



COUNTY OF YOLO

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They Look Official, But They Are Not

(Woodland, CA) – A Los Angeles-based company is mailing notices resembling tax bills to homeowners in Northern California, including Yolo County homeowners, offering property value review services for a fee of \$179.00. This service is already provided free of charge by the Yolo County Assessor’s Office and the Yolo County Assessment Appeals Board. This Los Angeles-based company and other similar companies are not affiliated with the Assessor’s office or any other agency of local government.

“Our office reviewed 12,000 properties for the 2008/09 tax bills and reduced the value of approximately 9,000 of those properties, free of charge,” said Yolo County Assessor Joel Butler. “If your home’s property value was reduced last year, it will be reviewed again this year. We are currently reviewing market data for Jan. 1, 2009 to determine the decline in value and the extent to which additional homes need review.”

There is no requirement for taxpayers to use the services provided by these companies to have their property values reviewed. The Yolo County Assessor’s office currently anticipates reviewing all single-family residential properties acquired after Jan. 1, 2003 for possible declines in value. If a homeowner purchased a property prior to Jan 1, 2003 and thinks their home is worth less than the value on their tax bill, they should call the Yolo County Assessor’s office at (530) 666-8135. To expedite service, property owners should provide their name, address or parcel number, and phone number.

The statewide filing date for 2008/09 appeals has past. If property owners, however, are dissatisfied with the value on their 2009/10 tax bill, the assessment appeal filing period runs Jul. 2 to Nov. 30, 2009. The appeal process is free of charge. For more information on property tax assessments, visit www.yolocounty.org (go to: Government > Departments > Assessor).

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