



NEWS RELEASE

**STATE BOARD
OF EQUALIZATION**

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Acting Member, BOE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NR# 60-Y
Date: October 19, 2006
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**ASSESSMENT PRACTICES REPORT
RELEASED FOR SOLANO COUNTY**

Betty T. Yee, Acting Member of the State Board of Equalization (BOE), today released an assessment practices survey report on Solano County. As 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.

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 BOE's report focused on the quality of the 2005-2006 Solano County assessment roll, which contained about 145,500 assessments totaling \$36.4 billion in value. The report found most properties in Solano County are assessed properly, and the overall quality of the assessment roll meets state standards. The assessor has an effective working relationship with the assessment appeals board and tracks all outstanding appeals to ensure they are resolved timely. The change in ownership, new construction, and historical property programs are well managed and documented.

The report contains several recommendations for the assessor, which include revising confidentiality protections in consultant contracts; including the six-month filing period on notices for disaster relief assessment appeals; revaluing several private interests in tax exempted, government-owned property; and timely completing mandatory audits of the largest business property accounts every four years.

Acting Board Member Betty T. Yee, of San Francisco, assumed the First District seat on the Board of Equalization in 2004.

The five-member Board of Equalization is a publicly elected tax board. The Board collects almost \$50 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.

Other Board Members include Bill Leonard of Sacramento/Ontario, Second District; Claude Parrish of Long Beach, Third District; Chairman John Chiang of Los Angeles, Fourth District; and State Controller Steve Westly.

[Click Here to View the 2006 Solano County Assessment Practices Survey](#)

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