

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILING PROPERTY VALUATION PROTESTS

## Read these INSTRUCTIONS carefully

Please do not detach these instructions from your protest:

Before proceeding with this protest we recommend that you contact the Saunders County Assessor's office to discuss the valuation of your property. The Assessor's phone number is 402-443-5700.

1. Protest(s) must be limited to **VALUATION ONLY**.
2. Each property being protested **MUST** have a **SEPARATE** protest form.
3. The "requested valuation" of the property must be stated along with the basis for the request. Failure to state the reason(s) for the "requested valuation" shall be grounds for dismissal of the protest. **The legal description of the property and the value of the land and buildings must be included.**
4. **Agricultural and Horticultural Land** – if you are protesting agricultural and/or horticultural land values - *FSA Records need to be attached to the protest(s) if the number of farmable acres is in question.*

THE COMPLETED FORM(S) MUST BE **POSTMARKED** and/or **RECEIVED** BY THE COUNTY CLERK **NO LATER THAN – June 30, 2020.**

**Protest Forms and supporting documents can be returned to the County Clerk's office as follows:**

1. Mail to: Saunders County Clerk, PO Box 61, Wahoo, NE 68066
2. Placed in the Drop Box located on the North side of the Courthouse
3. Email to [clerksuite300@co.saunders.ne.us](mailto:clerksuite300@co.saunders.ne.us)
4. Fax to 402-443-5709

All documents supporting your request for valuation change **MUST** be attached to your protest(s) when filed with the County Clerk's office. Photos that are submitted will not be returned.

**\*\*\*Note:** All supporting documents & photos **MUST** be in hard copy format – **no CD's or other computer devices will be accepted.**

**NOTE:** The protest(s) you file **must be signed and dated.**

Each person protesting will have their protest reviewed by the County Assessor – which will make a recommendation to the Board of Equalization:

The protester can also choose to have their protest(s) reviewed by a License Appraiser (Referee) at a hearing – the Referee will then also make a recommendation to the Board of Equalization:

Please check one of the following boxes:

YES - I request a hearing with a Referee

NO – I decline a hearing with a Referee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Protester

As per Nebr. State Statute, the Saunders County Board of Equalization has to take formal action on your protest(s) no later than July 25. The County Clerk will notify you (the protester) of the action taken by the Board.

Appeals may be taken to the Tax Equalization and Review Commission **ON OR AFTER JULY 26 and ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 24.** If you have any questions call 402-443-8101.

File with the  
County Clerk  
(See Instructions)

# Property Valuation Protest and Report of County Board of Equalization Action

**FORM  
422**

County Name \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Name and Mailing Address of Person Filing Protest</b>			Protest Number _____	Filed _____, 20____
Name _____			<b>Protested Valuation 20____</b>	
The person filing this protest is the owner of the property or authorized to protest on behalf of the owner. If the protest is being filed on behalf of the owner, authorization to do so must be provided with the protest. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Street or Other Mailing Address _____			Land	Land
			\$	\$
City, Town, or Post Office _____ State _____ Zip Code _____			Buildings	Buildings
			\$	\$
Property Identification Number _____ Phone Number _____			Total Land and Buildings	Total Land and Buildings
			\$	\$
Email Address _____			Personal Property	Personal Property
			\$	\$
Real Property Description (Include Lot, Block, Addition, Location Address, Section, Township, Range, and County) and/or Personal Property Description  <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p><b>sign here</b> ▶ Signature of Person Filing Protest _____ Date _____</p> </div>			Reasons for requested valuation change (Attach additional pages if needed.)	
<b>Referee's Recommendation (If applicable)</b>  <b>SEE ATTACHED</b>				

<b>Decision of County Board of Equalization for Assessment Year 20____</b>	
Basis for Action Taken (County Board of Equalization Chairperson)	Land \$
	Buildings \$
	Total Land and Buildings \$
	Personal Property \$

Check One:

The county assessor has certified to the county board of equalization that a copy of that portion of the property record file which substantiates the calculation of the protested value is maintained in the county assessor's office in electronic or paper form. If dissatisfied with the board's decision, this report and the property record file may be used to complete an appeal to the Tax Equalization and Review Commission.

Attached is a copy of that portion of the property record file which substantiates the calculation of the protested value. If dissatisfied with the board's decision, this report and the property record file may be used to complete an appeal to the Tax Equalization and Review Commission.

▶ Signature of County Board of Equalization Chairperson \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

<b>County Clerk Certification</b>		
Date the Protest was Heard _____	Date of the Decision _____	Date Notice of Decision was Mailed to Protestor _____

The undersigned certifies that a copy of this protest and report of the action of the county board of equalization, which has been accepted by the assessor, has been mailed to the protestor at the above-shown address on \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

▶ Signature of County Clerk \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Instructions

**Dismissal.** Failure to adequately identify the property that is being protested or not stating a reason for the protest will result in dismissal of the protest.

**Where to File.** This form may be used to protest the valuation and any penalties assessed on real and/or personal property. When completed, this form must be filed with the county board of equalization at the office of the county clerk in the county where the property is located. **The protest must be signed and dated.**

If the person is filing the protest on behalf of the owner of the property, authorization to do so must be provided with the protest.

If the person filing the protest is not the owner of the property or authorized to protest on behalf of the owner, the county clerk must mail a copy of the protest to the owner of the property.

**Real Property Protest Filing Deadlines.** If additional space is needed, attach the additional information to this form.

1. If protesting the valuation of real property as determined by the county assessor, the protest must be filed on or before June 30.
2. If protesting a notice of valuation change received between June 1 and July 25 from the county board of equalization because the real property was undervalued, overvalued, or omitted for the current year's assessment, the protest must be filed within 30 days of the mailing of the notice.
3. If protesting a notice of omitted property valuation change and penalty received between January 1 and December 31 from the county board of equalization because the real property was not reported for assessment or because of a clerical error, the protest must be filed within 30 days of the mailing of the notice.
4. If protesting a notice of valuation change received after June 1 from the county board of equalization because the real property was denied an exemption from real property taxes, the protest must be filed within 30 days of the mailing of the notice.

When applicable, this form may be used for the protest of special valuation for agricultural and horticultural land.

**Personal Property Protest Filing Deadlines.** If additional space is needed, attach the additional information to this form.

1. If protesting the valuation as filed with the county assessor between January 1 and May 1, the protest must be filed by June 30.
2. If protesting the county assessor's notice of an additional assessment, notice of failure to file a personal property return, or the imposition of a penalty, the protest must be filed within 30 days of the mailing of the notice.

**Special Filing Provisions.** If a filing deadline falls on a weekend or holiday, the filing deadline is the next business day.

If this protest is sent to the county board of equalization through the U.S. mail, the protest is considered filed on the date of the postmark. If this protest is sent through the U.S. mail and either registered or certified, the date of registration or certification shall be deemed the postmarked date.

**Notice.** For protests of Real Property, subpart (1), or Personal Property, subpart (1), as stated above, the county clerk shall notify the protester by August 2 of the county board of equalization's decision regarding the protest. If the person filing the protest is not the owner of the property or authorized to protest on behalf of the owner, the county clerk must send written notice of the county board of equalization's decision to the owner of the property.

For all other protests, the county clerk shall notify the protester within seven days of the county board of equalization's decision regarding the protest.

**Appeals.** The time allowed to the county clerk to issue notice does not extend the time to file an appeal.

Any decision of the county board of equalization regarding a protest filed pursuant to Real Property, subpart (1), or Personal Property, subpart (1), as stated above, may be appealed to the Tax Equalization and Review Commission on or after July 26 and on or before August 24.

Any decision of the county board of equalization regarding a protest filed pursuant to Real Property, subpart (2), as stated above, may be appealed to the Tax Equalization and Review Commission on or after September 16 and October 15.

All other decisions of the county board of equalization regarding protests may be appealed within 30 days of the final decision to the Tax Equalization and Review Commission.

**The report of the county board of equalization decision is available at the office of the county clerk or county assessor, whichever is appropriate.**