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Press Release

Personal Property Reporting Forms Arriving In Mail Boxes Soon

Property Appraisal Office Renews Focus on Personal Property

Lagrange, GA, January 11, 2011: Personal Property (PT-50P) Forms have been mailed and will begin arriving this week in mailboxes. The County mails out forms every year to personal property owners in their database. State law requires that completed forms are returned to the Property Appraisal Office by April 1st. Personal Property includes boats, airplanes, and business equipment.

“The key phrase is ‘completed’ forms,” according to Dana Eaton, Troup County’s Chief Appraiser. “In years past, we have not been as strict about making sure we got all of the required data,” says Eaton. The County recently hired a new Personal Property Appraiser who brings an enhanced level of expertise to the operation. In order to do the job completely, according to County appraisers, all the required information must be submitted by property owners. Incomplete forms will be rejected and not considered submitted until they are complete.

“Sometimes we see things like ‘same as last year’,” says Vivian White, the County’s Personal Property Appraiser. Or worse, a business just fails to return the form. State law requires the County to enter typical values for similar businesses in those cases. Another thing State law requires the County to impose penalties for equipment that is unreported. It will be enforced, says White. “That includes property owners who didn’t receive a form,” according to White.

The County’s new software allows them to receive data from the Department of Natural Resources on registered boats. And the County is coordinating more closely with the airport and city and county offices that issue business licenses. Dana Eaton says, “We’ll use all of these data sources to make every effort to send out the required forms and notify property owners of their obligations, but ultimately it is the property owner’s responsibility to report their property accurately.” The requirement includes businesses of all sizes and property of any value. Failure to report may earn personal property owners possible penalties and fines.

If you don’t receive a form, or to make sure you’re in the database, call the Property Appraisal Office at 706-883-1625 or e-mail propertyappraisal@troupco.org.

Get more information and forms at <https://etax.dor.ga.gov/ptd/adm/forms/pt50p/index.aspx>

For Immediate Release