

STATE OF INDIANA

DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE



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TO: County Assessors and Auditors
FROM: Courtney L. Schaafsma, Director of Data Analysis *CLS*
SUBJECT: Link between the Sales Disclosure System and the Homestead Database
DATE: April 18, 2011

This memorandum provides clarification on the automated link between the Department of Local Government Finance's ("Department") Sales Disclosure System and the Department's Homestead Database.

When the Homestead Database originally opened, the Department had designed a link that would send sales disclosure records if the records indicated they were to be used as homestead applications to the Homestead Database. These records would appear in the Homestead Database with a status of "Review," indicating that the Auditor needed to still verify the accuracy and completeness of the application. Unfortunately, over time, the link between the two systems has experienced numerous issues, resulting in some counties not having their data transfer from the Sales Disclosure System to the Homestead Database as expected. Other counties have expressed an interest in having the link between the Sales Disclosure System and the Homestead Database removed as it can lead to duplicates within the Homestead Database.

Due to these issues and comments, the Department is removing the link between the Sales Disclosure System and the Homestead Database at this time. The Department will continue to work toward the goal of a well-functioning link between the databases that remedies duplicate entries. Once the Department has attained this result, we will reopen the link. However, before reopening the link, we will provide additional guidance to all counties on the improvements made and their potential effect on both the Sales Disclosure System and the Homestead Database.

We appreciate all the feedback we have received on the link between the two systems from counties and apologize for any inconvenience or confusion the link has caused. If you have any question on the information above, please contact Courtney Schaafsma at cschaafsma@dlgf.in.gov or (317) 232-3759.