

Incline Village residents urged to file taxes under protest

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As property tax bills from the 2008-2009 fiscal year continue to roll in for Incline and Crystal Bay residents, officials with the community's tax revolt group are urging locals to pay the bills — but under protest.

“The Village League strongly suggests that every property taxpayer in Incline Village and Crystal Bay continues to pay their property taxes under protest,” wrote Incline resident Wayne Fischer, on the Village League to Save Incline Assets Web site (www.nevadapropertytaxrevolt.com). The Village League is the nonprofit group of Incline tax revolters that formed in 2003.

The Web site breaks down how taxpayers can pay their bills under protest by using a form specially created by the Village League.

If taxpayers choose to pay their payments in one lump sum, only one protest form is needed. Residents can access a pay under protest form on the Village League's Web site at www.nevadapropertytaxrevolt.org/pages/Forms.html.

“We created the form; it's not an official form,” said Maryanne Ingemanson, president of the Village League. “It's not like you can just write on the check, ‘under protests,’ so that's why we created the form.”

For other taxpayers who use the quarterly pay-back method, the Village League urges them to file a separate protest form for each of the four payments.

If residents don't pay in one lump sum, property tax payments are due as follows:

- First Payment: Aug. 18, 2008
- Second Payment: Oct. 6, 2008
- Third Payment: Jan. 5, 2009
- Fourth Payment: March 2, 2009

Residents can mail their payments to the Washoe County Treasurer's Office, P.O. Box 30039, Reno, NV, 89520-3039.

Ingemanson said people should protest, despite the recent opinion by the Nevada Supreme Court, which ruled in favor of 38 Incline parcel owners in the “Barta case.”

Just because the ruling was in favor of the tax revolt doesn't mean residents should ease off on their effort, she said.

“It's still extremely important to protest,” she said. “And we're encouraging people with vigor to protest and keep it up.”

For more information on the recent Supreme Court decision, read the Aug. 27 Bonanza story, “Nevada Supreme Court upholds Tahoe tax appeals,” at www.tahoebonanza.com.

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