



"Ask Lori"

**Helpful Tax Saving Advice and Tips from
Broward County Property Appraiser Lori Parrish**

Dear Lori:

I heard a representative of your office speak to our Realtor[®] meeting. He told me your office changed state law to allow taxpayers to make partial payments of their 2014 tax bill this year? How does this program work?

A. S., Fort Lauderdale, FL (via email)

The Property Appraiser **does not set or collect taxes**. In 2009, I asked State Senator Jeremy Ring of Parkland to change state law to allow the Broward County Revenue (Tax) Collector to accept partial payments from taxpayers for payment of current year property taxes. We were successful in passing Senate Bill 1580 and getting then Governor Charlie Crist to sign this bill into law.

Between November 1, 2014 and March 2331, 2015, a taxpayer can elect to make up to 5 partial payments, along with a \$10.00 processing fee for each partial payment. Each partial payment must be at least \$100 with the balance being paid in full by March 31, 2015 to avoid interest and penalties on the unpaid balance. There is no application for partial payments. Taxpayers must declare their intent to make partial payments to the Broward County Revenue (Tax) Collector at the time of the first remittance, and partial payments cannot be made online.

Any unpaid balance becomes delinquent and is handled like any other delinquent tax bill and will be subject to the same interest and penalties, including having a tax certificate sold pursuant to Florida Statute. Partial payments **are not** eligible for any early-payment discount. The taxpayers has the responsibility to ensure the remaining amount due is paid timely. The county will not send monthly invoices. Partial payments cannot be made on delinquent taxes.

Additionally, not all Florida counties are participating in this program. If you own properties in other counties check with your local Tax Collector's Office to determine if this payment program is available.

Should you have any questions or wish to participate in the partial payment plan, please contact the Broward County Revenue (Tax) Collector at 954.831.4000 or visit their website at www.broward.org/RecordsTaxesTreasury.

Sincerely,

If you have a question for the Property Appraiser, please email Lori at lori@bcpa.net or write to her at the Broward County Property Appraiser's Office, 115 S. Andrews Avenue, Room 111, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301. (11/14)