



As your Property Appraiser, it is my responsibility to ensure that all residential, commercial, and tangible personal property are valued correctly and to assist our residents in receiving tax saving exemptions. This makes certain that property owners pay only their fair share of property taxes – no more, no less. In these newsletters, I explain the requirements of the common exemptions available to qualified individuals beyond simply Homestead Exemption. It should be noted that further exemptions beyond those listed below exist. For a full list of exemptions, please visit our website at www.bcpa.net and click on "Homestead & Other Exemptions". While the timely filing for exemptions is March 1, you may still late file up until September 18, 2017 for these exemptions.

Low-income Senior Citizen Exemption

The filing period is January 1 through March 1 of each year. Applicants must be 65 years of age or older as of January 1 (even if other household members are under age 65), have the Homestead Exemption on the property, and the total household adjusted gross income for last year (2016) must not exceed \$28,841. This exemption must be applied for annually. Once you qualify for the initial year, the renewal process each year is simple.

\$500 Widow / Widower's Exemption

Provide a copy of your spouse's death certificate, newspaper obituary, or memorial card. You are not eligible if you remarry. This exemption will save you approximately \$10 each year in taxes.

\$500 Disability / Blindness Exemption

Provide one letter from a Florida physician stating you are "totally and permanently disabled" or a certificate from the Florida Division of Blind Services or the US Department

of Veterans Affairs certifying the applicant to be legally blind. Unlike the Full Exemption (see below), this disability/blindness exemption has no household income requirement. It will save you approximately \$10 each year in taxes.



Lisa, a hardworking BCPA Outreach Specialist, assisting residents.

Full Exemption for Totally and Permanently Disabled Persons

Provide certificates from two licensed doctors of this state or a certificate from the US Department of Veterans Affairs. To be entitled to this exemption, you must be a (1) quadriplegic or (2) paraplegic, hemiplegic or other totally and permanently disabled person who must use a wheelchair for mobility or who is legally blind. For persons entitled to this exemption under number two (2) above, the prior year (2016) gross income of all persons residing in or upon the homestead shall not exceed \$28,115. This amount is adjusted annually and a statement of gross income must accompany the application.



Assisting Our Community

Since becoming Property Appraiser on January 3, my office has worked tirelessly to educate all members of our community through outreach events and social media. We have met with many property owners from January 3 to March 1:

Visitors in Main Office: 8,202
Community Outreach: 4,801

Applications for 2017

Homestead Exemption: 16,864
Non-Profit: 2,169
Portability: 7,512
Senior: 15,892
Veteran / Military: 2,215
Pre-Filed for 2018
Homestead Exemption: 542

Portability: 112

I look forward to providing you with important information in the coming months. If my office can ever be of assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at (954) 357-6904 or by email at martykiar@bcpa.net.

Take care,

Marty Kiar, Broward County Property Appraiser