

June 22, 2010

NEWS RELEASE

"LONG STANDING PROCESS RELATING TO HOME INSPECTIONS FOUND TO BE UNCONSTITUTIONAL!"

You may be aware that, along with our affiliate (Assessment Correction Group of NY), we funded litigation challenging a seventeen year old practice in Rockland and Orange counties which we felt prejudiced taxpayers like you. We are pleased to report that in a ten page decision issued on June 8, 2010, the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of New York vindicated our position and declared the practice unconstitutional. For years, when homeowners challenged their assessments, the assessors would demand an interior inspection of their homes, purportedly because they needed it in order to defend the case; if the homeowner refused, the Judicial Hearing Officer would dismiss the case, and thereby deny the homeowner his day in court. No other tax reduction representative ever did anything about this practice. We felt that the threat of an "interior inspection" effectively discouraged homeowners from grieving their taxes in the first place or would often cause them to withdraw their case, and we also believed that the practice was illegal. The court fight lasted one and half years, but in the end the appellate court agreed with us on all counts, and now taxpayers all over New York, including you, have been relieved of that threat.

If you would like to review the decision, you can find it on line at:

LINK TO DECISION: http://www.nycourts.gov/reporter/3dseries/2010/2010_05017.htm

OR, FOR PDF:

<http://www.courts.state.ny.us/courts/ad2/calendar/webcal/decisions/2010/D27126.pdf>