
NEWS

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HISTORIC APPOINTMENT OF NEW ASSISTANT ASSESSOR FIRST WOMAN AND ASIAN-AMERICAN TOP MANAGER

The Los Angeles County Office of the Assessor has begun the new year with a historic change in top leadership after the appointment of veteran appraiser Bonnie Oliver as the first woman and first Chinese-American to hold the key management position of Assistant Assessor, County Assessor Rick Auerbach announced today.

Auerbach said he has named Oliver, a 33-year-veteran of the department, to the Assistant Assessor post with responsibility for day-to-day technical and personnel administration of the agency's 1,500 employees and \$125 million budget.

Bonnie Oliver succeeds Bob Olson, who retired at the end of last year. Auerbach had previously appointed Oliver as one of the department's three directors in 2000.

She was born in Honolulu, as was her mother, while her father is a native of Canton, China. The Chew family moved from Hawaii to California when Bonnie was 12 years of age.

"Bonnie Oliver has earned this job with outstanding performance in every critical area of the department's work," Auerbach said. "Her commitment to public service, technological advancement and ensuring the best employee work environment is exceptional."

The new Assistant Assessor started with the department in 1971 as a temporary clerk and advanced through the ranks from Appraiser Trainee to Supervising Appraiser and Chief Appraiser and was appointed by Auerbach as Director of Assessor's Operations in 2000.

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“I appreciate the confidence Assessor Auerbach has shown in me,” said Oliver. “This is a challenge which will allow me to effectively implement his goals of providing the best in public service and information with the latest in technology, as well as provide a work environment that allows our staff to continue maintaining a fair and accurate Assessment Roll.”

Oliver noted that the department is the nation’s largest property assessment jurisdiction with responsibility for placing values on more than 2 million taxable parcels.

“We recently received a quality rating of 99 percent accuracy on our work from the State Board of Equalization and we will continue to improve every aspect of our work on behalf of the taxpayers and property owners of this county,” Oliver added.

Bonnie Oliver is a graduate of San Jose State College and has served on the Board of Directors of the Los Angeles Chapter of the International Association of Assessing Officers for many years.

A resident of Ladera Heights, she is a former soccer mom with three adult children, an avid gardener, and has been married to Torrance dentist Joseph Oliver, Jr. for 25 years.