

## **For Immediate Release**

### **PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS REDUCE DISABLED VETERANS' TAXES**

Veterans with a service-connected disability may reduce their property taxes in 2011 by filing exemption forms at the Fayette County Appraisal District office. Some veterans may qualify for a 100 percent exemption of their taxes.

A veteran's percentage of service-connected disability determines the amount of the exemption – from a \$5,000 to a \$12,000 deduction from the veteran's property value. A separate application must be completed for this exemption.

The law provides partial exemptions for any property owned by veterans who are disabled, spouses and survivors of deceased disabled veterans and spouses and survivors of military personnel who died on active duty. The amount of exemption is determined according to percentage of service-connected disability.

Any eligible person who has not received this exemption should apply before May 1. Since May 1 is on a Sunday, applications will be taken on Monday, May 2. An applicant may claim the exemption on only one piece of property, such as a home or any other property the applicant owned on January 1. The applicant must be a Texas resident to qualify.

A disabled veteran who receives from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or its successor 100 percent disability compensation due to a service-connected disability and a rating of 100 percent disabled or of individual unemployability is entitled to an exemption from taxation of the appraised value of the veteran's residence homestead. The law does not provide this exemption to spouses and survivors of

deceased disabled veterans. The residence homestead application must be filed if this exemption is claimed.

Proof of the disability, such as documentation from the Veterans Administration or the branch of the armed services in which the veteran served is required by the appraisal district.

For more information about the property tax exemption for disabled veterans, contact the Fayette County Appraisal District at (979) 968-8383.

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