

**DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE**

Herschler Building
2nd Floor West
122 West 25th Street
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002-0110
E-Mail: dor@wy.gov
Web: <http://revenue@state.wy.us>

DAVE FREUDENTHAL, Governor
EDMUND J. SCHMIDT, Director

Telephone (307) 777-7961
DOR Main FAX (307) 777-7722
Property Tax FAX (307) 777-7527
Excise FAX (307) 777-3632
Mineral FAX (307) 777-7849
Liquor FAX (307) 777-6255

MEMORANDUM

TO: ALL COUNTY ASSESSORS

FROM: MARVIN APPLEQUIST

DATE: JUNE 29, 2009

SUBJECT: VETERANS EXEMPTION DATABASE

On May 26th I sent out a Memorandum to all County Assessors regarding the maintenance of the State Veteran's Exemption Database (VED). Subsequently the staff shared with me the barrage of e-mails elicited by the memo. In an attempt to be as fair and consistent as possible, the Department is officially rescinding the May 26th memorandum to allow for additional research. While the Department is concerned about the quality and uniformity of the veteran's exemption data in both VED and RealWare, we want to approach the issue as systematic as possible. As you can most likely appreciate, it is oftentimes difficult to strike a balance between establishing and maintaining a certain amount of autonomy in the duties of the assessor's offices throughout the state while also fulfilling uniformity mandates handed down to us by the statutes and the Wyoming Legislature.

I have had an opportunity to investigate and review the pros and cons of the department's objective in issuing the memo (and there are some benefits from following such a course of action) versus the negative impacts it would have on your offices. Obviously our proposal was going to require some double entry at a time your staff is already exceedingly busy. Based on the comments we received, I do not mind admitting that we misjudged just how much of an imposition this appears to cause your staff. However, I can assure you that our intent was not to micro-manage, but rather was a sincere attempt to improve the administration of VED and RealWare. I apologize for any inconvenience the memorandum may have created.

Overall, until a reliable process can be created to successfully transfer data between the VED and RealWare, the Department encourages the county to keep managing the veteran's exemption program to the best of their ability. The Department leaves it up to the county to perform any reconciliation necessary to create an accurate reimbursement report for the State Treasurer.

Cc: Ed Schmidt
Dave Chapman