



State Board of Equalization

News Release

Vice Chairwoman Betty T. Yee

1st District – San Francisco

Ramon J. Hirsig
Executive Director
www.boe.ca.gov

**For Immediate Release
February 11, 2008**

**Contact: NR 7-08-Y
Anita Gore
916-327-8988**

Betty T. Yee Releases San Francisco City and County Assessment Practices Survey Report

Betty T. Yee, Vice Chairwoman of the Board of Equalization (BOE), today released an assessment practices survey report on the City and County of San Francisco. The BOE focused on the quality of the 2005-2006 San Francisco City and County assessment roll, which contained about 218,400 assessments totaling \$110.0 billion in value.

The San Francisco City and County Assessment Practices Survey Report found most properties in San Francisco City and County are assessed properly and that the overall quality of the assessment roll meets state standards. One innovation made by the current San Francisco City and County Assessor in discovering unreported changes in ownership is the "Real Estate Watchdog" program. This program provides a financial incentive for local residents to furnish information concerning unreported changes in ownership.

The report contains several recommendations for the San Francisco Assessor, which include resolving the backlog of assessments in his change in ownership, new construction, and private interest in tax exempted government-owned property programs, and timely completing audits of business property accounts that are mandatory every four years.

The BOE is the agency responsible for promoting statewide uniformity and consistency in property tax assessment. The BOE reviews each county's property assessment practices and procedures once every five years and publishes a report of its findings. The report provides an overview of how well the assessor's duties are performed and identifies 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. If the assessor's roll meets state requirements, the county is allowed to recapture some administrative costs.

For more information on the BOE program, visit: <http://www.boe.ca.gov/proptaxes/apscont.htm>.

Vice Chairwoman Betty T. Yee was elected to her post in November 2006. Her district includes many of California's coastal counties, from Del Norte to Santa Barbara, and includes the entire San Francisco Bay Area.

The five-member State Board of Equalization (BOE) 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.

Click [here](#) to view the 2008 San Francisco City and County Assessment Practices Survey Report

###