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Jefferson County  
Office Of The Property Appraiser  
**ANGELA GRAY**  
**PROPERTY APPRAISER**

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# PRESS RELEASE

## The first year of Automatic Renewal.

**Jefferson County, January 5, 2010:** Property Appraiser, Angela Gray will be sending out automatic renewal notices for Exemptions and Agricultural classifications the first week of January 2010. These are the postcard size white and/or green cards that are mailed each year. This is the first year of automatic renewal and if there have been no changes in ownership or use on the property, no action is necessary by the owner.

If an owner receives an automatic renewal card that has incorrect information, they should contact the property appraiser's office and provide necessary information to have records corrected. It is important to note that if a change in ownership was made in 2009, exemptions or agricultural classifications do not transfer with a sale. New owners are required to file a new application in 2010 on or before March 1<sup>st</sup>.

If an owner allows an automatic renewal to occur and does not legally qualify for the exemption, there are severe penalties and a tax lien can be imposed on the property any year or years within the prior 10 years a person illegally received the homestead exemption benefit. Penalties include taxes exempted, plus a penalty of 50% of the unpaid taxes for each year and 15% interest per annum.

Please contact Angela Gray's office if there are any questions 850-997-3356.