



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



DAN GOODWIN
ASSESSOR OF VENTURA COUNTY

OFFICE OF THE ASSESSOR

Larry A. Hoskins
 Deputy Assessor - Valuation
Huiling Tanouye
 Deputy Assessor – Administration
Susan O’Connell
 Deputy Assessor – Residential/Services
(805) 654-2181
 FAX (805) 645-1305
www.ventura.org/assessor

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

Contact: Dan Goodwin
 654-2161

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PROPERTY TAX RELIEF FOR STORM VICTIMS

As the devastating rain storms this month have left hundreds of property owners with damaged or destroyed assessed property, property tax relief is one of the available programs in place to assist property owners. The Ventura County Assessor has instructed his staff to provide fast processing of property tax relief for storm victims throughout the County. The key first step is notifying the Assessor of property damage.

Taxpayers who suffer more than \$10,000 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 event. Property owners can download the claim form from the Assessor’s website at <http://assessor.countyofventura.org/Forms.html>, and file the claim for relief at the Assessor’s Office, 800 South Victoria Avenue, Ventura.

If the Governor declares Ventura County a disaster area, in addition to the reassessment of the damaged or destroyed property, the County Treasurer may defer the April 10, 2005, property tax payment until a corrected bill can be issued reflecting the reduced value of the property. The deferral of payment is based on the submission of a valid claim form to the County Assessor for reassessment and a request for deferral of taxes. However, in order to receive a deferral for the second installment of the annual property tax payment, a verified claim form must be submitted prior to the April 10, 2005, payment due date.

“We intend to be proactive and assist the property owners of Ventura County,” stated County Assessor Dan Goodwin. “We are prepared to move quickly as we all work to get through this difficult time and we want to do what we can to ease the heavy burden that has disrupted the lives of so many.”

For more information, visit the Assessor’s website or call 805-654-2181.

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