



COUNTY OF VENTURA
Hall of Administration
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009-1270



DAN GOODWIN, MAI
ASSESSOR

Frank E. Newell
Chief Deputy Assessor – Valuation

Kenneth Kaiser, Ph.D., ASA
Chief Deputy Assessor - Administration

(805) 654-2181
FAX (805) 645-1305
assessor.countyofventura.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
January 9, 2017

CONTACT: Frank Newell
(805) 477-1514

County Assessor Announces Upgraded Statewide Property Tax Systems

Ventura County Assessor Dan Goodwin announced major upgrades for two California Assessors Association (CAA) online property tax systems that serve taxpayers statewide. These systems known as, **SDR** and **e-Forms** have been upgraded with significant user enhancements and a new secure cloud based platform.

Taxpayers will enjoy features such as 24/7 availability for online filing and form downloads, reduced paper handling and data errors, archiving for 10 years of business statements, bulk uploading, filing history, documented time stamped filing, access to more forms, streamlined help services and new web interfaces for a richer user experience on desktops and mobile devices.

Assessor Goodwin, Systems Coordinator, and Chair of the CAA Electronic Filing Sub-Committee, stated that the system upgrades have successfully met acceptance testing and certification requirements and will be available for taxpayer use in January 2017.

These systems include **SDR**, an online electronic filing system for Business Property Tax Statements available to all taxpayers in 58 counties, and **e-Forms** an online access system for taxpayer downloads of 86 County Property Tax Forms.

The **SDR** online filing system was developed twelve years ago, as a shared services agreement between California Assessors with the goal of providing enhanced public service and electronic filing convenience to business that are required annually to file Business Property Tax Statements.

A web based, taxpayer driven system, **SDR** was designed as a one stop online site enabling businesses with multiple county locations to efficiently file one online statement for all locations in California Counties. Additionally some counties, like Ventura County, have installed the companion **e-SDR** system that allows small business to also electronically file their statements.

In 2016 these systems achieved a new milestone with one million statements filed online by taxpayers since the program was available. Use of the programs continues to grow with a total of 152,000 statements filed for 2016.

e-Forms the newest addition to the CAA sponsored systems, was deployed in 2014 as a cooperative effort with State Board of Equalization, with the goal of providing a uniform online source of approved property tax forms in each County. Currently there are 43 counties using the **e-Forms** platform, accessed through the county Web sites with taxpayers able to obtain over 86 property tax forms specific to their County.

This popular new platform has over 1 million form downloads since January 2015 and its use is growing at a rate of 100% per year. Assessor Goodwin pointed out that users are taking advantage of *e-Forms* 24/7 availability with 60% of the taxpayer form downloads occurring after normal Assessor office business hours.

As with *SDR* there are major public service improvement for taxpayers with the latest *e-Forms* platform changes, and advanced upgrades will be deployed later in 2017, including direct online form completion and submission.

Taxpayers should check their local Assessor's WEB sites for links to these upgraded systems.