


Local Law Filing Instructions



New York State Department of State
Division of Corporations, State Records and Uniform Commercial Code
One Commerce Plaza, 99 Washington Avenue
Albany, NY 12231-0001
www.dos.ny.gov

PLEASE OBSERVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILING LOCAL LAWS WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE

1. Each local law shall be filed with the Secretary of State within 20 days after its final adoption or approval as required by section 27 of the Municipal Home Rule Law. The cited statute provides that a local law shall not become effective before it is filed in the office of the Secretary of State.
2. Each local law to be filed with the Secretary of State shall be an original certified copy.
3. Each local law shall be filed on a form provided by the Department of State. If additional pages are required, they must be the same size as the form. Typewritten copies of the text may be attached to the form. Only legible copies will be accepted.
4. File only the number, title and text of the local law.
5. In the case of a local law amending a previously enacted local law, the text must be that of the law as amended. Do not include any matter in brackets, with a line through it, italicized or underscored to indicate the changes made. The printed number of the bill and explanatory matter must be omitted.
6. For the purpose of filing a local law with the Department of State, number each local law consecutively, beginning with the number one for the first local law filed in each calendar year. The next number in sequence should be applied to each local law when it is submitted for filing, regardless of its date of introduction or adoption. The date of filing of a local law is the date on which the local law is placed on file by the Department.

It is suggested that municipalities use introductory identifying bill numbers for proposed local laws. After the local law is enacted (and approved by the voters, if required), the local law should then be numbered with the next consecutive local law number, as described above, and then submitted to the Department for filing.

7. Each copy of a local law filed with the Secretary of State shall have affixed to it a certification by the Clerk of the County legislative body or the City, Town or Village Clerk or other officer designated by the local legislative body. Certification forms are provided herewith.
8. A copy of each local law may be mailed or delivered to:
NYS Department of State
Division of Corporations, State Records and Uniform Commercial Code
One Commerce Plaza, 99 Washington Avenue
Albany, NY 12231.

(DO NOT FILE THIS INSTRUCTION SHEET WITH THE LOCAL LAW.)

Local Law Filing

(Use this form to file a local law with the Secretary of State.)

Text of law should be given as amended. Do not include matter being eliminated and do not use italics or underlining to indicate new matter.

County City Town Village
(Select one.)

of Stillwater

Local Law No. 1 of the year 20 23

A local law A Local Law Providing Real Property Tax Exemptions for Volunteer Firefighters and
(Insert Title)
Ambulance Workers Pursuant to Section 466-A of the NYS Real Property Tax Law

Be it enacted by the Board of Trustees of the
(Name of Legislative Body)

County City Town Village
(Select one.)

of Stillwater as follows:

Local Law No. 1 of 2023 is enacted to read as follows:

[See attached].

(If additional space is needed, attach pages the same size as this sheet, and number each.)

(Complete the certification in the paragraph that applies to the filing of this local law and strike out that which is not applicable.)

1. (Final adoption by local legislative body only.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. 1 of 2023 of the (County)(City)(Town)(Village) of Stillwater was duly passed by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Stillwaer on February 21, 2023, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.
(Name of Legislative Body)

2. (Passage by local legislative body with approval, no disapproval or repassage after disapproval by the Elective Chief Executive Officer*.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. _____ of 20____ of the (County)(City)(Town)(Village) of _____ was duly passed by the _____ on _____ 20____, and was (approved)(not approved) *(Name of Legislative Body)* (repassed after disapproval) by the _____ and was deemed duly adopted *(Elective Chief Executive Officer*)* on _____ 20 , in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.

3. (Final adoption by referendum.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. _____ of 20____ of the (County)(City)(Town)(Village) of _____ was duly passed by the _____ on _____ 20____, and was (approved)(not approved) *(Name of Legislative Body)* (repassed after disapproval) by the _____ on _____ 20____. *(Elective Chief Executive Officer*)*

Such local law was submitted to the people by reason of a (mandatory)(permissive) referendum, and received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors voting thereon at the (general)(special)(annual) election held on _____ 20____, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.

4. (Subject to permissive referendum and final adoption because no valid petition was filed requesting referendum.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. _____ of 20____ of the (County)(City)(Town)(Village) of _____ was duly passed by the _____ on _____ 20____, and was (approved)(not approved) *(Name of Legislative Body)* (repassed after disapproval) by the _____ on _____ 20____. Such local *(Elective Chief Executive Officer*)* law was subject to permissive referendum and no valid petition requesting such referendum was filed as of _____ 20____, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.

* Elective Chief Executive Officer means or includes the chief executive officer of a county elected on a county-wide basis or, if there be none, the chairperson of the county legislative body, the mayor of a city or village, or the supervisor of a town where such officer is vested with the power to approve or veto local laws or ordinances.

5. (City local law concerning Charter revision proposed by petition.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. _____ of 20____ of the City of _____ having been submitted to referendum pursuant to the provisions of section (36)(37) of the Municipal Home Rule Law, and having received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors of such city voting thereon at the (special)(general) election held on _____ 20____, became operative.

6. (County local law concerning adoption of Charter.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. _____ of 20____ of the County of _____ State of New York, having been submitted to the electors at the General Election of November _____ 20____, pursuant to subdivisions 5 and 7 of section 33 of the Municipal Home Rule Law, and having received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors of the cities of said county as a unit and a majority of the qualified electors of the towns of said county considered as a unit voting at said general election, became operative.

(If any other authorized form of final adoption has been followed, please provide an appropriate certification.)

I further certify that I have compared the preceding local law with the original on file in this office and that the same is a correct transcript therefrom and of the whole of such original local law, and was finally adopted in the manner indicated in paragraph _____ above.

Clerk of the county legislative body, City, Town or Village Clerk or officer designated by local legislative body

Date: February 21, 2023

(Seal)

**A LOCAL LAW PROVIDING REAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR
VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS AND AMBULANCE WORKERS PURSUANT
TO SECTION 466-A OF THE NYS REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW**

Be it enacted by the Village Board of Trustees of the Village of Stillwater, in the County of Saratoga, as follows:

SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE INTENT AND PURPOSE.

(a) The Village Board of Trustees of the Village of Stillwater finds and determines that attracting and retaining quality volunteer firefighters and emergency medical personnel is one of the most critical problems facing our community and that maintaining effective emergency protection depends on the ability to train and retain volunteers.

(b) The Village Board finds and determines that it is essential for the Village to provide real property tax exemptions as an incentive to attract new volunteers and help combat a persistent and alarming decline in the number of volunteers serving as active responders to fire and medical emergencies and unless recruits are found to replace retiring volunteers and seasoned members are encouraged to continue their volunteer service, the health and safety of citizens served by the volunteer firefighter and emergency medical personnel corps may be jeopardized.

(c) The Village Board further finds and determines that real property tax exemptions are an appropriate way to recognize the personal sacrifices and dedication of these community-spirited men and women who unselfishly give their time and risk their safety to protect their neighbors without compensation.

(d) The purpose of this Local Law is to adopt the real property tax exemptions provided for volunteer firefighters and emergency medical personnel in accordance with Section 466-a of the Real Property Tax Law to read as follows.

SECTION 2. REAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION.

Real property owned by an enrolled member of an incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department or incorporated voluntary ambulance service or such enrolled member and spouse residing in the Village of Stillwater shall be exempt from taxation to the extent of 10 percent of the assessed value of such property for Village purposes, exclusive of special assessments. The maximum dollar value of said exemption shall be subject to the limitations set forth in Section 466-a of the Real Property Tax Law.

SECTION 3. QUALIFICATIONS.

Such exemption shall only be granted to an enrolled member of an incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department or incorporated voluntary ambulance services if:

ambulance service as an un-remarried spouse of an enrolled member of such incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department or incorporated volunteer ambulance service who was killed in the line of duty; and

- (b) Such deceased volunteer had been an enrolled member for at least five years; and
- (c) Such deceased volunteer had been receiving the exemption prior to his or her death.

SECTION 7. UN-REMARIED SURVIVING SPOUSES OF VOLUNTEERS WITH AT LEAST TWENTY YEARS OF SERVICE.

An un-remarried spouse of a volunteer firefighters or volunteer ambulance workers with twenty years of service may receive the real property tax exemption if:

- (a) Such un-remarried spouse is certified by the authority having jurisdiction for the incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department or incorporated voluntary ambulance service as an un-remarried spouse of an enrolled member of such incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department or incorporated volunteer ambulance service; and
- (b) Such deceased volunteer had been an enrolled member for at least twenty years; and
- (c) Such deceased volunteer and un-remarried spouse had been receiving the exemption of such property prior to the death of such volunteer.

SECTION 8. APPLICATION PROCESS.

(a) Applications for such exemption shall be filed with the assessor of the Town of Stillwater on or before the taxable status date on any form as may be prescribed by the assessor and the New York State Commissioner for the Office of Real Property Tax Services.

(b) The assessor shall have the duty and responsibility of procuring and filing a copy of such certification prior to granting the exemption provided for by this Local Law.

SECTION 8. NO DIMINUTION OF CURRENT BENEFITS.

No applicant who is a volunteer firefighter or volunteer ambulance worker who by reason of such status is receiving any benefit under the provisions of law on the effective date of this Local Law shall suffer any diminution of such benefit because of the provisions of this Local Law.

SECTION 9. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

- (a) the applicant resides in the Village of Stillwater and is a member of an incorporated volunteer fire company or fire department or incorporated voluntary ambulance service which provides service within the Village; and
- (b) the real property which is the subject of such exemption is the primary residence of the applicant; and
- (c) the real property is used exclusively for residential purposes; provided however, that in the event any portion of such property is not used exclusively for the applicant's residence but is used for other purposes, such portion shall be subject to taxation and the remaining portion only shall be entitled to the exemption provided by this Local Law; and
- (d) the applicant has obtained and displayed a certificate issued by the authority having jurisdiction for the incorporated volunteer fire company or fire department indicating that the applicant has been an enrolled member of such incorporated volunteer fire company or fire department for at least two years or the applicant has been certified by the authority having jurisdiction for the incorporated voluntary ambulance service as an enrolled member of such incorporated voluntary ambulance service for at least two years.

SECTION 4. CONTINUATION OF ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.

The applicant shall maintain continual eligibility for the exemption by being a continuously active member of the incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department, fire district, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service. An active member shall meet the requirements for active service as defined by each company, department or corporation. Annual attestation by such company, district or corporation is required to maintain this exemption.

SECTION 5. TWENTY-YEAR ACTIVE MEMBERS.

Any enrolled member of an incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department or incorporated voluntary ambulance service who accrues more than twenty years of active service, as defined in Section 3 hereof, and is so certified by the authority having jurisdiction for the incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department or incorporated voluntary ambulance service, shall be granted the ten percent exemption as authorized by this section for the remainder of his or her life as long as his or her primary residence is located within the Village of Stillwater.

SECTION 6. UN-REMARIED SURVIVING SPOUSES OF VOLUNTEERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY.

An un-remarried spouse of a volunteer firefighters or volunteer ambulance workers killed in the line of duty may receive the real property tax exemption if:

- (a) Such un-remarried spouse is certified by the authority having jurisdiction for the incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department or incorporated voluntary