



In this newsletter, I share how excited we are about a new state law to help first responders, and I tell you of other ongoing work of the Broward County Property Appraiser's office.

### **First Responder's Disability Exemption**

The property tax exemption for certain totally and permanently disabled first responders and surviving spouse's bill was recently implemented. This bill allows for a Florida first responder who is totally and permanently disabled as a result of injuries sustained in the line of duty to be exempt from taxation on their Homesteaded property. There are specific requirements for this exemption so please contact my office if you have any questions.

As a result of this newly enacted Florida law, I had the privilege of signing up totally and permanently disabled Florida first responders for a full exemption from all ad valorem taxes. One of the first to receive this exemption was Howard, a former Broward Sheriff's deputy who became totally and permanently disabled while assisting other first responders at Ground Zero after the 9-11 attacks. Our first responders are true heroes and deserve whatever assistance we can provide, but more importantly our respect and appreciation.



### **Estimate of Taxable Value**

On June 30, I certified the 2017 Estimate of Taxable Value for the various taxing authorities. For months, the employees of our office have been working diligently determining the value of all property in Broward County. These property assessments are important because the property tax a property owner pays is determined by the assessed value of the property, less any tax-saving exemptions, times the millage rate, plus any non-ad valorem fees set by local taxing authorities. The tax roll certification I signed certifies that these values are accurate and correct.

In Broward County, there was an overall increase in taxable value of 9.32%, including new construction, with the taxable value for existing properties increasing 7.82% in the county. This increase is based on the sales from January 1, 2017 back through January 2, 2016. Florida law requires our assessments to be a year in arrears meaning the current real estate market will impact the 2018 property assessments. These values are significant because they are used by the county, school board, cities and other taxing authorities to set their budgets for the upcoming fiscal year.

If my office can ever be of assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at (954)357-6904 or by email at [martykiar@bcpa.net](mailto:martykiar@bcpa.net)

Take care,

Marty Kiar  
Broward County Property Appraiser

