



State Board of Equalization

# News Release

**Vice Chairperson Jerome E. Horton**

**4<sup>th</sup> District – Los Angeles**

Ramon J. Hirsig  
Executive Director  
[www.boe.ca.gov](http://www.boe.ca.gov)

**For Immediate Release**  
**March 25, 2010**

**Contact: NR 39-10-H**  
**Anita Gore**  
**916-327-8988**

## **Board of Equalization Wins Bronze in the State Agency Recognition Awards** *BOE Honored for Outstanding Achievements in SB/DVBE Programs*

Jerome E. Horton, Vice Chairperson of the California State Board of Equalization (BOE), announced that the BOE received the Bronze Award in the Governor's State Agency Recognition Awards (SARA) for 2009. The SARA award honors California departments and employees for their best practices, creativity, and outstanding achievements to advance the State's Small Business (SB) and Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (DVBE) programs. The award was discussed by the Board at today's public meeting in Sacramento.

The BOE was recognized for its hard work toward the State's SB/DVBE goals. In addition to increasing business with SB/DVBES whenever possible, the BOE has also endeavored to identify SB/DVBE vendors within leveraged procurement agreements. The BOE increased its SB participation by 16.6% and its DVBE participation by 4.48%.

The Governor's Executive Order S-09-06 requires state agencies to award at least 25% of their annual contracting dollars to SBs and at least 3% to be awarded to certified DVBEs in order to further participation in state contracting, promote competition, and encourage greater economic opportunity. BOE achieved a 36% SB and 8% DVBE participation level in their annual contracting. Every year state agencies must report to the governor and the legislature their total contracting participation.

Vice Chairperson Jerome E. Horton is the 4th District Member of the BOE, representing more than 8.5 million residents in Los Angeles County. He is also the BOE Legislative Committee chair. Horton is the first African American to serve on the BOE since its inception in 1879, and the third African American constitutional officer in California's history. Horton was appointed by the Governor and confirmed by both the Assembly and the Senate in 2009. Horton previously served as an Assembly member from 2000-2006.

The five-member California State Board of Equalization is a publicly elected tax board. The BOE collects more than \$53 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).

For more information on the SARA: [www.pd.dgs.ca.gov/smbus/SARA2009.htm](http://www.pd.dgs.ca.gov/smbus/SARA2009.htm).

###