



For Immediate Release
November 22, 2013

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BOE Job Fair Attracts More Applicants Than Expected

Culver City – The 117 chairs in the room weren't enough to seat a large conference room full of young job seekers, eager to learn more about job opportunities at the State Board of Equalizations. The flyer said "tax auditors" and "Business Taxes Representative" positions available. Add Great Retirement plan, Paid Vacation, Flexible hours and Opportunities for Advancement, and the line to get in stretched half-way down a long hallway.

"These prospective employees are the BOE's next generation of professionals," said Board Chairman, Jerome E. Horton, who told the large group of 20 to 24 year olds, that their timing was perfect. Over the next few years, the BOE expects to lose 44% of its seasoned staff due to retirement. "You're going to take their place," he said. "We're looking for initiative, innovation and a willingness to serve the people of California."



The BOE administers the collection of \$56 billion in taxes and fees. The Board also adjudicates taxpayer disputes with the Franchise Tax Board. "Join the family," Horton urged. "We have offices in several other states."

The Employment Open House is an important component of Horton's Campaign Against Poverty. Unemployment is 8.9% in the state. The young people he is trying to attract to the BOE are experiencing a 19% unemployment rate. "Unemployment among minorities is even higher," he says. "Every day I ask myself, what can the BOE do for people who need work the most?"

The crowd is enthusiastic. Teresa was laid off several months ago and has turned down other job offers because the pay was too low. "The State Board of Equalization is a better opportunity," she said. "It also gives me a chance to up my professional skills."

What applicants liked the best were BOE's advancement opportunities which include, for some jobs, a pay increase of 20% after just one year.

"I'm staying until the end," said one recent college graduate. "The sign outside said I wouldn't have to look any further. And you know, I believe it!"

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Elected in 2010, Chairman Jerome E. Horton is the Fourth District Member of the California State Board of Equalization, representing more than 8.5 million residents in Los Angeles County. He is also the Board of Equalization's Legislative Committee Chairman. He is the first to serve on the Board of Equalization with over 21 years of experience at the BOE. Horton previously served as an Assembly Member of the California State Assembly from 2000-2006.

The five-member California State Board of Equalization is a publicly elected tax board. The Board of Equalization 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.

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