

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **Business Property Statements Now Available For Electronic Submission**

SAN BERNARDINO – San Bernardino County Assessor Bill Postmus today announced that business property statements may now be filed electronically via the World Wide Web. Business entities must file a property statement, commonly known as a Form 571-L, as required by law. The ability to electronically file a property statement will be available mid March of 2008 for those businesses that have received a Business Identification Number (BIN). Business Identification Numbers will be mailed out early March.

California Revenue and Taxation Code mandates All machinery, equipment, fixtures, construction in progress and leasehold improvement held or used in connection with a trade or business are taxable as business property, unless specially exempted. The State Constitution requires county assessors to identify and value all property in the county for property tax purposes annually.

“The ability to file this form electronically from your home or place of business will help ensure greater convenience,” stated Assessor Postmus in announcing the innovative enhancements to the county assessor’s official Internet site. “When I campaigned for this office, I pledged to update and improve communication by utilizing and implementing the latest in technological advancement. Electronic filing will save time and money for taxpayers.”

Assessor Postmus explained how business property is defined by state law: “Business Personal Property is any tangible property owned, claimed, used, possessed, managed or controlled in the conduct of a trade or business. This includes all machinery, fixtures, office furniture and equipment. In general, business personal property is all property owned or leased by a business except licensed vehicles, business inventory, intangible assets or application software and other assets specifically exempted.”

Postmus encouraged any taxpayers with questions on electronic Form 571-L filing to contact the Office of the taxpayer Advocate toll-free at (877) 885-7654 with any questions they may have. The assessor also noted taxpayers may visit the website for San Bernardino County Assessor at [www.sbassessor.org](http://www.sbassessor.org) for a list of frequently asked questions.

Assessor Bill Postmus was sworn in as the county assessor in January 2007 after serving 6 years as county supervisor, representing the First Supervisorial District. From 2005-06, Assessor Postmus served as chair of the county’s Board of Supervisors. He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business and Management from the University of Redlands. More recently, Assessor Bill Postmus was designated a Certified Property Tax Appraiser by the state of California and serves on the board of directors for the Government Finance Officers Association

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