

Larry BARTLETT Volusía County Property Appraíser



Helpful Information

Dear Taxpayer,

The TRIM (<u>TR</u>uth <u>In Millage</u>) notice has an abundance of information about your property's value and the taxes (millage) applied to it by the various taxing authorities in your location. It can be difficult to understand all the rates and numbers shown on the TRIM notice, so we have created a tool on our website that may make things easier to understand.

To learn more, please go to vcpa.vcgov.org and click on the link "Understanding your TRIM notice".

For further information, our experienced staff of Exemption Specialists and Appraisers are available to answer your questions. Just call us at any of the numbers shown at the bottom of this page.

Sincerely,

Larry Bartlett

Important Dates

Jan 1 – Date of assessment

March 1 – Deadline to file exemption applications

August – TRIM notices are mailed

November – Tax bills are mailed

Value Adjustment Board

Every taxpayer has a right to disagree with our valuations. If you feel the value of your property is not accurate or if you are entitled to an exemption or classification that is not reflected on your TRIM notice, we encourage you to call or stop by one of our offices and speak with an Appraiser or Exemption Specialist to discuss your concerns. If we are unable to resolve the issue, you may file a petition for adjustment with the Value Adjustment Board. Petition forms are available from our office or online through www.volusia.org/vab. The deadline for filing a petition is in bold print and highlighted in yellow on the back page of your TRIM notice.

Volusia County Property Appraiser - Office Locations and Phone Numbers

DeLand 123 W. Indiana Ave., Rm 102 (386) 736-5901 **Daytona Beach** 250 N. Beach St., Rm 109 (386) 254-4601 New Smyrna Beach 113 E. Canal St. (386) 423-3315 Orange City 2742-A Enterprise Rd. (386) 775-5257

Contact us by EMAIL: vcpa@volusia.org Visit our WEBSITE:

vcpa.vcgov.org

One of my roles as Property Appraiser is to make sure that eligible taxpayers get the full benefit of all the exemptions to which they are entitled.

Attention New Homeowners

You may qualify for significant tax savings with a homestead exemption. Homeowners applying for this exemption must own and occupy their Volusia County home as their permanent residence prior to January 1st. This exemption will reduce your assessed value up to \$25,000. An additional homestead exemption up to \$25,000 is also available to those whose homes have an assessed value of more than \$50,000.

The homestead exemption is not automatically applied to your new home, so I urge you to complete an application with our office before the filing deadline of March 1, 2018.

If you are moving from a previous Florida homestead to a new Florida homestead, you may be able to transfer, or "port," all or part of your homestead assessment difference.

Are You 65 or Older?



The low income senior homestead exemption was approved in 1998 as an amendment to the Florida Constitution, and authorizes counties and municipalities to adopt an ordinance allowing an additional homestead exemption to persons who are 65 or older and whose household adjusted income does not exceed the income limitation of \$28,841 (for 2017).



Visit our website at <u>vcpa.vcgov.org</u>, then click on the Exemptions tab. Click the links to view important information and qualification requirements for each exemption category.

Totally and Permanently Disabled First Responders

Amendment 3 was approved in the 2016 general election and amends the Florida Constitution to allow the Legislature to provide ad valorem tax relief on homestead property for a first responder, who is totally and permanently disabled because of an injury sustained in the line of duty while working for a Florida Agency. This exemption may also carry over to the benefit of the surviving spouse.

Veterans with a Service-Connected Disability

Any ex-service member who is a permanent resident of Florida as of January 1st and was disabled by at least 10% during wartime active duty or by other service-connected injury is entitled to a \$5,000 exemption.

Veterans who are permanent Florida residents and are 65 years of age or older with a combat-related disability, may be eligible to receive an additional property tax discount based upon their percentage of service-connected disability.

Veterans with a service-connected total and permanent disability, surviving spouses of qualifying veterans and spouses of Florida resident veterans who died from service-connected causes while on active duty may be entitled to an exemption on property used and owned as a homestead.

Please call or stop by one of our offices for more information and/or other exemptions that may be available to you. Our office locations and phone numbers are shown on the reverse side of this newsletter.