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TOWN OF VERNON, CONNECTICUT

LEGAL NOTICE 2014-15 Grand List

Fall 2015

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Board of Assessment Appeal hearings for Motor Vehicles are on Wednesday September 16th, Thursday September 17th & Friday September 18th from 4:00 -7:00 p.m., for the sole purpose of hearing appeals related to the assessments of motor vehicles on the Grand List of October 1, 2014. Anyone wishing to appeal their motor vehicle assessment may make application in the assessor's office. Blank applications are also located on the Vernon Town Website under the Assessor's Department. Hearings are on a First come, first serve basis. (State Statute #12-110)
Town Hall Annex Building @ 8 Park Place, Vernon, Connecticut (Next to Town Hall) Anyone that appeals the assessment based on condition or high mileage must bring their vehicle to the hearing for an inspection. (860) 870-3625

SOLAR ENERGY EXEMPTION

Applications for solar energy exemptions are available in the assessor's office. The value ADDED by the installation of passive or active solar systems will be the amount of the assessment exemption.

VETERANS

Any new veterans moving into Vernon need to have their discharge on file with the Town Clerk. The original form DD214 has to be filed with the Town Clerk **before October 1, 2015** in order to receive benefits. If a veteran had lived in Vernon and moved away, and has now returned, they need to notify the Assessor's Office in order to activate their veteran exemption. Any claimant, still serving and unable to appear in person may forward to the Assessor annually a written statement, signed by the commanding officer of their unit or by the presentation of a notarized statement of a parent, guardian, spouse or legal representative of the claimant. The time served has to have been during wartime. Any Veteran who is income limited that has not reapplied since last year should also contact the Assessor's Office. Forms can be obtained at the Assessor's Office. If there are any questions please call the Assessor's Office. (860-870-3625)

Disabled Veterans: If you have a:

- 10-25% Disability Rating, your assessment exemption is 3,000
- 26-50% Disability Rating, your assessment exemption is 4,000
- 51-76% Disability Rating, your assessment exemption is 5,000
- 76-100% Disability rating, your assessment exemption is 6,000 (age 65 and older)

NEW: Members of the National Guard who performed homeland security duties under Title 32 for 90 days or more on or after August 2, 1990 may be entitled to an exemption. The exemption is for 10/1/2008 going forward. Also, any National Guard member performing homeland security duty on October 1, 2008 or subsequent assessment date should call our office immediately. Please call for details.

Personal Property Declarations must be filled out, according to law, **between October 1st and November 1, 2015**. Those engaged in any type of business in the Town of Vernon failing to submit their declaration will receive a 25% Penalty of the total assessment due and payable in July 2016. You can access our link below and file your Personal Property Declaration electronically. You **do not** have to submit a hard copy of the signature page to the Assessor when filing electronically; however, the deadline remains no later than **November 1, 2015**.

Electronic signatures are now acceptable. This should save the taxpayer or their agent time and means you can save your information electronically for future reference. We will be mailing out the hardcopy declaration along with your unique password to access our web-file. There will be instructions attached. <http://www.vernon-ct.gov/departments>

Personal Property consists of: unregistered motor vehicles, campers, trailers, truck campers: snowmobiles, all terrain vehicles, junk autos, farm equipment, horses, commercial furniture, fixtures and equipment, farming and mechanic tools, cables, conduits, gas pipes, electric and water companies.

Personal Property forms are mailed out to all those persons who declared personal property last year. **All new businesses** should appear before the Assessor the first time they declare such property to avoid any misunderstandings going forward. That is the opportunity to ask questions what should be declared and how to file the declaration. If personal property has been disposed of during the assessment year, please return the form stating the disposition of same.

All real property and registered motor vehicles are declared by the Assessor.

The blind should furnish proof of their disability and must file such proof with the Assessor by **October 1, 2015**.

All persons filing for land reductions under **PA-490 Farm, Forest and Open Space** for the first time, must submit an application to the Assessor between **September 1st and November 1, 2015**. Recent changes in the law regarding New Forestland. Applications require the applicant to contact the Assessor. Open Space Applications must be approved by the Planning and Zoning Commission prior to filing with the Assessor.

New Change in the Law regarding disabled persons: You only have to file your Disability Rating with the assessor once unless the percentage changes. Totally disabled persons who are receiving permanent total disability under the Social Security program are entitled to an exemption of \$1,000 from their property assessment they own. You must submit an affidavit from Social Security to be eligible. The filing deadline for new applicants is **October 1, 2015**.

Respectfully submitted,

David A. Wheeler CCMA II
Town Assessor