



County of Fresno

Paul Dictos, CPA
Assessor-Recorder

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NEWS RELEASE

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Assessor-Recorder

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PROPERTY TAX RELIEF FOR FIRE VICTIMS

The recent devastating wildfires burned 280,000+ acres, 850 structures and displaced 2,881 Fresno County residents, forcing them to be housed in 20+ area hotels. Hundreds of pets and animals have also been forced out of their homes and are being looked after at different county locations.

Thankfully, property tax relief is one of the available programs the Assessor has in place to assist victims of the Creek Fire.

Fresno County Assessor has instructed his staff to put the application process, requesting property tax relief, on a fast track. The first step is notifying your Assessor of the property damage. You can do this by visiting the Assessor's website at <https://www.co.fresno.ca.us/departments/assessor> or call our office at 559-600-3534.

Taxpayers who suffered \$10,000 or more of damage to their taxable property are eligible for a reassessment of their property value if a claim is made within twelve months of the loss. Property owners can download the claim form from the Assessor's website at <https://www.co.fresno.ca.us/departments/assessor/assessor-forms>.

Taxpayers filing a claim for reassessment, may apply to the county assessor to defer payment of the December 10, 2020, property tax payment until a corrected bill can be issued reflecting the reduced value of the property. If a timely claim for deferral is filed, the payment will be deferred without penalty or interest until the assessor has reassessed the property and a corrected bill prepared by the county tax collector has been sent to the property owner. To take advantage of the tax deferral, the application form must be filed as early as possible but before December 10, 2020. Please note that this section does not apply to property taxes paid through impound accounts.

"We intend to be proactive and assist the property owners of Fresno County", stated County Assessor-Recorder Paul Dictos. "We are prepared to move quickly as we all work to get through this difficult time, to ease the heavy burden that has disrupted the lives of so many", said Dictos.

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"ASSESSOR – Never Underestimate the Value of the Office"