



County of Onondaga

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### **Filing Deadline Approaching for Onondaga County Real Property Tax Exemption for Cold War Military Veterans**

**Syracuse City Deadline for Filing is January 1st  
Deadline for Remainder of County is March 1st**

**Syracuse, NY**—City of Syracuse residents applying for the County Cold War Veterans Real Property Tax Exemption, passed by the Onondaga County Legislature in August, as well as the Syracuse Common Council in September, have until January 1st to submit their military discharge or DD 214 and application to the city Assessment Department in order to eligible for the exemption beginning in tax year 2011.

County residents living outside the city have until March 1<sup>st</sup> to submit their paperwork to their local town Assessor's office.

The purpose of this local law is to provide a limited property tax exemption for eligible residential property for Cold War veterans, pursuant to New York Real Property Tax Law similar to that which is currently available for Veterans of other periods of conflict such as WW II, Korea, Vietnam and the Gulf War.

A "Cold War veteran" is a person who served on active duty in the United States armed forces, during the time period from September 2, 1945 to December 26, 1991, and was

discharged or released under honorable conditions. "Active duty" means full-time duty in the

United States Armed Forces, other than active duty for training. Veterans currently receiving the Alternative or Eligible Funds exemption for service during other qualifying periods are not eligible for this exemption as an additional benefit.

In general, qualifying residential real property shall be exempt from taxation to the extent of 15% of the assessed value of their primary residence not exceed \$12,000.

In addition, Cold War Veteran's receiving a compensation rating from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or from the United States Department of Defense because of a service connected disability, may be exempt from taxation at a higher percentage rate.

Un-remarried surviving spouses of deceased Cold War Veterans are also eligible for the exemption.

For assistance in obtaining copies of discharges and DD 214's, Veterans can contact the County Veterans Service Agency by calling 315-435-3217. For questions regarding eligibility for Syracuse City residents call 315-448-8280. All other county residents should contact the tax assessor in their town for questions and further information.

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