



**For Immediate Release**  
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## **L.A.'s Expo Park Goes Expo on Small Business Seminar**

The best advice was free at today's Los Angeles Small Business Seminar in Exposition Park. The early morning briefing was hosted by co-partners Jerome E. Horton, Chairman of the California Board of Equalization, Mark Ridley-Thomas, Chair of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, and California Assembly Member, Reginald Jones-Sawyer.

Representative from the Board of Equalization, the Employment Development Department, the Franchise Tax Board, the Internal Revenue Service, the Small Business Administration, and the Small Business Development Center were also there to answer questions asked by some 400 entrepreneurs looking to grow their businesses and learn more about complying with state and federal tax laws.



“Accessing capital to grow your business, capitalizing on tax credits, and minimizing the frustration of government red-tape are the primary topics at the Small Business Seminar,” said BOE Chairman Horton. “Our goal is to help you become millionaires and billionaires,” he added while encouraging the seminar patrons to collaborate on business-building activities.

County Supervisor Ridley-Thomas welcomed attendees by talking about the importance of small businesses to the fiscal health of Los Angeles. “We want to encourage entrepreneurship that reflects the diversity of Los Angeles County,” he said. “We are doing what government is expected to do, providing the information and resources you need to grow your business.”

“It is important that elected officials collaborate on business-building activities that contribute to the growth and financial health of businesses,” said Jones-Sawyer. “I am very pleased that we were able to deliver this seminar to business owners in South Los Angeles.”

Lupe Contreras, owner of M.C. Woodworks, a wood pallet manufacturing and distribution business in Los Angeles, summarized what the majority of business owners wanted. “I am here with my business partner to learn about any new laws or other requirements for small business owners,” she said. “And, based on the seminar agenda, I believe this will be a day well spent.”

For more information relevant to business owners, as well as future small business seminars, interested parties should visit Chairman Horton's website at - [www.boe.gov/members/horton](http://www.boe.gov/members/horton).

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Elected in 2010, Chairman Jerome E. Horton is the Fourth District Member of the California State Board of Equalization, representing more than 8.5 million residents in Los Angeles County. He is also the Board of Equalization's Legislative Committee Chairman. He is the first to serve on the Board of Equalization with over 21 years of experience at the BOE. Horton previously served as an Assembly Member of the California State Assembly from 2000-2006.

The five-member California State Board of Equalization is a publicly elected tax board. The Board of Equalization collects more than \$53.7 billion annually in taxes and fees supporting state and local government services. It hears business tax appeals, acts as the appellate body for franchise and personal income tax appeals, and serves a significant role in the assessment and administration of property taxes. For more information on other taxes and fees in California, visit [www.taxes.ca.gov](http://www.taxes.ca.gov).

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