

ASSESSOR / RECORDER

MARC C. TONNESEN
Assessor/Recorder



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Thursday, September 22, 2011

Letter to the Editor - Response to Kennan Letter

Dear Editor:

This is a response to a letter to the Daily Republic Editor dated September 22, 2011 by Jeffrey Kennan, Rio Vista and titled "County Assessor avoiding the law." In that letter the author accuses my office of violating "Proposition 8" (California Revenue and Tax Code Section 51). I assure you and your readers that my office is in compliance with the law.

The primary responsibility of the Assessor Division of my office is to annually determine the assessed value of each property so the owner is assured of paying the correct amount of property taxes. When the market value of a property falls below the factored base year (Proposition 13) value, state law provides for a temporary reduction of the assessed value. This is commonly referred to as a Proposition 8 reduction.

This year, as a result of the proactive efforts of my office, approximately 65,489 homes throughout the County are receiving temporary reductions in assessed value. Property types other than residential receiving reductions total 1,924 and include commercial and industrial, apartment buildings, agricultural, and vacant land. Notifications were mailed in July to those 67,413 property owners whose properties were placed on Proposition 8 status.

Should any of your readers at any time have questions about the assessed value of their property, I encourage them to contact my office and we will be happy to answer their questions. We are located on the second floor of the County Government Center, 675 Texas St #2700, Fairfield, or telephone us at (707) 784-6210, or e-mail assessor@solanocounty.com. Your readers may also obtain additional information from the Solano County website www.solanocounty.com under Assessor/Recorder department.

Sincerely,

Marc C. Tonnesen