

For Immediate Release
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ASSESSMENT PRACTICES SURVEY REPORT
RELEASED FOR SHASTA COUNTY

The State Board of Equalization today released an assessment practices survey report on Shasta County. As the agency responsible for promoting statewide uniformity and consistency in property tax assessment, the Board reviews each county's property assessment practices and procedures once every five years.

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.

The Board's report focused on the quality of the 2005-2006 Shasta County assessment roll, which contained about 106,000 assessments totaling \$12.33 billion in value. The report found most properties in Shasta County are assessed properly, and the overall quality of the assessment roll meets state standards. The assessor makes use of technology in its operations, such as allowing taxpayers to file their property statements electronically and putting much assessment information on her website. In addition, the assessor preprinted the welfare claimant's certificate number on claim forms mailed to taxpayers. This has streamlined the processing of returned claims.

The report contains several recommendations for the assessor, which include notifying the auditor when to apply interest for escape assessments, properly assessing private interest on government-owned property, and including sales and use tax in the assessed values of vessels.

The five-member Board of Equalization is a publicly elected tax board. The Board collects nearly \$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 plays a significant role in the assessment and administration of property taxes.

[Click Here to View the July 2007 Shasta County Assessment Practices Survey Report](#)

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