

# PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Friday, January 26, 2018

## PROPERTY OWNERS MAY FIND RELIEF BY DEFERRING PROPERTY TAX PAYMENTS

Taxpayers may postpone paying current and delinquent property taxes on their homestead by filing a **tax deferral affidavit** with the Webb County Appraisal District office if they are:

- Age 65 or older,
- Disabled as defined by law TPTC Sec., 11.13(m),
- Qualified disabled veterans; their unmarried surviving spouse, or their unmarried children under age 18, if no surviving spouse;
- Or unmarried surviving spouses of U.S. armed service members killed on active duty and their unmarried children under age 18.

Once the affidavit is on file, property taxes are deferred - **but not cancelled** - as long as the owner continues to own and live in the home. Taxes accumulate with **5% interest per year**. The law extends the tax deferral to the surviving spouse of the person who deferred taxes on the home if the surviving spouse was at least 55 years old when his/her spouse died.

A **tax deferral affidavit** keeps homeowners from losing their homestead because of delinquent property taxes. A pending sale to foreclose on the homestead's tax lien will also stop as a result of filing a tax deferral affidavit. In addition, no taxing office can start or continue a lawsuit to collect delinquent taxes once an affidavit is filed with the Appraisal District. There are no penalties on delinquent taxes during the deferral period; however, a tax deferral does not cancel penalties that were already due.

All deferred taxes and interest become due when the homeowner or surviving spouse no longer own and live in the home. If the tax debt remains unpaid at that time, penalties may be imposed and taxing units may take legal action to collect the past due amount. **ALL APPRAISAL SERVICES ARE FREE OF CHARGE!**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE DISTRICT'S CUSTOMER SERVICE DEPARTMENT STAFF AT (956) 718-3700 OR VISIT OUR OFFICE LOCATED AT 3302 CLARK BLVD., LAREDO, TEXAS 78043. OFFICE BUSINESS HOURS ARE MONDAY TO FRIDAY, 8:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M. WEBSITE, [WWW.WEBBCAD.ORG](http://WWW.WEBBCAD.ORG).**