Roles for Corrections of Errors by Assessors

Step 1-Assessor

- a. Discovers palpable error in real estate or personal property assessment in current year's assessment roll
- b. Makes note on current assessment roll
- c. Provides to property owner:
 - » Written notice of the correction
 - » Board of Review (BOR) appeal rights
- d. Refers correction to BOR
- e. Fills out Form PA-5/661: Correction of Errors by Assessor only if correction is certified by BOR
 - » Uses DOR's PA-5/661 form (revenue.wi.gov/DORForms/pa-5661f.pdf) or an assessment software system generated report
 - » Sends copy to municipal clerk

Step 2–Municipal Clerk/Treasurer

- a. Calculates refund of assessor's correction using the proper year's mill rate and fills in refund amount on Form PA-5/661
- b. Issues corrected tax bill to property owner
- c. Refunds or rescinds taxes if property owner is:
 - » Paid in full issues a refund
 - » Not paid in full only pays amount of corrected bill and the balance is rescinded (forgiven)

Note: If taxes are rescinded, the municipality must cover the difference by paying the outstanding balance to the county

- d. Settles in full with other taxing jurisdictions
- e. Sends a copy of completed correction of errors report to the county. Ensures the value reduction is reported on the Statement of Assessment (SOA), Line 23.
- f. Submits Form PC-201: Request for Chargeback of Rescinded or Refunded Taxes, to DOR by October 1 (only if the tax amount for a single description of property and tax year is \$250 or more)
- g. Records the refunded/rescinded amount or amount due on the Statement of Taxes (SOT), Section I
- h. Attaches a copy of Form PA-5/661 to current year assessment roll

Step 3-Wisconsin Department of Revenue

- a. Reviews Form PC-201 to confirm/determine amount of rescinded or refunded taxes by November 15
- b. Sends determination letter to municipal clerk and each affected taxing jurisdiction
- c. Note: Taxing jurisdictions must pay the municipality by February 15 of the following year

Step 4–County Treasurer

- a. Reports sec. <u>70.43</u> property tax refunds or additional property taxes collected from SOT, Section I on the Tax District Treasurer's Settlement (Form PC-501 or file transfer submission)
- b. Reports this value on Line 2 or Line 16, Column C

Additional Information

- Review sec. 74.41, Wis. Stats. for the laws on this process
- For other types of value reductions, different statutes apply:
 - » Delayed action of reviewing authority sec. 70.511
 - » Recovery of unlawful taxes sec. 74.35
 - » Claim on excess assessment sec. 74.37
 - » Note: The chargeback process is the same for municipalities where these other statutes apply they issue refunds and file PC-201 forms, however, they do no report the value change from a prior year on the SOA or the tax amount on the SOT or Treasurer's Settlement
- Questions? Contact us at lgs@wisconsin.gov