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No. 2014/048

October 3, 2014

TO COUNTY ASSESSORS:

NEW ASSESSMENT PRACTICES SURVEY WEB PAGE

This is to announce the launch of a newly designed web page dedicated to information about the Assessment Practices Survey Program. The new web page, which has been developed in consultation with the California Assessors' Association, was designed to provide greater transparency about the survey program.

Visitors to the web page will find, in addition to a detailed description of the survey program, links to the following documents for each topic that may be covered in any survey:

Scope of Review

This document includes an overview of the topic, including embedded links to authoritative citations. It also identifies the specific areas of review within the topic.

Authoritative Citations

This document lists for the topic all applicable statutes, court decisions, rules, annotated legal opinions, sections of the Assessors' Handbook, and relevant Letters To Assessors. The document provides a brief description of each authority, and includes links that lead directly to the citations.

Common Recommendations

This document lists and details the common recommendations made for the topic in recent years.

Historical Recommendations

This document lists all recommendations that have been made for the topic since 1998.

The launch of the new web page coincides with a move to streamline the format of the survey reports. Going forward, survey reports will not include detailed descriptions of assessment topics that are not the subject of a recommendation. Instead, those descriptions will be available on the new web page.

Additionally, the text of applicable statutes and rules, formerly included as part of the appendix of each report, will be accessible from the new web page. Finally, statistical information for each survey, formerly embedded in the body of each report, will be moved to an appendix.

The revised format will focus on the recommendations, improve the readability of the report, and reduce the edit and review time of the report. These changes will assist in providing the assessors with the survey results in a more timely basis.

We encourage you to visit the newly designed web page, which can be accessed at this link: <http://www.boe.ca.gov/proptaxes/apscont.htm>. If you have any questions or comments, please contact the County-Assessed Properties Division at 1-916-274-3350.

Sincerely,

/s/ Dean R. Kinnee

Dean R. Kinnee
Acting Deputy Director
Property Tax Department

DRK:mn