

PRESS RELEASE

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Jefferson County Appraiser
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2007 PERSONAL PROPERTY VALUATION NOTICES

Personal property owners should be receiving their Personal Property Valuation Notices in the mail shortly. The Jefferson County Appraiser's Office will be mailing out the notices on Monday, April 30th, 2007. Once a property owner receives their notice of valuation, it is asked that they review the notice for accuracy of property information and check to see if they were assessed a penalty for not reporting their property.

If the valuation notice states that there is a penalty assessed to the value, then please contact the Appraiser's Office to find out how to minimize the penalty amount. Pursuant to Kansas law, if a property owner does not report their personal property on or before March 15th of each year, late-filing and/or non-filing penalties will apply up to 50%.

Types of personal property that should be reported to the Appraiser's Office annually are items such as commercial/industrial machinery and equipment, all watercraft, ATV's, golf carts, manufactured/mobile homes, general use trailers, etc.

If the valuation notice does not correctly represent what was owned and taxable as of January 1st, 2007 or if a property owner wishes to appeal the value, they will need to contact the Appraiser's Office at (785) 863-2080 or 1-877-278-4118. The property owner has 15-days from the date the notice is mailed to appeal, therefore the appeal deadline is May 15th, 2007.

If this deadline is missed, the next opportunity to appeal will be when the first half taxes are paid on or before December 20th. A taxpayer cannot appeal the notice of value and pay the taxes under protest for the same property for the same tax year.

Upon a timely appeal of the personal property value, an informal meeting will be held with the property owner and the County Appraiser's Office. The meeting may be held over the phone or in person. During the meeting, the appraiser has the duty to initiate production of evidence to substantiate the value that was placed on the property. In return, the taxpayer must submit information to support the value he or she believes should be on the property. Documentation must be provided to get the property removed from the tax roll such as a bill-of-sale, bankruptcy papers, repossession papers, proof that the property is located in a different jurisdiction, etc.

If a property owner owns a personal property mobile or manufactured home, a questionnaire will be included in with their valuation notice. Due to the implementation of a new software program, the Appraiser's Office is requesting that this information be provided. Anyone with questions concerning how to properly fill out this questionnaire is encouraged to call the Appraiser's Office.