



RICK AUERBACH



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JUNE 30 DEADLINE TO FILE FOR DOMESTIC PARTNER PROPERTY TAX SAVINGS

Los Angeles County Assessor Rick Auerbach today reminded registered domestic partners whose home was reassessed before 2006 because of a change in ownership between them or because of the death of one of the owners, an application must be filed by June 30 to take advantage of a state law eliminating that prior reassessment.

"Many domestic partners, including unmarried senior couples, whose property value was increased between Jan 1, 2000 and Jan 1, 2006, have been paying higher property taxes based on the ownership law in affect in those years." said Auerbach.

"During that period they were not eligible for the change of ownership reassessment exclusion which was available primarily to spouses or parents and children," he added. "That assessment increase can now be reversed by filing a simple form which returns the home to its previous value for tax purposes, although there are no refunds included for those years."

Auerbach praised recent legislation, SB 559, authored by State Senator Christine Kehoe of San Diego and signed by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, allowing the assessment roll back. "This is a fair approach involving equal protection under the law," he added.

Auerbach urged domestic partners whose property was reassessed between Jan. 1, 2000 and Jan. 1, 2006 to visit http://assessor.lacounty.gov and access News & Legislation Important Announcements (Domestic Partnership Reappraisal) for further details and forms or to call 213-974-3434.