of the Government Code.

WHEREAS, this notice shall be posted before or at the time of giving the written notice required by Government Code Sec. 551.041 for a meeting described by Sec. 2254.1036(2) of the Government Code and shall announce the following:

A. The College is pursuing a contract with the Firm for the collection of delinquent ad valorem taxes owed to the College and through this contract the College seeks to increase recovery of its delinquent taxes in as expeditious a manner as possible. GOVT. CODE § 2254.1036(1)(A).

B. The College believes the Firm has the competency, qualifications, and experience necessary to fulfill this contract. GOVT. CODE § 2254.1036(1)(B). The Firm has collected delinquent government receivables for over 50 years, including the collection of delinquent ad valorem taxes. The Firm currently has 15 primary offices and multiple satellite offices throughout Texas, Oklahoma, and Florida. It employs more than 400 individuals, including 55 attorneys. It uses a multi-office, fully integrated team approach allowing the College access to all its offices and resources. Its collection team consists of long-term Firm employees, including attorneys, call center associates, paralegals, law clerks, legal secretaries, collection support personnel and information technology experts. The Firm utilizes proprietary collection software that can be tailored to meet any special need the College may have. This proprietary software also automates many aspects of the collection process, such as: account/debtor research, mailings and phone calls, return mail and address updates, payment notification and processing and workflow.

C. The nature of any relationship between the College and the Firm is as follows. GOVT. CODE § 2254.1036(1)(C). The Firm has not previously represented the College in the collection of delinquent ad valorem taxes.

D. The College is unable to perform collection of its delinquent ad valorem taxes. GOVT. CODE § 2254.1036(1)(D). The College currently does not have adequate support staff, computer software/programming, or experience to internally conduct these collection services and acquiring these will result in substantial expense to the College.

E. These collection services cannot be provided for an hourly fee. GOVT. CODE § 2254.1036(1)(E). The Tax Code allows the assessment of a percentage-based fee to recover the costs of collecting delinquent ad valorem taxes. This percentage-based fee is assessed only against the debtor and not the College or taxpayers of the College. The collection of delinquent ad valorem taxes is a high-volume practice, requiring a significant amount of research, mailing, and handling of outbound/inbound calls. An hourly fee for such work will likely exceed the amount of delinquent ad valorem taxes due. Moreover, the College will bear the cost of these hourly fees and not the debtor, because the Tax Code does not expressly authorize the College to pay for collection services based on an hourly fee.

F. The College believes this contingent fee contract is in its best interest. GOVT. CODE § 2254.1036(1)(F). Under the contingent fee contract, the Firm will be paid the amount of the percentage-based collection fee, regardless of the number of hours the Firm spends researching, contacting, and mailing to collect the delinquent debts. Additionally, the percentage-based collection penalty is a pass-through expense to the debtor and not an expense to the College or taxpayers of the College.

Certification as to Posting or Giving of Notice

On this day, June 14, 2025, this notice was posted to the College's website, on a bulletin located at a place convenient to the public at the administrative building of the San Jacinto Community College District, 4624 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, Texas, and is readily accessible to the public upon request.

Brenda Hellyer, Ed.D.

Note: Any questions regarding this public notice can be directed to Mandi Reiland, Manager of Executive Operations for the Chancellor and Board of Trustees at mandi.reiland@sjcd.edu.