



NEWS from JEFFREY PRANG

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\$598M Record Savings in 2018 for Veterans, Community Groups, Homeowners *Assessor's Office Receives Award for Outreach Leading to Record Savings*

LOS ANGELES, CA – Veterans, homeowners, and community organizations across the County of Los Angeles will save **\$598 million on their 2018 property tax bills**, according to the annual property [assessment roll](#) just certified by Assessor Jeff Prang. The International Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO) recognized the agency for its outreach and education initiatives that led to these record-breaking savings for taxpayers; it will formally award the office its Public Information Program Award at the upcoming conference in Minneapolis.

“My dedicated staff work tirelessly to promote the valuable resources and saving opportunities that benefit LA County residents and businesses, and the record savings are a testament to our commitment toward excellence in service to the public,” said Assessor Jeff Prang.

The 2018 roll reflects \$59.8 billion in tax exemptions, which produce \$598 million in direct savings. The key components include: Disabled Veteran Exemptions of \$477 million, totaling \$4.77 million in direct savings; \$7.23 billion in Homeowners’ Exemptions for more than a million homeowners, leading to \$72 million in savings; and \$52.1 billion in exemptions for 15,662 community and faith-based organizations, saving them \$520 million. The greatest savings in the last category are for community service agencies and institutions such as schools, hospitals, and museums.



The IAAO **Public Information Program Award** recognizes assessment agencies around the world that effectively utilize innovative means of distributing information to taxpayers. The Office of Assessor Prang has created a series of public outreach campaigns, which entail: presentations and resource fairs for homeowners, businesses, and real estate and tax professionals; direct engagement utilizing social media platforms; the dissemination of information through print and digital publications; and audience-specific, periodic newsletters.



In addition, through the digitization of over 100 million documents and the modernization of antiquated technology, the office now provides intuitive, web-based tools. Among these is the [Assessor Portal](#), which incorporates nearly all data into one comprehensive property profile. These tools enable employees to more quickly and accurately respond to inquiries, and they increase public access to essential information at no cost.

“These are outstanding programs that constitute a meaningful effort to connect the services of the Assessor’s Office with the public that the office seeks to engage,” said Chrissy Anderson, President of the LA Chapter of IAAO.

The Public Information Program Award is the second award that the Office of the Assessor has earned in recent days. *Government Technology* magazine announced the office will receive its **Outstanding IT Service and Support Award** at the Los Angeles Digital Government Summit later this month for the Assessor’s internal IT portal known as Cherwell.