



State Board of Equalization

# News Release

**Chairman Jerome E. Horton**

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

Cynthia Bridges  
Executive Director  
[www.boe.ca.gov](http://www.boe.ca.gov)

**For Immediate Release**  
**September 24, 2014**

NR 144-14-H  
**Contact: Office of Public Affairs**  
**1-916-327-8988**

## **Board of Equalization Appoints Manager of Research and Statistics, and Chief of Financial Management Division**

**Sacramento** – California State Board of Equalization (BOE) Chairman Jerome E. Horton announced the Board made two appointments at its September 23, 2014, meeting in Sacramento. Mark Durham was named Manager of Research and Statistics and Jill O’Connell was appointed Chief of the Financial Management Division – the appointments are effective immediately.

“I’m happy to announce the appointment of these two highly qualified individuals,” Chairman Horton said. “Mark Durham and Jill O’Connell have distinguished themselves throughout their careers, and both bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to the BOE. My fellow board members and I offer our congratulations to Mr. Durham and Ms. O’Connell and wish them the best in their new positions – we know they’ll do great.”

Mark Durham has served the State of California for 23 years. He worked as Deputy Chief of Operations at the Employment Development Department overseeing a \$65 million annual budget, personnel, policy, special programs, and data research for the Disability Insurance Branch. He has also held positions at the State Treasurer’s Office and the California Public Employees’ Retirement System. Mr. Durham helped implement the landmark Paid Family Leave legislation (SB 1661) in 2004. Mr. Durham earned a Bachelor’s in Finance and a Masters in Business Administration from California State University, Sacramento. As the Research and Statistics Manager at the BOE, Mr. Durham reports directly to Legislative and Research Division Chief Michele Pielsticker. The Research and Statistics section provides economic and revenue forecasting and researches complex tax questions for legislative proposals and analyses, in addition to ensuring accurate projections and public accountability.

Jill O’Connell has served the State of California for more than 26 years and currently serves as the Fi\$CAL Customer Impact Committee Chair. She worked as Chief of Accounting at the Employment Development Department (EDD) for five years. Previously, she held positions at the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) where she streamlined the administrative processes for the business information system. As Chief of the Financial Management Division, Ms. O’Connell will serve as the BOE’s chief fiscal officer, overseeing budget development and preparation, and all of the BOE’s accounting functions. Ms. O’Connell reports directly to the Deputy Director of Administration Edna Murphy.

\* \* \* \* \*

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 (BOE) is a publicly elected tax board. The BOE collects \$56 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).

###

---

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

**Connect with Us:**

**[Facebook](#) • [YouTube](#) • [Twitter](#) • [LinkedIn](#) • [Mobile Services](#) • [RSS](#)**