



**SCOTT MEACHAM
OKLAHOMA STATE TREASURER**

For Immediate Release: October 7, 2008

**More Than \$400,000 in Unclaimed Property Found
During 2008 Tulsa State Fair**

OKLAHOMA CITY — Cash and stock worth more than \$400,000 was found for 775 people attending the 2008 Tulsa State Fair, State Treasurer Scott Meacham announced today. The money was found for fair goers who visited the treasurer’s “Pot of Gold” booth in the Expo Center.

As administrator of Oklahoma’s unclaimed property program, Meacham has more than \$260 million for more than 350,000 people.

The \$417,817 was found by treasurer’s workers with laptop computers who conducted 8,415 searches at this year’s fair. This was the fourth consecutive year the office operated the booth at the Tulsa fair.

“Even though the fair is over, Oklahomans can still search for unclaimed property on our web site, www.treasurer.ok.gov,” Meacham said. “The odds of an Oklahoman having unclaimed property is about one-in-ten, much better odds than winning the lottery!”

Earlier this year, Meacham and staff found more than \$400,000 for more than 500 visitors to the Oklahoma State Fair in Oklahoma City. Since first setting up the booths at the two major state fairs, a total of \$3.3 million has been found for 8,300 people.

The largest amount found at the Tulsa fair was almost \$40,000 in liquidated stock for a Tulsa couple.

Examples of unclaimed property include bank accounts, security deposits, old paychecks, overpayments, royalties, rebates, stock and bonds. The contents of abandoned safe deposit boxes are also included.

The cash and property are turned over to the State Treasurer’s office when the businesses holding them lose track of the owners. Treasurer Meacham’s Unclaimed Property Division then publishes the names, operates an online search engine at www.treasurer.ok.gov and conducts other outreach, such as booths at the two major state fairs, to help find the owners.

Meacham said he plans to operate the booth at next year’s fairs in Tulsa and Oklahoma City.

###

For more information contact:

Tim Allen, Deputy Treasurer for Policy and Administration, (405) 522-4212