



NEWS *from* JEFFREY PRANG

LOS ANGELES COUNTY ASSESSOR

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\$30 MILLION DOLLARS IN TAX SAVINGS UNCLAIMED BY LA COUNTY HOMEOWNERS

How homeowners can save on their property taxes

LOS ANGELES, CA – Over \$30 million dollars' worth of property tax savings go unclaimed each year by eligible homeowners in the County of Los Angeles. In an effort to raise awareness among the estimated 435,000 homeowners who likely qualify for the savings, Los Angeles County Assessor Jeffrey Prang along with the Board of Supervisors have declared the month of January as Homeowners' Exemption Awareness Month.



“It is not surprising that the savings program goes unnoticed as homeowners usually only contact the Office when they are buying or selling their property. Being that they are already inundated with paperwork, our application can easily get lost in the shuffle,” said Assessor Prang.

This is how it works: This exemption reduces a property’s taxable assessed value by \$7,000, resulting in a \$70 savings on the annual tax bill. Homeowners need only apply once in order to receive the savings each year or until a change in ownership is recorded. The only eligibility

requirement is that the property is the owners’ principal place of residence as of January 1st.

“We estimate that one in three families do not take advantage of saving \$70 each year, totaling almost \$1,000 over the average length of homeownership. This savings can potentially go towards investing in easy home improvements such as, purchasing a new water heater or installing new sprinklers. I encourage every homeowner to apply,” said Assessor Prang.

In addition to County efforts, Assessor Prang is partnering with local cities to facilitate similar outreach, focusing on those with the highest percentage of unclaimed exemptions.

As displayed in Table 1, the number of homeowners who do not take advantage of the program is concerning. In the City of Palmdale for example, 14,095 likely eligible homeowners have not filed, leaving just under \$1 million in unclaimed exemptions. For a complete list of all 88 cities and the number of unclaimed exemptions, contact Special Assistant Angelina Romero at PIO@assessor.lacounty.gov or by calling 213-974-3101.

TOP TEN CITIES WITH HIGHEST PERCENT OF UNCLAIMED HOMEOWNERS' EXEMPTION		
CITY	TOTAL SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCES	PERCENT <u>NOT</u> CLAIMED
PALMDALE	30,605	46.05%
LANCASTER	28,014	44.09%
LYNWOOD	6,856	41.57%
POMONA	20,956	40.96%
SOUTH GATE	10,308	39.91%
NORWALK	17,976	39.36%
COMPTON	13,350	38.83%
SAN FERNANDO	3,147	38.74%
SANTA FE SPRINGS	3,293	38.11%
PARAMOUNT	4,581	36.83%

Table 1: Los Angeles County Office of the Assessor

For questions regarding the [Homeowners' Exemption Application](#) form and filing information, please call 213-974-3415.

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