

Town of Rye Office of the Assessor

222 Grace Church Street, Suite 303 Port Chester, NY 10573



March 3, 2022

RE: Real Property Veteran Exemption

Dear Property Owner:

Recently, New York State amended the *Alternative Veterans Exemption* such that the period of war for Vietnam was expanded to include earlier years back to 1955. Specifically, the start date for Vietnam was changed from February 28, 1961 to November 1, 1955. What this means is that if you are currently receiving a *Cold War Veterans Exemption*, you may be entitled to enhanced benefits under the *Alternative Veterans Exemption* ("Alt Vet").

The Alt Vet Exemption provides the following benefits on county/town/village taxes:

- Wartime = 15% Reduction in Assessed Value (with a Cap of \$54,000)
- Combat = +10% Reduction in Assessed Value (for a combined total of 25% with a combined Cap of \$90,000)
- Disability = 50% of Your Disability Rating (with a Cap of \$180,000)

In addition, an Alt Vet Exemption is applied to school taxes based on the percentages adopted by the school district. The Cold War Vet Exemption does not apply to the school portion.

The following *Periods of War* determines the *Alt Vet* eligibility:

Alternative Veterans ExemptionPeriods of War					
		Specific Dates			
	Years	From	<u>To</u>		
Persian Gulf Conflict	1990+	8/2/1990	Current		
Vietnam War	1955-1975	11/1/1955	5/7/1975		
Korean War	1950-1955	6/27/1950	1/31/1955		
World War II	1941-1946	12/7/1941	12/31/1946		

With this change, it is a good time for the Assessment Department to update our records for ALL Veteran Exemptions. As such, we are asking that ALL veterans re-apply.

Based on your service during a period of war noted above, please complete/sign the enclosed Alt Vet Exemption Application.

If you served during a time other than noted above, but included in the chart below, please complete/sign the enclosed *Cold War Exemption Application*.

	Specific Da		
Years	From	<u>To</u>	
1975-1990	5/8/1975	8/1/1990	
1955	2/1/1955	10/31/1955	
1947-1950	1/1/1947	6/26/1950	

You can also complete these online at: https://www.townofryeny.com/departments/assessment-office

Along with the completed application, please submit:

- A copy of your DD-214 (the *Member-4* version which indicates Honorable Discharge). <u>NOTE</u>: The DD-214 has been issued by all military services since January 1, 1950, so if you were discharged after that date, you should have a DD-214.
- A copy of your driver's license (as proof of residency).
- A marriage certificate/death certificate (if applicable).

If you have any difficulty locating your discharge papers, please contact this office.

If you are currently receiving a *CLV* (*Change in Level*) *Veterans Exemption*, you do not need to re-apply for that exemption, but you would need to re-apply for the Alt Vet Exemption to retain the school portion of the exemption. You also might be eligible for the Alt Vet School Portion because of the period of war date change. In addition, we would be happy to review the amounts of your CLV exemption since there is a possibility that if you switch to Alt Vet, you may receive more of a benefit. For this, we would have to evaluate your exemptions on an individual basis.

If after May 2, 2021, you already re-applied because your deed/ownership changed, you will not need to reapply now. If you are not sure, please contact us.

Please note that new exemption applications will be reviewed on their own merit for eligibility.

The deadline to re-apply is May 1, 2022. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Denise S. Knauer, IAO Town of Rye Assessor

Enclosures