



Pam Bondi Attorney General

Seniors vs Crime

A Special Project of the Florida Attorney General

SVC Case File AL00395

*Region Four
Alachua County Sheriff's Office
PO Box 5489
Gainesville, FL 32627-5489
352- 367- 4023*

April 17, 2014

Kathy Sterling, Supervisor
Gainesville Regional Utilities
c/o Back Office
301 SE 4th Avenue
Gainesville, FL 32601
(352) 393-6898

Dear Supervisor Sterling:

Our office has been asked to research a complaint by Mr. James Konish of Gainesville, FL involving GRU's 10% municipal and county tax upon its fixed residential "Electric Customer Charge" (ECC). Mr. Konish presents to this office that the 10% tax allowed by Florida statute 166.231(1)(a) relating to electricity is allowed only upon the purchase of electric power by a person who will consume it within the municipality.

Research by this office finds the 10% tax is and has been charged against residential ECCs, which GRU identifies as a non-consumption charge. This tax is known and itemized on residential bills as either "Gainesville Elec Util Tax" or "County Elect Util Tax." The concern raised by this office's research is whether the ECC qualifies as a "purchase of electric power" or whether the ECC is a fixed non-consumption charge and thereby not a purchase of electric power subject to the 10% tax.

This office would appreciate hearing from you by U.S. Mail regarding the above within the next 30 days. In the alternative, Mr. Konish is seeking a refund or billing credit within the next billing cycle of \$40.41 for the 10% tax charged against his ECC from November 2010 through March 2014.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

File copy

John Caravella
SVC Office Manager

via U.S. Certified Return Receipt Mail
#7013 1710 0000 7704 6833

PREVENTING VICTIMIZATION AND PROVIDING A WAY FOR SENIORS TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE SAFETY OF ALL FLORIDIANS