



# Memorandum

To: Honorable Jerome E. Horton, Chairman  
Senator George Runner, Vice Chair  
Honorable Fiona Ma, CPA, Second District  
Honorable Diane L. Harkey, Fourth District  
Honorable Betty T. Yee, State Controller

Date: March 19, 2015

From: Cynthia Bridges   
Executive Director

Subject: **Special Presentation, March 25, 2015, Governor's Employee Safety Award**

A group of five Board of Equalization employees, Dina Taruso, Michael Matlock, LeeAnn Whisenhunt, Troy Elliot and Joseph Zingg have been awarded the Governor's Employee Safety Award. This is to recognize those employees and present them with their awards.

On a midsummer day in 2013, as Dina Taruso, Michael Matlock, LeeAnne Whisenhunt, Troy Elliot, and Joseph Zingg were working at their desks in the Centralized Collection Section, a co-worker was noticed lying on the floor in a cubicle. With concern for the employee, a staff member attempted to obtain a pulse, but could not detect one. Immediately, Dina, Michael, LeeAnne, Troy and Joseph used the emergency protocol, called 911, and began CPR and chest compressions to try to revive the employee. Then they initiated the use of the defibrillator machine. The readings from the defibrillator indicated the employee was not breathing. The team continued CPR until the CHP and paramedics arrived and assumed the care of the employee. The quick, decisive actions by these individuals helped save the employee's life. They turned a medical emergency into a positive life-saving situation.

The Governor's Employee Safety Awards (GESA) program was established in 1980, by the Department of General Services (DGS), Office of Risk and Insurance Management (ORIM) to highlight and promote health and safety in the workplace. This distinguished award is signed by the Governor and is presented to State employees and departments in recognition for outstanding contributions to the prevention of illness and injury during the preceding calendar year.

CB:ls

cc: Mr. Kari Hammond  
Ms. Shellie Hughes  
Mr. Sean Wallentine  
Mr. Jim Kuhl  
Mr. Russell Lowery  
Ms. Yvette Stowers