



"Ask Lori"

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

Dear Lori:

I understand the deadline to file for property tax exemptions was March 1, 2016. I was out of town on a business trip and missed the March deadline. Can I still file for this important exemption for 2016?

F. P., Coconut Creek, FL (via email)

Yes, you still have time to file for your 2016 exemptions! The traditional filing period for 2016 Homestead and all other exemptions was March 3, 2015 through March 1, 2016. The absolute deadline to "**Late File**" for any 2016 property tax exemption—if you missed the March 1, 2016 timely filing deadline is **September 19, 2016**. State law (Sec. 196.001 (8), Fla. Stat.) does not allow late filing for property tax exemptions after the September 19 late filing deadline, regardless of any good reason for missing the late filing deadline.

The Broward County Property Appraiser's Office accepts late applications for 2016 Homestead, Senior, Disability, Widow/Widower, Granny Flat, Portability, Non-Profit and all other exemptions until September 19, 2016. To qualify for a 2016 exemption, you must have owned the property and made it your permanent residence **on or before January 1, 2016**.

You may also be eligible for Portability. Portability allows Homesteaded owners to transfer some or all of their Save Our Homes (SOH) benefits from their old homes to their new home. Your Portability amount is determined by the previous property in the year of Homestead abandonment. If you had a Florida Homestead Exemption in 2014 or 2015, gave up the exemption, and moved to a new Homestead by January 1, 2016, you may be eligible for Portability. In order to receive your Portability for tax year 2016, you must file for Homestead and complete a Portability application with our office by September 19, 2016.

There are several ways to complete your exemption application. You can apply online at www.bcpa.net, visit our office at 115 S Andrews Ave., Room 111, in Fort Lauderdale, or you can apply at one of our many community outreach events throughout the county. View our entire outreach calendar at www.bcpa.net/events.asp to find out when we will be in your neighborhood. If you have any questions or need help with your tax exemption applications, please do not hesitate to contact us at 954.357.6830.

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. (March 2016)