

DOUGLAS COUNTY ASSESSOR - REGISTER OF DEEDS OFFICE

MEDIA ALERT

Feb. 11, 2016

TO: News directors, assignment editors, city editors

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For release: Immediately

Improved Personal-Property Filing Program Kicks Off; Nearly 26,000 Are Expected to File

Omaha, NE—The deadline to file your personal property return is May 1, according to Douglas County Assessor/Register of Deeds Diane Battiato.

"Depreciable personal property used in a trade or business, or in the production of income is taxable," Battiato explained. "Household goods are exempt, if they're not used for financial gain or profit."

Battiato said, like last year, paper returns won't be mailed, as a cost-saving measure. However, she is encouraging filers to take advantage of two recent changes that could benefit them.

"First, we've updated our personal-property system to make it more user-friendly and easier to access. If you have used the system previously, your user name and password no longer are valid.

To get started, visit http://property.douglascounty-ne.gov. Enter your e-mail address as your user name and create a new password." First-time filers will receive an account number, via e-mail, when they register to initially file online.

Battiato said the other new change for filers is the Personal Property Tax Relief Act. "This act provides an exemption for the first \$10,000 of tangible personal-property value for each tax district in which a personal-property return is filed. You may file a single return for multiple locations within the same tax district. You will forfeit this exemption if you do not submit your return on time for the tax year for which you are filing."

Battiato added that there are penalties for missing the filing deadline. To learn more about penalties, deadlines, who should file, and the online filing process, e-mail personalproperty@douglascounty-ne.gov, or call 402-444-7060, and select option #3. Battiato said to be sure to include your account number in your email, or have it ready when you call.