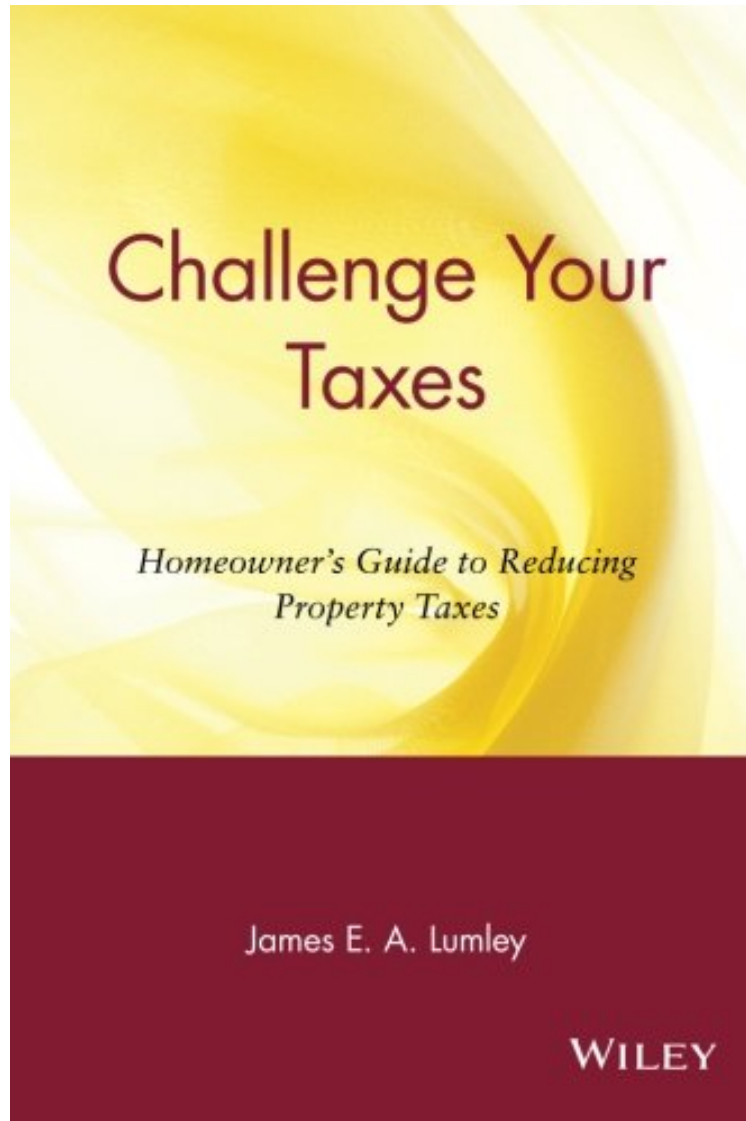


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Challenge Your Taxes: Homeowner's Guide to Reducing Property Taxes

James E. A. Lumley

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James E. A. Lumley : Challenge Your Taxes: Homeowner's Guide to Reducing Property Taxes before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Challenge Your Taxes: Homeowner's Guide to Reducing Property Taxes:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Limited help for lot ownersBy Nathaniel FirethornI bought this book after the assessed value of a vacant lot we own more than doubled. The book gives very little information on this

situation and what it gives is incorrect for our mostly built-out community (which computes lot value using a spreadsheet that I don't think even the tax assessors understand very well.) I would have liked to see a lot more (sic) on vacant land assessments. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Everything Average Person Needs To Know By Kevin A In summary, this book contains everything the average person needs to know about challenging their property tax. It covers the following and much more - Introduction to property tax - Property Valuation Methods - Valid Methods to Challenge Property Tax Identifying Assessment Errors Comparative Market Analysis demonstrating that your home is unfairly taxed compared to others My only complaint, which is a minor one, is that the book is somewhat repetitive at times and is longer than required. 1 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Thorough By Gina This book does a good job of explaining the property tax system and how most people value their property. The book includes examples and worksheets which can be extremely helpful when you are gathering data for your case. The main idea in this book is that your property taxes are too high because your property has not been properly recorded in the tax assessor's office. Determining this and obtaining the data suggested in this book will prove to be valuable information for most homeowners. This is a common reason used to successfully lower your property taxes. However, if this approach has not worked for you, you may want to look into my book, Lower Your Property Taxes, as I have taken a different approach.

How to save hundreds--even thousands--of dollars a year in property taxes You can't escape paying property taxes, but you can avoid paying more than you have to. This authoritative new guide explains how. Written by an experienced real estate counselor, Challenge Your Taxes helps you evaluate your property assessment and pinpoint any inaccuracies that, once amended, could dramatically reduce your tax bill. With proven guidelines and practical tips, you'll learn how to determine what your property is really worth, qualify your property for a deduction, and--in the case of an unfair assessment--prepare and present a successful appeal. Here's where you'll find complete details on: * Property valuation--fair market value, comparable sales and cost approach, amenity considerations * Assessors--who they are, what they do, and what they look for * Checking your property information--study your property record file, confirm property category, use sales/assessment ratio to establish fair value * Common assessment errors--miscalculated land area, incorrect judgment of condition, comparable sales ignored, wrong zoning classification * Assessment appeals--summary of procedure, presentation checklist, the appeal board, abatements Packed with helpful worksheets and numerous examples, as well as sample forms and addresses of state appeals agencies, this indispensable resource has everything you need to Challenge Your Taxes successfully.

From the Publisher Challenge Your Taxes explains the basic methods used in evaluating property, describing the common mistakes made by assessors. Readers will learn how to determine what their property is really worth and--in the case of an unfair assessment--how to prepare and present a successful appeal. From the Back Cover How to save hundredseven thousandsof dollars a year in property taxes You cant escape paying property taxes, but you can avoid paying more than you have to. This authoritative new guide explains how. Written by an experienced real estate counselor, Challenge Your Taxes helps you evaluate your property assessment and pinpoint any inaccuracies that, once amended, could dramatically reduce your tax bill. With proven guidelines and practical tips, youll learn how to determine what your property is really worth, qualify your property for a deduction, andin the case of an unfair assessmentprepare and present a successful appeal. Heres where youll find complete details on: Property valuationfair market value, comparable sales and cost approach, amenity considerations Assessorswho they are, what they do, and what they look for Checking your property informationstudy your property record file, confirm property category, use sales/assessment ratio to establish fair value Common assessment errorsmiscalculated land area, incorrect judgment of condition, comparable sales ignored, wrong zoning classification Assessment appealssummary of procedure, presentation checklist, the appeal board, abatements Packed with helpful worksheets and numerous examples, as well as sample forms and addresses of state appeals agencies, this indispensable resource has everything you need to Challenge Your Taxes successfully. About the Author JAMES LUMLEY is a former vice chairman of the Commercial and Investment Division of the Massachusetts Association of Realtors. His previous books include How to Get a Mortgage in 24 Hours, now in its Third Edition, and Sell It by Mail, both from Wiley.