

# News Release

## Fairgoers to Search for Unclaimed Property at the Maryland State Fair

*Marylanders encouraged to check out Comptroller's booth during remaining weekends at Maryland State Fair Exhibition Hall*

**TIMONIUM, Md. (August 29, 2024)** — Visitors to the Maryland State Fair will have the opportunity to search for their Unclaimed Property during the remaining weekends of the Maryland State Fair: Thursday, August 29 through Labor Day Monday, September 2; and Thursday, September 5 through Sunday, September 8. The Comptroller of Maryland Booth will be located inside of the Maryland State Fair Exhibition Hall.

“I encourage everyone to take a moment while having fun at the state fair to stop by our Unclaimed Property booth to check to see if you or a loved one may have unclaimed funds,” **Comptroller Brooke E. Lierman** said. “The funds, totaling more than \$1 billion in unclaimed property since 2007, includes money held by financial institutions, insurance companies and corporations that are required to report bank accounts, contents of safety deposit boxes, wages, insurance benefits, security deposits, stock dividends and other funds. In Maryland, there is no time limit to claim the property so you or your legitimate heirs may claim the funds at any time.”

Members of the Comptroller of Maryland staff will be on hand at Exhibition Hall to assist fairgoers to search the Unclaimed Property database for assets held by the state.

In fiscal year 2024, the Maryland State Comptroller’s Unclaimed Property Division brought in \$267 million in unclaimed property from businesses and organizations and returned \$60 million to rightful owners. For more than 50 years, Maryland has received and safeguarded forgotten funds, including uncashed checks, insurance proceeds, stocks, dividends, financial accounts, savings bonds, and valuable items like jewelry left in forgotten safety deposit boxes.

The Exhibition Hall at the Maryland State Fairgrounds will be open on Thursdays from 5 to 9 p.m. and on Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and Labor Day Monday from 10 a.m. to 9

p.m. The Office of the Comptroller also provides a free online search tool. To learn more about unclaimed property and to use the state's free online search tool, visit <https://www.marylandtaxes.gov/unclaimed-property/>.

Claims can be filed online, and claimants should follow all instructions that fit their circumstances. Once a claim is received, the Unclaimed Property Division will review the claim and determine if additional information is needed. Claims processing can take up to 18 weeks, but the Comptroller is prioritizing modernization efforts to streamline the process and reduce processing times.

For more information about the Maryland State Fair, go to [www.marylandstatefair.com](http://www.marylandstatefair.com).

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