



OFFICE OF
PLACER COUNTY ASSESSOR

NEWS RELEASE

BRUCE DEAR
ASSESSOR

2980 Richardson Drive
Auburn, CA 95603-2640
Telephone (530) 889-4300
FAX (530) 889-4305

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CONSUMER ALERT FROM THE ASSESSOR NO CHARGE FOR FILING HOMEOWNER'S EXEMPTION CLAIM

In recent days, Placer County home owners have again been receiving advertisements from Property Tax Assessor Records Corp. (PTARC), a private company. For a fee, the Chicago company will provide the property owner with a completed homeowner's exemption claim form to file with the Assessor.

The Assessor's Office does not charge for filing the Homeowner's Exemption claim form. Assessor Bruce Dear would like to alert the public to the fact that this private company is 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 may file a claim directly with the Assessor at no charge and without using the service offered by this business.

Before taking any action, Dear suggests that owners who have received these ads first examine the annual property tax bill 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 the Assessor's Office.

Anyone who thinks they may need to file for the Homeowner's Exemption can call (530) 889-4300, between 8 am and 5 pm, to request a claim form.

The Homeowners' Exemption reduces the assessed value of an owner-occupied residence by a maximum of \$7,000. The exemption results in an annual savings of about \$70 in property tax. It is available to the owner of property when ownership is combined with occupancy of property as the 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.

Bruce Dear
Placer County Assessor