



State Board of Equalization

# News Release

**Vice Chairperson Jerome E. Horton**

**4<sup>th</sup> District – Los Angeles**

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## **Jerome E. Horton Honored at California Training Summit on Problem Gambling**

SACRAMENTO – Jerome E. Horton, Vice Chairperson of the California State Board of Equalization (BOE) today was recognized at the first annual California Problem Gambling Training Summit for his outstanding leadership as a policy maker and continuous support in mitigating problem gambling throughout the State.

The California Office of Problem Gambling (OPG), a division of the California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs, presented Horton with an award entitled “Achieving Success One Step at a Time,” at an awards luncheon co-hosted by the California Council on Problem Gambling and OPG on Thursday, March 11, 2010, at the Red Lion Inn in Sacramento.

“Mr. Horton was chosen to receive the first Office of Problem Gambling Legislator’s Award for his tireless commitment to public service and initiating prevention and treatment programs for problem gamblers and their families,” said OPG Deputy Director Terri Sue Canale. “We applaud him for his forward thinking and solutions-oriented, consensus building efforts.”

OPG has coordinated this training summit in conjunction with National Problem Gambling Awareness Week, a grassroots public awareness and outreach campaign to educate the general public and health care professional about the warning signs of problem gambling.

In learning of the award, Mr. Horton stated, “I am humbled and honored by the California Office of Problem Gambling’s decision to select me as the first recipient of the Achieving Success One Step at a Time award. The title of the award closely aligns with my life passion to do all that I am able to do for as many individuals as possible one day at a time.”

As Vice Chairperson of the California State Board of Equalization Mr. Horton represents more than 8.5 million constituents in the Fourth Equalization District; he also served as the 51<sup>st</sup> Assembly District Member in the California State Assembly.

In 2003, Mr. Horton authored Assembly Bill 673 creating the Office of Problem and Pathological Gambling with a \$3 million funding appropriation. His accomplishments have had a “positive impact on the realities of problem gambling and have helped to minimize its negative effects on Californians statewide,” Canale said.

Canale quotes Aristotle when speaking of Horton's significant contributions to addressing the problem of pathological gambling: "In the arena of human life, the honors and rewards fall to those who show their good qualities in action."

For more information on the California Office of Problem Gambling (OPG), visit [www.adp.ca.gov/opg](http://www.adp.ca.gov/opg)  
Or contact OPG at 916-327-8611 or email [opg@adp.ca.gov](mailto:opg@adp.ca.gov).

The Office of Problem Gambling is responsible for developing prevention and treatment programs to reduce the prevalence of problem and pathological gambling among California residents. For help with problem gambling call 1-800-GAMBLER (1-800-426-2537) or visit <http://www.problemgambling.ca.gov> to access the Freedom from Problem Gambling self-help workbook or view responsible gambling guidelines.

Vice Chairperson Jerome E. Horton is the 4th District Member of the BOE, representing more than 8.5 million residents in Los Angeles County. He is also the BOE Legislative Committee Chairperson. Horton is the first African American to serve on the BOE since its inception in 1879, and the third African American constitutional officer in California's history. Horton was appointed by the Governor and confirmed by both the Assembly and the Senate in 2009. Horton previously served as an Assembly member from 2000-2006.

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. For more information on other taxes and fees in California, visit [www.taxes.ca.gov](http://www.taxes.ca.gov).

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