

# ALERTS:

## ***Family & Medical Leave Act Alert - The National Defense Authorization Act Signed Into Law on October 28, 2009***

On October 28, 2009, the National Defense Authorization Act, including provisions that expand the military family leave provisions that were added to the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) in 2008, was signed into law. The new provisions expand “exigency leave” coverage previously granted to family members of National Guard and Reserve members on active duty in support of a contingency operation to situations involving regular service military members. The FMLA also was expanded to cover leave to care for family members who are veterans, served at any time during the previous five years, and were injured or became ill in the line of duty.

## ***Property Tax Appeal Alert - Deadline to File Property Tax Appeal is April 30, 2010***

Now is the right time to examine the assessor’s valuation of your property. In today’s market, the likelihood that the assessor’s estimate exceeds the fair market value has greatly increased and so has the likelihood that you are paying more than your fair share of real estate taxes. The deadline to file an appeal to challenge the estimated market value established in 2009 used to determine the 2010 tax due is **April 30, 2010**. For more information regarding property tax appeals, visit the web site of the city or county assessor where the property is located, or the web site of the Tax Court at [ustaxcourt.gov](http://ustaxcourt.gov).

## ***Federal Trade Commission Alert - Enforcement of FTC’s Red Flags Rule Delayed to June 1, 2010***

In Spring 2009, we told you about the Federal Trade Commission’s Red Flags Rule that requires financial institutions and creditors to implement identity theft detection and prevention programs for credit accounts. Originally slated to go into effect on May 1, 2009, the Red Flags Rule is now due to go into effect on June 1, 2010. The Federal Trade Commission web site ([ftc.gov](http://ftc.gov)) provides helpful information about the requirements, including the impact of the Rule on businesses that extend credit to other businesses rather than consumers.

***If you would like assistance in assuring best practices in any of these areas, please contact your attorney at Moss & Barnett.***