



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 who is entitled to common exemptions, and who is not. For full information on exemptions please visit our website at [www.bcpa.net](http://www.bcpa.net) or call us at 954-357-6904

### **Stop Homestead Fraud**

Property owners should only pay their fair share of property taxes. If they are entitled to an exemption they are not getting, then they are paying too much in property taxes and not their fair share. Conversely, any property owners receiving an exemption they are not entitled to, are paying too little in property taxes and not their fair share. If someone is deceptive in an attempt to lower his or her taxes by claiming an exemption he or she is not entitled to, someone else has to make up the difference.

Our office aggressively seeks to stop Homestead fraud. The Department of Professional Standards and Compliance works with city governments, homeowner and civic associations, and concerned members of the public to help identify tax fraud. Since October 6, 2004 the Broward County Property Appraiser Office has backed-taxed property owners not paying their fair share \$77,458,906.54 and Broward County Revenue has collected \$53,336,099.24.

Since I took office in January 2017, we have investigated 2,617 reported cases of potential fraud resulting in 1,313 non-qualifying exemptions being removed from the tax roll and have backed-taxed property owners not paying their fair share \$352,415.79. Most importantly our office's fight against Homestead fraud over the last decade has put billions of dollars of value back on the tax rolls ensuring that all properties are treated fairly across the board.

Once reported, our office will fully investigate each Homestead Exemption to ensure the owner is entitled to this savings. Property owners who intentionally cheat on Homestead Exemption can be back-taxed for as many as ten years, plus be required to pay a substantial penalty and annual interest.



Our anti-fraud work makes sure everyone pays their fair share and helps keep your taxes down. If you believe you have reliable information about someone engaging in Homestead fraud, (you may remain confidential) please call our investigators at (954)357-6900 and we'll check it out.

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](mailto:martykiar@bcpa.net)

Take care,

Marty Kiar, Broward County  
Property Appraiser