



SeniorLAW Center

Protecting The Rights of Older Pennsylvanians

SeniorLAW Center is pleased to introduce a new program addressing the legal needs of senior taxpayers in Philadelphia:

Property and Inheritance Tax Aid for Elders



Are you behind on your property taxes?

Have you gotten letters stating that if you don't pay, your home will be sold at a sheriff's sale?

Is the deed to your home in someone else's name, or do you have questions about your deed?

Are you confused about the complex probate and inheritance tax system?

We provide free legal advice, representation, and education to seniors facing real estate tax foreclosure, tangled title issues, and inheritance tax issues affecting homeownership.

For more information or to schedule an outreach program at your venue, please contact:

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Understanding the Homestead Exemption



- The Homestead Exemption is a program that may reduce the total assessed value of your home by \$30,000 (subject to change). If you are granted the Homestead Exemption, your real estate tax bill could be lower next year.
- Applications for the Homestead Exemption are due **July 31, 2013**.
- To qualify:
 - You must live in your property as your primary residence.
 - You must have an ownership interest in the property.
- The Homestead Exemption application can be found at opa.phila.gov.
- **You can also apply over the phone or have the application mailed to you, by calling the Homestead Hotline at 215-686-9200.**
- **If you have a tangled title** (the deed to your property is not in your name – for example, the deed might be in your relative’s name): You should still apply. Put your own name on the application (not the record owner’s name). You should also contact a lawyer to begin resolving the tangled title.
- **If the deed refers to you by your maiden name**: Attach a copy of your marriage license to the application to show that your name has changed.
- **If the deed gives you the right to live in the property for your lifetime**: Attach a copy of your deed to the application, and add a note to the application, stating that you have a life estate.
- If you have any questions, please contact SeniorLAW Center Helpline at (215) 988-1242.