

## **For Immediate Release**

### **Appraisal Notices for Tax Year 2011 are in the mail to area property owners**

You should have or will soon receive a notice of your 2011 appraised value from the Fayette County Appraisal District. The appraisal district mailed about 26,682 notices on April 21, 2011. Notices on Business Personal Property will be mailed in early May. Your city, county, school district and other local taxing units will use the appraisal district's value to set your 2011 property taxes.

State law requires county appraisal districts to notify property owners about changes in their property's value. The notice also contains important information about the property's location, its ownership and property tax exemptions that have been applied to the property. It must include an estimate of 2011 taxes by local taxing units.

Property owners who disagree with the appraised value of their property, the exemptions or any other action by the appraisal district have the right to appeal to the Fayette County Appraisal Review Board (ARB). The ARB is an independent panel of citizens responsible for hearing and settling property owner protests. The notice of appraised value includes instructions on how and when to file a protest, a protest form and the Comptroller's Property Taxpayer Remedies. The deadline for filing a protest with the ARB is May 23, 2011 (since May 21 falls on a Saturday). Remember, you are always welcome to come in or call our office to discuss your property before filing a protest.

Texas Comptroller Susan Combs' publication, Property Taxpayer Remedies, explains in detail how to protest your property appraisal, what issues the ARB can consider and

what to expect during a protest hearing. The publication also discusses the option of taking your case to court or entering into binding arbitration if you are dissatisfied with the outcome of your ARB hearing.

Property Taxpayer Remedies is available from the Fayette County Appraisal District, 111 S Vail St; La Grange, TX or by calling (979) 968-8383. The publication is also available on the Comptroller's Web site at [www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/proptax/](http://www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/proptax/) or by calling the Comptroller's Property Tax Assistance Division at (800) 252-9121, ext. 1.

###