

ATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

'020 N STREET, SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA ,P.O. BOX 942879, SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 94279-0001)

TO COUNTY ASSESSORS:

(916) 445-4982

October 1, 1992

WILLIAM M. BENNETT First District, Kentileid

BRAD SHERMAN Second District, Los Angeles

ERNEST J. DRONENBURG, JR. Third District, San Diego

> MATTHEW K, FONG Fourth District, Los Angeles

> > GRAY DAVIS Controller, Sacramento

BURTON W. OLIVER
Executive Director

No. 92/65

CABLE TELEVISION LITIGATION: STANISLAUS II

In letter to assessors 92/47, we transmitted a copy of the recent <u>Stanislaus</u> <u>County</u> v. <u>Assessment Appeals Board</u> case (Fifth Appellate District). There have been two developments in the case since then.

1. The counties of San Diego, Los Angeles, and Sutter requested the decision be published. The court denied the request on July 27, 1992, stating:

"The opinion does not establish a new rule of law nor does it meet any of the other criteria set forth in California Rules of Court, rule 976(b)."

2. The court made one modification to its opinion. The last full paragraph on page 24, starting with "Our opinion" and ending with "taxed" was deleted and replaced with the following:

"Thus, our opinion in <u>Stanislaus I</u> makes it clear that even though the right to engage in business, or franchise value, is an intangible property right that is normally not taxable, to the extent that that intangible property right enhances a tangible property right such enhancement may be considered in valuing the tangible property right."

The original language stated that the "right to engage in business" can be taxed to the extent it enhances the tangible property rights. This could have been interpreted to suggest that a specific value for a business license or other right to engage in business could be calculated and added to the assessment of tangible property.

Sincerely,

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Verne Walton, Chief Assessment Standards Division

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