



# NEWS RELEASE

**ERNEST J. DRONENBURG, JR.**

Assessor/Recorder/County Clerk  
County of San Diego



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## **SAN DIEGO SUPERVISORS PASS ASSESSOR PROPOSAL PROVIDING FIRE VICTIMS PROPERTY TAX RELIEF**

*Proposal stemmed from family who lost their home to recent Tubbs Fire*

San Diego –San Diego County Board of Supervisors unanimously adopted an ordinance implementing Proposition 171, at the May 8, 2018 meeting. San Diego County Assessor Ernie Dronenburg and San Diego County Supervisor Bill Horn brought forward this ordinance to offer California wildfire and natural disaster victims a helping hand. With adoption of the ordinance adding section 86.2 victims that lost their homes in a Governor declared disaster can now re-locate and purchase a new home in San Diego County while keeping the same property taxes they had from their original residence.

The Wylie family brought this opportunity to assist fire and disaster victims after they lost their home to the Northern California Tubbs Fire, the most destructive wildfire in California history. Unable to rebuild and find shelter in their community the Wylie's sought refuge in re-locating to San Diego County as it reminds them of home. San Diego has now become the 11<sup>th</sup> County in California to adopt this type of ordinance, joining neighboring Counties Los Angeles and Orange County.

**Assessor Dronenburg said,** "The Tubbs fire destroyed what would be the equivalent of the City of San Marcos. These folks had nowhere to go and this tool allows my office to provide relief by helping fire victims re-locate and keep the same property taxes they had before. I thank the Wylie family for allowing me to assist them in their time of need."

**Supervisor Horn commented** "I've witnessed 28 major fires that have destroyed a lot of property and taken a few lives. There are counties in California that are doing more than we are in San Diego and this ordinance allows us to do more to help these victims."

**Kristy Wylie said,** "The Tubbs fire destroyed our home and community in Northern California. My husband, daughter, and I have moved four times in less than six months. We came to San Diego because it reminded us of home. This ordinance allows us to rebuild in San Diego and not be further penalized for the fire that ravaged our community."

Approval of this ordinance is part of a continued effort by the San Diego County Board of Supervisors and Assessor Dronenburg's office to provide relief to fire victims. Most recently with the leadership of Supervisor Horn in partnership with the Assessor's office, victims of the Lilac fire were given replacement of vital documents lost in the fire at no cost.

**Full video** of Assessor Dronenburg, Supervisor Horn, and the Wylie family remarks at the April 24, 2018 County Board of Supervisors meeting can be found (starting at 1:25) at:

[http://sdcounty.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view\\_id=9&clip\\_id=2039](http://sdcounty.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=9&clip_id=2039)

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Ernest J. Dronenburg, Jr. is the San Diego County elected Assessor/ Recorder / County Clerk. During his time in office has re-opened two satellite offices and extended office hours. Dronenburg has modernized government systems and eliminated the backlog in taxpayer appeals. Dronenburg is a graduate of the San Diego State University, School of Business Administration.