



## NEWS RELEASE Assessor-Recorder-Clerk

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## Property Tax Relief/Vital Records Provided to Victims of Blue Cut Fire

San Bernardino County Assessor Bob Dutton announced today that property tax relief will be available for victims being hit hard by the Blue Cut Fire that has already destroyed thousands of acres. The most recent update identified 96 homes destroyed, 3 significantly damaged and 213 structures affected by the fire along the Cajon Pass.

Assessor Dutton said, "Unfortunately, as you know, the Blue Cut Fire has resulted in the destruction and damage to properties in San Bernardino County. As the San Bernardino County Assessor, California State Revenue and Taxation Code 170/Misfortune and Calamity allows me to reduce the value of property damaged due to misfortune or calamity when the damages exceed \$10,000."

This important reduction should be filed as quickly as possible

"Members of my staff are at the county's Local Assistance Center, located in building 6 at the San Bernardino County Fairgrounds, 14800 7<sup>th</sup> Street in Victorville. We are reaching out to potentially affected parties with information on how to file a claim, in addition to services to replace vital records such as birth, death and marriage certificates.

"At the conclusion of this fire event, my staff and I will be performing field inspections in the affected areas to identify properties which were damaged. Even without a claim form filed, our staff will be reducing values and notifying owners of any reductions made to their assessed valuation" added Assessor Dutton.

If a resident has questions regarding these services or would like additional information, they may contact the Hesperia Assessor District Office at (760) 995-8030 or the Hesperia Recorder Division at (855) 732-2575.

Bob Dutton is the San Bernardino Assessor-Recorder-Clerk and was a former California State Senator representing the Inland Empire.