



CONSUMER ALERT

PROPERTY TAX REDUCTION SCAMS

Companies using official-sounding names like "Tax Review," "Tax Adjusters" and "Tax Reassessment" seek to scam homeowners who are worried about their property taxes and declining property values. They send misleading mailers that look like official government agency documents to trick you into sending them money to try to lower your property taxes. They also use addresses like "Regional Processing Center" to make you think the mail is coming from a government agency. Sometimes, they threaten to impose a late fee if you don't send them money by a certain date.

Don't be fooled. Government agencies don't charge for tax reassessment—it's free. If your property has declined in value and you think your property tax is incorrect, you can request a review of your property from your local tax assessor. For more information, contact your county tax assessor's office.

What you can do to avoid becoming a victim:

- DON'T PAY MONEY FOR SOMETHING YOU DID NOT ASK FOR.**
- CONTACT YOUR COUNTY ASSESSOR'S OFFICE DIRECTLY, DON'T PAY FOR A MIDDLEMAN.**

IF YOU ARE A VICTIM OF THIS SCAM, you can file a complaint with the Attorney General's Public Inquiry Unit at www.ag.ca.gov/consumers or by writing to P.O. Box 944255, Sacramento, CA 94244.

2010 PROPERTY TAX REDUCTION FORM

PROPERTY TAX ADJUSTERS
REGIONAL PROCESSING CENTER
11856 BALBOA BLVD STE 281
GRANADA HILLS, CA 91344

ASSESSOR'S ID NO: 405-113-015

SAMPLE



PROPOSED SAVINGS	
Est. Savings Up To:	\$875
DATE	
Due Before:	12/31/2009

Detach and mail the reverse side in the enclosed envelope

Notice for Contra Costa County Property Owners: Patu Too, Lele F

Property values continue to drop. If you filed for Property Tax Reduction in 2009 you need to file again in 2010 due to the continued drop in property values.

Your property qualifies for tax reduction review. Public records indicate that the property purchased, transferred, or refinanced on 11/4/2008 at 114 Christine Dr may be over assessed for tax purposes.

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION AND PROFILE

Response due by
12/31/2009

Your proposed assessed value is shown in the column below

ASSESSOR'S ID NO:

405-113-015

PROPERTY LOCATION
AND/OR PROPERTY
DESCRIPTION

114 Christine Dr
San Pablo CA 94806-1104

ASSESSMENT FOR 2010 TAX ROLL

Current Assessment:

\$175,000

Proposed Assessment:

\$105,000

EST. TAX SAVINGS:

\$875

PROPERTY TAX ADJUSTERS FEE:

\$189.00

Note:

Upon receipt of
your Signed
Authorization and
Fee, our updated
data will be used
for the preparation
of your Appeal
Application

California law requires the Contra Costa County Assessor to provide Property Tax Relief for taxpayers when the assessed value of their property exceeds the market value.

Our records show an Over-Assessed Value of \$70,000 and that Property Tax Adjusters has not filed a current REQUEST FOR PROPERTY TAX RE-ASSESSMENT. At your request, Property Tax Adjusters will file an application requesting Contra Costa County to lower your property taxes. Property Tax Adjusters is not a government agency.

The County Assessor may have reviewed and reduced the assessed value of homes purchased after July 1, 2002. However, our evaluation suggests that you may still be paying too much on your property taxes. At your request, Property Tax Adjusters will apply for a reduction in your property taxes as it is your right as a homeowner to pay the correct amount on your property tax.

**TO ASSURE PROMPT PROCESSING RETURN THE SIGNED AUTHORIZATION FORM
NO LATER THAN 12/31/2009.**

Refund Policy: If for any reason Property Tax Adjusters is unable to prepare and submit an application to the County for property tax reduction, your processing fee will be immediately and fully refunded.

REVIEW, SIGN AND MAIL COMPLETED FORM ON BACK WITH CHECK BEFORE DEADLINE

Property Tax Adjusters - 11856 Balboa Blvd., Suite 281 Granada Hills, CA 91344

AUTHORIZATION FORM – PROPERTY TAX REDUCTION APPEAL

SERVICE FEE

Payment: \$189.00

Due Date: 12/31/2009

Make checks payable to: Property Tax Adjusters
(Please include your APN # on your Check or Money Order)



ASSESSOR'S ID NO.

405-113-015

As an owner of the real property identified as parcel number 405-113-015 I authorize Property Tax Adjusters (11856 Balboa Blvd., Suite 281, Granada Hills, CA 91344) or its designee to prepare, sign and file an application and/or appeal requesting a reduction in my property taxes due to a decline in the value of my property. This authorization is for property tax year 2010. I understand that Property Tax Adjusters will provide me with copies of the formal appeal application files.

Current Property Specifications

of Bedrooms: # of Bathrooms:

Sq. Footage: Pool:

Date Signed: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

X

Patu Too, Lele F
114 Christine Dr

Signature is Required
PAYMENT: \$189.00

----- PLEASE BE SURE TO SIGN. APPEAL CANNOT BE PROCESSED WITHOUT YOUR SIGNATURE -----

ANSWERS TO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: How was my Property Determined to have a Reduced Property Tax Amount?

A: Due to declining real estate values in California, Property Tax Adjusters has proactively completed a review of recent comparable sales in your area. This analysis indicates that the January 1, 2010, estimated market value of your property has decreased relative to its January 1, 2010, estimated Proposition 13 assessed value. Property Tax Adjusters encourages all homeowners to independently review the S&P/Case-Shiller Price Indices for yourself to see what your average home value is this year compared to last year.

Q: What is Proposition 13?

A: Proposition 13 is either the purchase price and/or the cost of new construction, annually trended for inflation and not to exceed 2% per year.

Q: What is Property Tax Reassessment?

A: Property Tax Reassessment is a service provided to homeowners that have suffered a possible decline in market value. Property Tax Adjusters will prepare and submit all necessary documentation to the County Assessor's Office and Assessment Appeals Board, and will act as your agent in all dealings with the County Assessor's Office and at all Assessment Appeals Board hearings. **Property Tax Adjusters is not a government agency and at no time should the service fee be construed as mandatory unless you wish Property Tax Adjusters to perform services on your behalf. Furthermore, our service has not been approved or endorsed by any government agency.**

Q: Should I Hire You or do it Myself?

A: Self-representation is always an option. The difference in hiring Property Tax Adjusters is that you will have a company whose full time job is the preparation and representation of homeowners in the property tax appeals process. Property Tax Adjusters proprietary software and industry specific databases will ensure an aggressive strategy that will obtain the maximum property tax reduction and greatest savings for you, our client.

Q: Are there any other fees?

No, there are no additional fees.

Q: How do I contact my local Assessor's office?

A: You can contact your local assessor at 925-313-7400. *

Q: What is Proposition 8?

A: Proposition 8 was passed by California voters in 1978 and provides a reduction in assessed values when the Proposition 13 value of a property exceeds the actual market value. Proposition 8 entitles the property owner to the lower of the two values: (1) the property's existing Proposition 13 value, which is the purchase price and/or the cost of new construction; or (2) the property's current market value.

Q: How Long does this Process Take?

A: Property Tax Adjusters will file all necessary forms immediately; however there is no guarantee as to how long the County Assessors will take to review your property reassessment request. If the Assessor's office does not approve our initial request for reassessment, Property Tax Adjusters will appeal your case to the Assessment Appeals Board.

Q: How is my Property Tax Bill Created?

A: It takes three separate offices to produce and account for your property tax bill payment. The Assessor establishes the assessed value of your property by appraising the value of that property under applicable State law. The assessed value of your property is placed on the Assessment Roll. The Roll is then presented to the Auditor for further processing. The Auditor adds direct assessments to the Tax Roll then applies the General Tax Levy (1%) and the Voted Indebtedness (voter & bonded) tax rates to the value of the Tax Roll. This function is called "extending the Assessment Roll." The Extended Roll is then sent to the Treasurer and the Tax Collector for individual tax bill distribution and payment collection. The Treasurer receives the Extended Roll, prints the property tax bills and mails them to the names and addresses on the Roll. When you send your remittance to pay your tax bill, the Treasurer and Tax Collector then posts that payment to your property.

Q: If I have other property's I would like Property Tax Adjusters to review, what should I do?

Attach your other property information to the stub above with a check in the amount of \$189.00 per property, made payable to Property Tax Adjusters. Upon receipt of your service fee, Property Tax Adjusters will thoroughly review your individual property value.