



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)

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## **BOE Finds Riverside County Assessor's Office Meets State Standards**

**Sacramento** – The Board of Equalization (BOE) released a report today stating that most properties in Riverside County are properly assessed and the overall quality of the assessment roll, representing approximately \$200.6 billion in value, meets state standards, announced BOE’s Vice Chair Michelle Steel.

The [Riverside County Assessment Practices Survey Report](#) addresses the quality of the 2011-12 Riverside County assessment roll, and presents 11 recommendations for improving the Riverside County Assessor's programs. The report includes the assessor's response to the recommendations, which is available online.

These reports provide an overview of how well the assessors' duties are performed in California's 58 counties, and identify where improvements should be made. Every assessor is required to identify and assess all properties located within the county – unless specifically exempt – and maintain a database or "roll" of the properties and their assessed values.

Surveying the state's 58 county assessors' practices fulfills the BOE's mission of promoting statewide consistency in property tax assessment. Every five years, the BOE reviews each county's property tax assessment practices and publishes a report.

For more information on the BOE assessment practices survey program, visit:  
[www.boe.ca.gov/proptaxes/apscont.htm](http://www.boe.ca.gov/proptaxes/apscont.htm).

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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 \$56 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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