

Beaufort County News Release

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH AREA | COMMUNICATIONS AND ACCOUNTABILITY DEPARTMENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 17, 2017



All Beaufort County Legal Residence Applications Up to Date

The [Beaufort County Assessor's Office](#) has announced that all completed legal residence applications submitted to its office were reviewed and processed when tax bills were issued.

Beaufort County Assessor Gary James stated, "Beaufort County is up to date on its review of all legal residence applications. When data was transferred for inclusion in the tax bill run on October 6, all complete applications received and reviewed as of that date had the appropriate exemptions applied to the real property records."

The Assessor's Office is currently processing applications within one week of receipt. According to Mr. James, it is rare that the larger coastal counties in the state are up to date on exemption approvals prior to processing property tax bills. It is not unusual for larger counties to be months behind in the processing of applications. The Beaufort County Assessor's Office has streamlined its approval process and added staff to help ensure the County is keeping up with the needs of taxpayers. These efforts to maintain current data minimizes the number of tax bills with incorrect exemption requiring a later change.

James cautioned that due to a heavy application workload after bills are received by taxpayers, a slightly longer approval timeframe might occur, but his office will continue its efforts to focus on minimizing the delay in approvals, allowing ample time for taxpayers to pay the adjusted amounts.

The [Beaufort County Assessor's Office](#) will accept applications for the [legal residence special assessment ratio \(4%\) exemption](#) until January 16, 2018, the last day to make tax payments to the County without penalties.

For more information, contact the [Beaufort County Assessor's Office](#) at 843-255-2400.