

It has been one year since I was sworn into office as your Broward County Property Appraiser. It is a true honor to serve Broward's 1.9 million residents and all nonresident Broward property owners. To learn more about me, please visit http://www.bcpa.net/Marty.asp

## WHAT WE DO

The Broward County Property Appraiser's Office does not set or collect your property taxes, but determines the value of all residential properties, commercial properties and tangible personal property in Broward County. This is important because the amount of property taxes you pay is determined by your local tax rates and the taxable value of your property.

Among other important functions, our office grants property tax-saving exemptions such as Homestead Exemption, Veteran Exemptions, Disability Exemptions, and Additional Low Income Senior Exemption to qualified individuals, as well as apply an Agricultural Classification for land meeting the specific requirements.

If you qualify for any of these valuable exemptions, we are going to and make sure you receive everything you are entitled to under the law. Should you have questions regarding any of these exemptions, please contact our Customer Service Department at 954.357.6830.

## DOES MY HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION AUTOMATICALLY RENEW?

After your initial application for Homestead Exemption has been made and the exemption approved by our office, it automatically renews each year unless there is a change of ownership or eligible use of the property. Each January our office mails a Homestead Renewal Notice and "Change-Card" to all Homesteaded properties. This card allows property owners to verify the status, use, and ownership of the property has not changed. Florida law requires the property owner to notify the Property Appraiser of any change of property use or ownership status.

If there are **NO** changes to the use and/or ownership of the property, simply keep the card as your receipt verifying you were automatically renewed for another year. However, if there are changes, please mark the Change Card accordingly and return it to our office. Here is the link to the Homestead Exemption Renewal/Change Card: <a href="http://www.bcpa.net/forms/changecard.pdf">http://www.bcpa.net/forms/changecard.pdf</a>

Included along with the renewal card is our BCPA newsletter highlighting the Homestead Exemption requirements for new property owners as well as other available tax-saving exemptions for qualified individuals. Here is the link to the newsletter outlining these exemptions: <a href="http://www.bcpa.net/Forms/Newsletter.pdf">http://www.bcpa.net/Forms/Newsletter.pdf</a>

If you are a surviving spouse or otherwise believe you are entitled to an exemption, you must file your own Homestead Exemption application to receive the benefit. If you have any questions relating to the death of the owner, the Change Card or need assistance in filing for Homestead or

other tax-saving exemptions, please visit our website at <a href="www.bcpa.net">www.bcpa.net</a> or contact our Customer Service Department at 954.357.6830.

## **COMMUNITY OUTREACH - 1,022 EVENTS IN 2017**

Each week, the Broward County Property Appraiser's Community Outreach Department visits all areas of Broward to assist the public with available tax-saving exemptions, property assessments and other important matters related to their property. These exemptions result in considerable savings for the homeowner. Over the last year, our BCPA Community Outreach team attended 822 events and I have personally spoken at 200 community and homeowner meetings. Going out into our Broward community more than 1,000 times has enabled our office to help tens of thousands of residents. I am incredibly proud of the progress we have made in the first year.

For a list of the 2018 community outreach events, please view our outreach calendar at <a href="http://www.bcpa.net/Events.asp">http://www.bcpa.net/Events.asp</a> If you would like a BCPA representative to attend one of your community meetings, please contact Michael Clark at <a href="mailto:mclark@bcpa.net">mclark@bcpa.net</a> to schedule.

If my office can ever be of assistance to you, please visit our website at www.bcpa.net, call us at 954-357-6830 or email me directly at <a href="martykiar@bcpa.net">martykiar@bcpa.net</a>

Take care,

Marty Kiar

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