



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)

**For Immediate Release**  
**October 12, 2012**

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## **Free Seminar for Nonprofits to Get Tax Help** **BOE Reaches out to Provide Valuable Assistance to Community Organizations**

**Sacramento** – Individuals who manage or who are considering starting a nonprofit or exempt organization can find answers to many of their questions at the California State Board of Equalization's (BOE) Nonprofit and Exempt Organizations Tax Seminar on October 19<sup>th</sup>. The free seminar in Lake Forest is sponsored by BOE Vice Chair Michelle Steel, Assemblywoman Diane Harkey, Assemblyman Don Wagner, and Orange County Supervisor Patricia Bates.

“Nonprofit organizations already have a challenging task raising money and providing needed services; especially in this economic environment, they don't need to waste time struggling to understand and comply with the tax code,” said Vice Chair Steel. “That is why we have organized this free Tax Seminar.”

“This is one of the most important seminars people of faith and those with non-profit status can attend to protect assets and contributions from conflicting with ever increasing government regulation and taxation,” said Assemblywoman Diane Harkey.

“The free Tax Seminar is a valuable resource for organizers and founders of nonprofit organizations who seek to better understand and comply with the tax code,” said Assemblyman Don Wagner. “We hope to provide this assistance to nonprofit organizations so that they may continue their valuable work for the constituents of our districts.”

Representatives from the BOE's Sales and Use Tax and Property Tax Departments, the Employment Development Department, Attorney General's Office, the Franchise Tax Board, the Internal Revenue Service, and California Taxpayers' Rights Advocates will present information and answer questions about property tax exemptions, state and federal tax issues for nonprofits and exempt organizations, and regulation of charities.

**Event:** Nonprofit and Exempt Organizations Tax Seminar

**Date:** Friday, October 19, 2012

**Time:** 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (check-in at 8:30 a.m.)

State Board of Equalization • 450 N Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 • 1-800-400-7115

**Connect with Us:**



**Place:** Saddleback Valley Community Church  
1 Saddleback Parkway  
Lake Forest, CA 92630  
(Free Parking)

**Register:** <http://www.boe.ca.gov/cgi-bin/seminar.cgi?FLAG=178> or call 1-888-847-9652

For more information: [http://www.boe.ca.gov/sutax/pdf/LF\\_NP\\_invite\\_10-19-12\\_WEB.pdf](http://www.boe.ca.gov/sutax/pdf/LF_NP_invite_10-19-12_WEB.pdf)

Other helpful in-person classes offered by BOE can be found online at [www.boe.ca.gov/info/VirtualSeminars/seminars\\_inperson.htm](http://www.boe.ca.gov/info/VirtualSeminars/seminars_inperson.htm).

The BOE also offers online seminars on a variety of topics at [www.boe.ca.gov/info/VirtualSeminars/seminars\\_online.htm](http://www.boe.ca.gov/info/VirtualSeminars/seminars_online.htm).

***Editor's note: Listen to the 15-second and 30-second audio public service announcements (PSAs) for this event at [http://www.boe.ca.gov/news/Lake\\_Forest\\_PSA\\_15.mp3](http://www.boe.ca.gov/news/Lake_Forest_PSA_15.mp3) and [http://www.boe.ca.gov/news/Lake\\_Forest\\_PSA\\_30.mp3](http://www.boe.ca.gov/news/Lake_Forest_PSA_30.mp3).***

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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 more than \$53.7 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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