

Paul J. Ruff has demonstrated important leadership qualities by being the First to implement several significant programs:

- **FIRST** Township Assessor in Will County and only the third in the state to initiate a program to digitize and archive all permanent records (paperless office) within the Assessor's office. (Target completion date Q2 of 2009)
- **FIRST** Township Assessor in Will County and the second of the 1,433 assessors in the State to have Geographical Mapping Technology (GMT) available online at the assessors web site to pinpoint real estate sales in neighborhoods. Includes: photographs, closing date, sale prices, etc.
- **FIRST** Township Assessor in Will County to reassess and revalue all 1,123 Commercial and Industrial properties in the township, resulting in \$288 Million added to 2008 tax rolls. This project has resulted in significant tax relief for residential property owners.
- **FIRST** Township Assessor in Will County to produce a mailing of Proposed Assessment Change (PAC) Notices along with five (5) affidavits to verify the income, vacancy, occupancy and other demographic information for all Commercial and Industrial properties.
- **FIRST** Township Assessor in Will County to provide Property Records Cards electronically on the web site for taxpayers' inspection and review.
- **FIRST** Township Assessor in Will County to provide photos, property characteristics, and sketches electronically on the web site for taxpayers' examination.
- **FIRST** Township Assessor in Will County to provide in-office **computer access** for taxpayers to inspect and review Will County tax information and assessments directly from the County computer-processing center.
- **FIRST** Township Assessor in Will County to create and implement a survey that taxpayers may utilize to update their Property Record Cards.
- **FIRST** Township Assessor in Will County to have a program to update files as well as correct assessment records and Property Record Cards. This ensures that taxpayers will receive equitable assessments.
- **FIRST** Township Assessor in Will County to have a daily suggestion program for taxpayers input.
- **FIRST** Township Assessor to initiate a taxpayers' questionnaire to grade the performance of the assessor and staff.

- **FIRST** Township Assessor in Will County to have a web site.
- **FIRST** Township Assessor to create five (5) brochures to assist taxpayers in understanding the assessment process, both printed and on the web site. These include: “Understanding Your Assessment”, “A taxpayer’s guide to property tax relief”, “Answers to your Assessment Questions”, “An Overview of Property Tax”, and “How your property is appraised”.
- **FOUNDING Chairman** of the Will County Veteran Memorial Committee, responsible for the installation of the Veteran’s memorial monument at the Will County office building.
- **FOUNDING Chairman** of the Frankfort Township Veteran Memorial Committee, responsible for the funding and installation of the large Veteran’s memorial nine-foot granite monument at the Frankfort Township office center.
- **Initiated and founded** the Veterans Commission in Will County.
- Successfully established the Will County Act 91-192 authorizing U.S. Veterans preferential hiring for county jobs as well as spouses and dependents of POW’s and disabled veterans.