
NEWS



RICK AUERBACH

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ASSESSOR HONORED BY LOS ANGELES COUNTY BAR

Assessor Rick Auerbach has received the 2005 Award for Excellence by a Government Official from the Los Angeles County Bar Association Tax Section. The legal profession honored his innovative use of technology and public service programs to benefit professionals and property owners alike.

Some 300 people attended the Bar's recent awards luncheon ceremony at the Los Angeles Marriott Downtown, a record turnout for a Tax Section event, said Tax Section Chairman Christopher J. Matarese, of Ajalat, Polley & Ayoob, who presented the award.

"Rick Auerbach is widely recognized by taxpayers, property tax professionals and his peers as one of the best Assessors ever to serve this county," Matarese told the gathering. "He possesses a rare combination of extensive experience and genuine concern for finding the right answer, not the answer that creates the most revenue."

State Board of Equalization Chairman John Chiang, whose agency audits assessor departments, also presented Auerbach with a resolution recognizing his accomplishments. Similar resolutions were presented from Los Angeles County Supervisor Don Knabe and State Board Member Claude Parrish.

Auerbach has a 35-year background as appraiser and manager in the Assessor's Department and was appointed to the top post by the Board of Supervisors in 2000 to succeed retiring Assessor Kenneth Hahn. He has since been elected twice to office and will become President of the California Assessors' Association next year.

Hallmarks of Auerbach's first two terms include expansion of the Department's Internet website, including downloading of forms; an increase in public service training for employees; creation of citizen advisory committees, and providing information about the property tax system through VHS/ DVD formats and other multi-language materials.