



**CALIFORNIA LEAGUE OF BOND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEES**  
Email: Calboc1@aol.com • 121 Ash Court, Hercules, CA 94547  
Phone: 510.697.7212 • FAX: 510.799.2124 • [www.calboc.org](http://www.calboc.org)

April 25, 2012 CaLBOC Press Release

**For Immediate Release**

**ANNOUNCING THE FIRST ANNUAL CALBOC STATEWIDE CONFERENCE  
Information and support for Prop 39 school construction bond oversight**

California League of Bond Oversight Committees (CaLBOC) is announcing their First Annual Statewide Conference to be held in Sacramento on Friday, May 11, 2012, from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. This is a FREE conference and includes: special guest speakers, handout materials, continental breakfast, and a gourmet boxed lunch.

School construction is big business and may have very limited oversight. \*From 1996 to 2006, California voters approved nearly \$100 billion in school construction bonds at the state and local level. Approximately one billion dollars of new school construction bonds were approved in 2011 alone. CaLBOC helps promote school district accountability by improving the training and resources available to California's required Proposition 39 school bond Citizens' Oversight Committees (CBOCs). Volunteer members of CBOCs may be overseeing multi-million dollar school construction programs in their district without much training or support.

**Special guest speakers:**

Mark Saladino the County Treasurer-Tax Collector, County of Los Angeles, L.A., will discuss alternative and unconventional school bond financing structures. Mark will cover four actual case studies of transactions that were found to be objectionable that were restructured to save local property owners huge amounts of money.

Lori Raineri the President of Government Financial Strategies is a Certified Independent Public Finance Advisor and Certified Fraud Examiner. Lori will present case studies showing common financial inefficiencies and the resulting loss for taxpayers. Participants will get an understanding of bond financing techniques.

Conference topics include: • The History of CaLBOC • Legislative Updates • Capital Appreciation Bonds • Bond Financing Structures • Forensic Accounting Tips • Best Practices for CBOCs – Sample Bylaws for CBOCs, Informing the Public: CBOC Website • A Premier of CaLBOC First Training video • And more!

**To attend this free conference please register at: [calboc.eventbrite.com](http://calboc.eventbrite.com)**

First Annual CaLBOC Statewide Conference

May 11, 2012, 10 am to 5:00 pm, Registration: 10:00 am, first speaker: 10:30 am.

Location: The Courtyard 1322 O Street Sacramento, CA 95814 (one block from Capitol Park)

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If you would like more information on this conference please contact:

Linda Ruiz-Lozito, cell: 510-375-3607, email: [lozito@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lozito@sbcglobal.net)

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\* [ballotpedia.org/wiki/index.php/School\\_bond\\_elections\\_in\\_California](http://ballotpedia.org/wiki/index.php/School_bond_elections_in_California)

Immediately following the conference will be the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual CaLBOC Board meeting.

### **About CaLBOC**

CaLBOC is an all volunteer, non-partisan association of Citizen Bond Oversight Committee (CBOC) members, current and past, who are interested in helping other CBOC members. CaLBOC was formed in 2006 by CBOC members trying to find better training to help them perform their duties. The first training session was held in San Jose in 2007, and incorporated in the State of California in 2008. In 2009 they were recognized as a 501(c)3 charitable organization by the IRS.

### **Mission Statement**

To promote school district accountability by improving the training and resources available to California's Proposition 39 School Bond Oversight Committees and educating the state legislature, local school boards and the public about the oversight and reporting powers these Citizens' Bond Oversight Committees (CBOCs) have, and to advocate on a state level, where appropriate, on issues of common concern to all CBOCs.

### **Proposition 39**

Prop 39 requires school districts that pass Proposition 39 bonds to seat a Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee (CBOC) to assure the community that bond funds are expended in the fashion outlined in the district's bond resolution. The CBOC shall actively review and report on the proper expenditure of taxpayers' money for school construction.

### **Mark Saladino -- Excerpts from Articles & Links:**

**County of Los Angeles School District General Obligation Bonds - White Paper** -- ...To help manage the current fiscal challenges, many districts have sought to issue debt as one means of meeting their financial needs. While debt issuance can be part of a larger fiscal plan, the use of general obligation (GO) bonds to solve budget problems can pose a serious risk to school and community college districts. .... [www.bondbuyer.com/pdfs/0523LA.pdf](http://www.bondbuyer.com/pdfs/0523LA.pdf)

### **Regulators crack down on schools' borrowing**

The Los Angeles County Treasurer and Tax Collector warned local school finance managers this week that a number of common internal borrowing practices are dishonest to taxpayers and prohibited by law. ... The letter outlines several unacceptable financing practices that include borrowing from bond project funds, using a joint powers authority to augment Qualified School Construction Bonds, and issuing capital appreciation bonds with maturities over 25 years. ...

[www.capitolweekly.net/article.php?xid=zprytaoyvoxsu](http://www.capitolweekly.net/article.php?xid=zprytaoyvoxsu)

### **Officials warn schools about mishandling bond money**

California school districts are using construction bond money to cover day-to-day operations and in other ways that regulators say misuse taxpayer money and violate state and federal law. In recent weeks, the state attorney general's office and county treasurers have issued warning letters to school officials after seeing an uptick in unauthorized district bond deals that saddle communities with higher debt payments. ... [californiawatch.org/dailyreport/officials-warn-schools-about-mishandling-bond-money-10710](http://californiawatch.org/dailyreport/officials-warn-schools-about-mishandling-bond-money-10710)