



Sacramento County
Office of the Assessor
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NO CHARGE FOR FILING HOMEOWNER'S EXEMPTION CLAIM FORM

The Assessor's Office does not charge for filing the Homeowner's Exemption claim form, nor is there any charge for the form itself. Yet, in recent weeks, Sacramento County home owners have been receiving advertisements from one or more independent companies who charge a fee for providing the property owner with a completed homeowner's exemption claim form to file with the Assessor.

Assessor Kenneth D. Stieger would like to alert the public to the fact that these private companies are not affiliated with the Assessor in any way, nor is there any requirement that their services be used in order to file a Homeowners' Exemption claim. Any property owner who wishes, may file a claim directly with the Assessor at no charge and without using the service offered by these businesses.

Before taking any action, we suggest that owners who have received these ads first examine the annual property tax bill copy mailed to them in October. If the Homeowners' Exemption line shows any amount other than zero, they have the exemption and no further action is necessary. **It should be noted that buyers of residential properties are automatically sent claim forms by this Office.**

In any event, anyone who thinks they may need to file for the Homeowner's Exemption can call **(916) 875-0710, between 9 am and 4 pm**, to request a claim form.

The Homeowners' Exemption reduces the assessed value of an owner-occupied residence by a maximum of \$7000, and results in an annual savings of about \$70 in property tax. It is available to the owner of any type of property that they both own and occupy as their principal place of residence.

To qualify for the exemption, you must own and occupy a property as your principal place of residence on January 1 or within 90 days after the date the property was acquired, or new construction was completed. Once approved, the exemption stays in place unless you record a change in the title to the property. You are entitled to no more than one Homeowners' Exemption within the State of California.

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