



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

Wednesday, August 26, 2009

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**\*\*\* PRESS RELEASE \*\*\***

**Assessor-Recorder's Office Announces Deadline to Apply For  
Temporary Reduction in Assessed Value for Property Tax Year  
2009-10 is Friday, August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

*Deadline to formally appeal assessed value through  
Assessment Appeals Board is September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009*

**San Francisco, CA** – The Assessor-Recorder's Office announced today the deadline for residential property owners to apply for a temporary reduction in their assessed value for the 2009-10 property tax year is Friday, August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009. The deadline to formally appeal your assessed value through the Assessment Appeals Board is Tuesday, September 15<sup>th</sup>. The Assessor-Recorder's office has been accepting applications for reductions since April 1, 2009. Temporary reductions are allowed under state law (Proposition 8) if the current market value is determined to be lower than the assessed value.

"I want to make sure every residential property owner is aware of their right to request a temporary reduction of their home's assessed value. During these tough economic times, I know that property tax relief can go a long way. We encourage you to contact our office for an informal review by August 28<sup>th</sup> if you think your assessed value is greater than the market value as of January 1, 2009. The process to apply is completely free and simple to do," said Assessor-Recorder Phil Ting.

The Assessor's office is accepting informal review requests for single family dwellings, residential condominiums, townhouses, live-work lofts and cooperative units. The process is straightforward: homeowners are asked to fill out a simple, one-page form that is available on the Assessor's website ([www.sfgov.org/assessor](http://www.sfgov.org/assessor)) and in their office. Homeowners are encouraged to provide information such as comparable sales to help the Assessor's office determine if the property is eligible for a reduction, though this information is not required. Letters indicating assessed value were mailed out to every property owner in July.

The Assessor has proactively granted temporary reductions to 9,997 homes in San Francisco for 2009-10. Property owners granted a reduction were informed via mail in July of this year.



Residential property owners who received a reduction for property tax year 2008-09 will be automatically reviewed for the 2009-10 tax year so those homeowners need not fill out another application.

Because of Proposition 13, which limits the ability of assessors to reassess property each year unless a change of ownership or new construction has occurred, homeowners who purchased their homes prior to 2004 are less likely to qualify for a reassessment because in most cases the property tax value is still well below the actual market value.

Residential property owners are also encouraged to file a formal appeal with the Assessment Appeals Board before September 15, 2009 to protect their rights as a taxpayer. For more information, visit their website: [www.sfgov.org/assessment](http://www.sfgov.org/assessment).

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