



State Board of Equalization

# News Release

**Vice Chair Michelle Steel**

**3<sup>rd</sup> District – Orange County**

Cynthia Bridges  
Executive Director  
[www.boe.ca.gov](http://www.boe.ca.gov)

**For Immediate Release**  
**July 31, 2013**

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## **Free Small Business Fair in Buena Park** **Helping Small Businesses Succeed – August 7**

**Sacramento** – Business owners, entrepreneurs, and individuals who would like to start a business are invited to attend a [free small business fair in Buena Park](#) on Wednesday, August 7, 2013. Michelle Steel, Vice Chair of the California State Board of Equalization (BOE) and the City of Buena Park are sponsoring this event.

Entrepreneurs and small business owners looking for answers and help with state and federal tax laws, as well as business people who want to expand their business knowledge, will benefit from presentations by representatives from the BOE, the Employment Development Department, Franchise Tax Board, Internal Revenue Service, the U.S. Small Business Administration, Small Business Development Center - Orange County, Coastline Institute for Economic Development, and Orange County SCORE.

**Event:** Free Small Business Fair and Resource Expo  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 7, 2013  
**Time:** 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. (check-in begins at 8:30 a.m.)  
**Place:** Walter D. Ehlers Community Center  
8150 Knott Ave.  
Buena Park, CA 90620

**Registration:** [www.boe.ca.gov/sutax/sbf.htm](http://www.boe.ca.gov/sutax/sbf.htm) or call 1-888-847-9652

Learn more about a variety of BOE's other [in-person classes](#) and [online seminars](#).

*Editor's note: Listen to the PSA for this event ([15-second audio](#) and [30-second audio](#)).*

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Elected to the Board of Equalization in 2006 and re-elected in 2010, Michelle Steel serves as *Southern California's elected taxpayer advocate*. In December 2007, Steel discovered the Board of Equalization had delayed the return of millions of dollars in security deposits owed to California businesses. Procedures were changed due to Steel's decisive leadership. Following her investigation, the tax agency refunded tax security deposits to over 5,500 small businesses. To date, over \$100 million in security deposits have been returned to taxpayers.

The five-member California State Board of Equalization (BOE) is a publicly elected tax board. The BOE 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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