



County of Fresno

Paul Dictos, CPA
Assessor-Recorder

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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NEWS RELEASE

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FRESNO COUNTY ASSESSOR REQUESTS ADVISORY SERVICES FROM THE CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

Fresno, California- Fresno County Assessor Paul Dictos has requested the California State Board of Equalization to review staffing needs and other department requirements pursuant to Government Code Section 15624.

“Any taxpayer, whether a homeowner or a business, has the legal right to file an assessment appeal if they believe their property tax assessment is too high,” said Dictos. If the taxpayer and the County Assessor’s office cannot reach an agreement as to a property’s valuation, then County Appraisers must complete a thorough time-consuming appraisal of the property and prepare for formal hearing. Unlike residential appeals, commercial and farm appeals require specialized knowledge by the appraiser as compared to residential appraisers.

The Fresno County Assessor presently has a docket of 298 commercial appeals (attached is the list of top 10 appellants), but only six (6) commercial appraisers to carry the workload. With the similar number of commercial parcels, Sacramento County has thirty-five (35) commercial appraisers. Although the Fresno County Assessor needs additional commercial and farm appraisers to properly serve Fresno County taxpayers, the County Administrative Officer (CAO) has refused repeated requests to budget funds for more qualified appraisers. In fact, the CAO **cut** two critical positions in the Assessor’s most recent budget.

At stake is **\$1 Billion** of valuation, which at the tax rate of one percent, translates to **\$10,000,000** of property tax revenue affected by the delays in timely processing taxpayer appeals. “Fresno County has three constitutionally elected department head officials: Sheriff, District Attorney, and Assessor. As a constitutionally elected official, the Assessor must have the tools to enable the Assessor’s Office to perform its statutory obligations in a timely manner,” said Dictos.

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“ASSESSOR – Never Underestimate The Value of the Office”

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List of Top 10 Appellants
Attachment to News Release Dated January 11, 2019

Appellant Name	Value Reduction Asked by Appellant
Toma-Tek Inc	\$ 174,538,497
Vitro Flat Glass LLC	104,633,700
Harris Ranch Beef Company	67,295,101
Pom Wonderful LLC	50,132,525
Wal-Mart Stores Inc & Sams West Inc	44,023,904
Capri Sun Inc. & Kraft Foods Group, Inc.	33,467,763
International Paper Company	32,732,835
Charlies Enterprises Inc	31,486,046
California Dairies Inc	28,715,477
Vons Companies Inc	26,991,134
Total	\$ 594,016,982