

# CONTROLLER STEVE WESTLY

## STATE OF CALIFORNIA

300 Capitol Mall  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
916.445.3028  
[www.controller.ca.gov](http://www.controller.ca.gov)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
FEBRUARY 27, 2004**

**CONTACT: SEWIT HEZCHIAS  
916-324-6653**

## STATE CONTROLLER RECRUITING PROBATE REFEREES IN 11 COUNTIES

APPRAISERS, ATTORNEYS & ACCOUNTANTS MAY QUALIFY  
TO EARN EXTRA INCOME SETTLING ESTATES

**Sacramento, February 27, 2004** – California State Controller Steve Westly is recruiting candidates to be considered as Probate Referees around California. The Controller plans to make 16 probate referee appointments. Candidates must submit application paperwork by April 8<sup>th</sup> to qualify for the exam.

“Probate referees are professionals that serve the community by settling estates,” Westly said. “These appointed positions provide excellent experience and extra income potential without requiring people to give up their regular jobs. I want to make this opportunity available to the widest possible group of qualified citizens in California.”

California law allows the Controller to appoint Probate Referees to four-year terms in each county. While Probate Referees do not earn a salary, they are compensated by the estates they settle. Applicants must meet minimum requirements, pass a state exam and be interviewed by a panel of judges and attorneys.

To qualify for the exam, applicants must have one of the following qualifications:

- Bachelor’s degree plus at least 30 hours of appraisal/valuation classes;
- 2,000 hours of experience in a 4-year period appraising real and/or personal property;
- Certification as an appraiser;
- Attorney and member of the State Bar for at least three years;
- Certified Public Accountant for at least three years, license in California.

The application deadline is April 8. Complete details and information are available by calling Cooperative Personnel Services at (916) 263-3624 or by visiting the State Controller’s web site at [www.sco.ca.gov](http://www.sco.ca.gov).

As a result of this recruitment, Probate Referees will be appointed in the following counties:

*Alameda, Fresno, Monterey, Orange, Riverside, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Stanislaus.*

Applicants who pass the examination will remain on the eligibility list for 5 years and may be considered for future vacancies during that time.

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