

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION

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November 17, 2009

Dear Friend:

The Santa Barbara County Taxpayers Association (SBCTA) is one of the most respected and influential organizations in Santa Barbara County. In fact, according to a countywide survey, when asked which community organizations influence them on matters of importance to their community, SBCTA came out on top.

Fifty-four percent (54%) of survey respondents listed the County Taxpayers Association as the most influential community group on matters most important to them. Indeed, today, the Taxpayers Association has more influence than the League of Women Voters, Sierra Club, Environmental Defense Center, Citizens Planning Association (CPA) and Get Oil Out! (GOO). SBCTA out polled GOO and CPA 54% to 39% and 54% to 35% respectively.

SBCTA, perhaps more than at any time in our organizations history, plays a critical role in how local governments throughout Santa Barbara County make important decisions with our tax dollars. This is especially true with respect to controlling spending and raising revenue.

In 2009, SBCTA continued to monitor and speak out on several local issues at the state, county, and city levels. We published a white paper on City of Santa Barbara employee remuneration and KEYT included our organization in two Special Assignments regarding state, county and city furloughs and the Federal Stimulus package. As always, SBCTA focused on promoting sound public policy while avoiding partisan politics.

SBCTA relies on the support of our members to help us accomplish our mission of promoting lower taxes. This has been true for over 50 years. We do not ask for, nor do we receive, a single dollar of taxpayer money.

Therefore, I am hereby making SBCTA's annual "Appeal" for an end-of-year donation. SBCTA's Annual Appeal is essential to the organization's bottom line and plays an important role in determining SBCTA's ability to achieve next year's goals and to fulfill the group's valuable role in our county. A role, as shown by the poll results above, local taxpayer's value and appreciate.

This year's fundraising goal is \$25,000. This would equal last years total. Will you please help us reach our goal? Will you help us advocate, inform, and communicate with the voters in 2010 to make sure local governments live within their means and enhance revenues in a responsible and ethical way?

You can do this by making an end-of-year financial gift to this year's Annual Appeal. Please do so today. Please send your financial gift for: **\$7,500, \$5,000, \$2,500, \$1,500, \$1,000, \$500, \$100** or any amount you can to: **SBCTA at P.O. Box 21621, Santa Barbara, CA 93121.**

I want to thank you in advance for your continuing support and generosity and for supporting the important work of the Santa Barbara County Taxpayers Association.

Sincerely,



Joe Armendariz
Councilmember
City of Carpinteria

Visit SBCTA Online:

www.sbcta.org • www.facebook.com/sbcta • <http://twitter.com/sbcta>

Yes! I want to help SBCTA with their Annual Appeal!

Enclosed is my check for: \$7,500 \$5,000 \$2,500 \$1,000 \$500 \$100 Other

Name: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

**Please make checks payable to
SBCTA
PO Box 21621, Santa Barbara, CA 93121**

SBCTA is a not for profit organization and tax-exempt under the IRS code section 501(c)4