

## California Women Elected to the Board of Equalization

**T**he Board of Equalization has five members. Four are directly elected by the people of California. In addition, the State Controller also serves on the Board. Each directly elected BOE member represents one-fourth of the state of California, while the Controller is an elected statewide office.

The first woman elected to the Board of Equalization was Orfa Jean Shontz in 1934, but she only served less than a year before being appointed to the Los Angeles Municipal Court. It was almost 70 years before the next woman was directly elected as a BOE member. Since 2007, at least one woman has served on the BOE.

1935 - 1935 Orfa Jean Shontz

2003 - 2004 Carole Migden (elected to the state Senate in 2004)

**2007 - 2009 Judy Chu (elected to the House  
of Representatives in 2009)**

**2007 - 2015 Michelle Steel**

**2007 - 2015 Betty Yee**

**2015 - 2019 Diane Harkey**

**2015 - 2019 Fiona Ma**

**2019 - Malia Cohen**