

**For Immediate Release**  
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## **Board of Equalization Reviews More Businesses for Compliance**

*Four More Zip Codes Notified of Future Visits from Specialists*

The second in a series of letters to retailers statewide have been sent to more than 8,500 businesses in four different zip codes throughout the state: 95111 – San Jose; 90504 – Torrance; 92705 – Santa Ana; and 92530 – Lake Elsinore, are being notified this week of upcoming visits from Board of Equalization (BOE) specialists who will be canvassing the areas to ensure the businesses are properly registered and paying taxes.

Seven zip codes were already notified of the new enhanced compliance effort slated to begin in mid-September. The first areas to get visits under this program will be: 94608 - Emeryville; 95826 - Sacramento; 95110 - San Jose; 91406- Van Nuys; 90505 - Torrance; 92701 - Santa Ana; and 92570 - Perris.

The goal of these visits by the Statewide Compliance and Outreach specialists is to ensure all businesses are properly registered so there is no unfair business advantage over those businesses that are properly registered and reporting their taxes/fees. A recent two-year pilot, the Business License Inspection Program, estimated that over three percent of businesses operating in California do so without the appropriate permits or licenses that allow for collection of sales and use tax, as well as other taxes and fees. Non-compliance is a part of the more than \$2 billion sales and use tax gap.

The BOE specialists will conduct checks for seller's permits of all storefronts and other known business locations. Initially, there will be seven teams of approximately three people located throughout the state that will begin their door-to-door visits based on zip code. Registered retailers will be checked for appropriate permits and licenses as well as service industry businesses, especially if the particular service industry also sells taxable retail items. Those businesses found to be out of compliance will be given instructions on how to register with the BOE and given information about other necessary licenses.

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.

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