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January 6, 2003

JAMES E. SPEED
Executive Director

TO COUNTY ASSESSORS AND INTERESTED PARTIES:

No. 2003/003

ASSESSORS' HANDBOOK SECTION 510
ASSESSMENT OF TAXABLE POSSESSORY INTERESTS

Enclosed are copies of the Assessors' Handbook Section 510, *Assessment of Taxable Possessory Interests* (AH 510). The Assessors' Handbook is published by the Board as a means of promoting property tax assessment uniformity throughout the state. This Assessors' Handbook section has been substantially reorganized and rewritten to reflect statutory and regulatory changes subsequent to the last revision of the handbook section on this topic in 1974. The Board adopted this version of the AH 510 at its meeting on December 19, 2002.

Notably, this revision features the following:

- Greater discussion of the standards or criteria for establishing that a taxable possessory interest exists.
- Coverage of the application of Article XIII A of the California Constitution to taxable possessory interests.
- Inclusion of a "special topics" chapter that discusses statutory provisions that apply to specific types of taxable possessory interests and other special topics.

The handbook section has been posted to the Board's Web site at www.boe.ca.gov, and can be accessed by first selecting "Property Tax Programs" and then selecting "Assessors' Handbook." Copies are also available on disk upon request from the Assessment Policy and Standards Division at (916) 445-4982.

Board staff wishes to express their appreciation to all parties who participated in updating this handbook section. Those efforts contributed greatly to the success of this project.

Sincerely,

/s/ David J. Gau

David J. Gau
Deputy Director
Property and Special Taxes Department

DJG:bt
Enclosures