

# RICK SINGH, CFA

## ORANGE COUNTY PROPERTY APPRAISER

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Orange County Property Appraiser (OCPA) To Delay Filing Liens For Exemption Non-Compliance

*~Property Owners Will Be Notified – Further Action Is Indefinitely Postponed~*

**Orlando, FL** – In light of the challenges facing the community due to the Coronavirus, Orange County Property Appraiser Rick Singh announced today that his office will be indefinitely delaying filing tax liens on properties determined to be benefitting from an unqualified exemption. [Exemptions](#) typically decrease the taxable value of a home and are granted according to very specific parameters. OCPA investigates these throughout the year – but will delay lien-filing due to the economic uncertainties resulting from the current health crisis. Homeowners who are non-compliant will still receive a notification letter, however.

“This is a challenging time for everyone,” said Singh. “Orange County has already been impacted in very real ways for our property owners. While we are duty-bound to investigate instances of non-compliance for exemptions, we can defer the legal process of pursuing the additional taxes owed. We are not absolving anyone of their financial responsibility; merely delaying the process to avoid additional burdens on our residents.”

If an exemption on a property is found to be unqualified, Florida Statutes require that a lien be placed against the property to recover the tax savings. Penalties and interest are also indicated. Property owners are permitted to pay the tax savings upon notification and can contact OCPA at (407) 836-5044 for additional information. Under the current circumstances, OCPA is delaying the next steps, but property owners retain the right to contest the current year denial through the [Value Adjustment Board](#).

Singh and his team continue to wish the community well in these trying times. The entire team is in place – though remotely – to assist Orange County taxpayers.

### About OCPA

The Orange County Property Appraiser’s office (OCPA) provides a fair and equitable tax roll, remarkable service and superior professionalism. The office also assists taxpayers with applying for homestead and other exemptions as well as understanding their Truth-In-Millage (TRIM) Notices each year. Under Rick Singh’s leadership, OCPA has returned more than \$1 billion in value to the tax roll through compliance initiatives and assessed \$1 trillion in value since 2013. As a trusted community partner, OCPA recently created and shared a website dedicated to the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 virus on Orange County. The site includes a [map](#) of Orange County that denotes emergency rooms, urgent care centers and pharmacies to assist residents in seeking medical care.

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