



**Marion County
Board of County Commissioners**

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BOARD ADOPTS 2011/2012 BUDGET AND MILLAGE RATE

Immediate Release

MARION COUNTY, Fla. (Sept. 20, 2011) – In a unanimous vote during their Sept. 19 public hearing, Marion County commissioners adopted the countywide budget and millage rate of 3.89 mills for the 2011-2012 fiscal year. A millage rate of 3.89 equates to \$3.89 for each \$1,000 of taxable property value, or \$389 for a home with a taxable value of \$100,000.

The resulting tax levy is \$5 million below the roll-back rate (the amount Marion County collected in taxes during the 2010-2011 fiscal year) and \$25 million below the maximum tax levy allowed under Florida law. In short, the 3.89 millage rate will result in a tax savings (compared to the current year) for Marion County citizens, according to budget officials within the Marion County Clerk of the Court's office.

Taxable property values, provided by Property Appraiser Villie Smith, showed that the total taxable property value (used for budgeting purposes) declined by eight percent this year, resulting in a \$5.2 million shortfall. During the last four years, Marion County has experienced a 33 percent drop in taxable property value, a decrease of approximately \$7.4 billion. Budget reductions from Marion County's departments and constitutional offices resulted in a total savings in all county property taxes of \$10 million in fiscal year 2011-2012 (compared to the 2010-2011 fiscal year) including savings in non-countywide services such as Fire Rescue and law enforcement.

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