SOUTH PORTLAND BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW

APPLICATION FOR ABATEMENT OF PROPERTY TAXES & REQUEST FOR HEARING

(Pursuant to Title 36 of the Maine Revised Statutes § 843)

NOTE: Application must **first** be made to the Assessor

1. NAME OF APPLICANT: _____

2. ADDRESS OF APPLICANT: _____

3. TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____ E-MAIL: _____

4. NAME, ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF ATTORNEY/AUTHORIZED AGENT, IF ANY: _____
_____
_____

5. STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: _____

   MAP/LOT #: _____

6. ASSESSED VALUATION:
   (a) LAND: $_____
   (b) BUILDING: $_____
   (c) TOTAL: $_____

7. OWNER'S OPINION OF CURRENT VALUE:
   (a) LAND: $_____
   (b) BUILDING: $_____
   (c) TOTAL: $_____

8. ABATEMENT REQUESTED (VALUATION AMOUNT): _____
   [#6(c) minus #7(c) = #8]

9. TAX YEAR FOR WHICH ABATEMENT REQUESTED: _____

10. AMOUNT OF ANY ABATEMENT(S) PREVIOUSLY GRANTED BY THE ASSESSOR FOR THE ASSESSMENT IN QUESTION: _____

11. DATE OF ASSESSOR'S DECISION: _____

12. A BRIEF STATEMENT OF ALL PRIOR PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THE ASSESSOR CONCERNING THE DISPUTED ASSESSMENT: _____
_____
_____
_____
_____
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_____

13. REASONS FOR REQUESTING ABATEMENT: PLEASE BE SPECIFIC, STATING GROUNDS FOR BELIEF THAT ASSESSMENT IS "MANIFESTLY WRONG" FOR ASSESSMENT PURPOSES. ATTACH EXTRA SHEETS IF NECESSARY. Note that the Maine Supreme Court has held in tax abatement cases that in order to prevail the taxpayer must prove one of three things:

(1) The judgment of the Assessor was irrational or so unreasonable in light of the circumstances that the property is substantially overvalued and an injustice results;
(2) There was unjust discrimination; or
(3) The assessment was fraudulent, dishonest or illegal.

Only if the taxpayer proves one of these three things is the assessment said to be "manifestly wrong."

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14. ESTIMATED TIME FOR PRESENTATION AT HEARING: _____

Submit **TEN (10) COPIES** (an original plus nine copies) of the application and any documentation available to support your claim. All documentation **MUST** be submitted at least **twenty-one (21) days prior to the hearing date** to the Board of Assessment Review, c/o BAR Administrative Assistant, City of South Portland Assessor's Office, P.O. Box 9422, South Portland, ME 04116. For physical delivery: Board of Assessment Review, City of South Portland, 25 Cottage Road, South Portland, ME 04106. You will be notified of the scheduled hearing date.

To the South Portland Board of Assessment Review: In accordance with the provisions of 36 M.R.S. § 843, I hereby make written application for an appeal of the assessed value of the property as noted above. The above statements are correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

_____ _____
Date Signature of Applicant

THIS APPLICATION MUST BE SIGNED.

A separate application form should be filed for each separately assessed parcel of real estate claimed to be "manifestly wrong."