

CENSUS 2010 - It's a Numbers Game

by Mayor Fred Schorr

If you play, we all win!

Lower taxes, a new bridge, tree lined streets, improved drainage – What could all of these possibly have in common with a census form? Each day every one of us pays taxes: Income tax to the Federal Government, Sales tax to Florida State, and Gasoline Taxes to Broward County. Wouldn't it be nice if we could guarantee that more of that money comes back to Lighthouse Point every year to continually make our City a better place to live? You can, and it's as simple as filling out the Census Form arriving in your mailbox in March and due back on April 1.



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Lighthouse Point, like every other city, competes each year for our share of returned tax revenue. We get a share of the Gasoline Tax paid to the City from the County, we get a check from the State for our share of Sales Tax, and the Federal Government allocates funds for Community Grants. Our share of each of these is solely based on population – the more people we have the more we get. The more people that are not counted in Lighthouse Point, the more other cities get our share.

During the last census, **32% of all Lighthouse Point households DID NOT RETURN the census. Our City failed to receive over \$4 Million because those forms were not returned. We can't let that happen again.** We need your help to encourage all your friends and neighbors to return their forms.

The census is totally confidential. Nobody can see your form for 72 years. The count has nothing to do with residency, voting, taxes, homestead, or immigration. Just count everyone in your home on April 1, 2010. Please put them on your form and send it in. It's important for all of us and we all win when we get an accurate count.



*Mayor Schorr's Grandparents
found in the 1910 Census*

On a personal note, I recently began researching my family history. I began with the Census forms in New York City 100 years ago. It was a treasure-trove of information. Just think of the history you'll be leaving for generations to come. If not for the money do it for the legacy! We need your help – if you play, we all win!