

INTERNET RESOURCES FOR BOARD GOVERNANCE
AND FOR INFORMATION ON CALIFORNIA AND FEDERAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS

GOVERNMENT WEBSITES

California State Parks Website

Cooperating Associations Page at DPR website

http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=976 Pay particular attention to the page that has the standard contract form, as well as other forms such as the annual report form. http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=22337

California Attorney General's Website

The California Attorney General's office has a website section devoted to nonprofits, <http://oag.ca.gov/charities> . The AG publishes a 60-page guide for charities: http://ag.ca.gov/charities/publications/guide_for_charities.pdf.

The AG's guide to filing the 990 annual form is at

http://ag.ca.gov/charities/content/new_990.php . You will find information on the form RRF-1 which must be filed every year at

http://ag.ca.gov/charities/forms/charitable/rrf1_instructs_05.pdf. The AG site also has resources on fundraising, tips on how to be a wise donor, and many other items.

California Secretary of State's website

The CA Secretary of State is where Articles of Incorporation are filed. If articles are amended, officially "restated", the amendment must be reported to the State. See <http://www.sos.ca.gov/business/be/forms.htm#corp> for the relevant forms.

Internal Revenue Service website

Any California nonprofit must be registered with the IRS as well as with the Attorney General's Registry of Charitable Trusts. The IRS has what they call a Life Cycle of a Public Charity, which serves as a sort of checklist of what needs to be done when in filings and documents.

<http://www.irs.gov/charities/charitable/article/0,,id=122670,00.html> The IRS has an excellent site specifically designed for 501(c)3 nonprofits to provide tips and tools to stay exempt. <http://www.stayexempt.org/>

California Franchise Tax Board

For sales and other state tax information. <http://www.ftb.ca.gov>

California Employment Development Department

For forms and information regarding employees. <http://www.edd.ca.gov>

California Corporations Code

Section Two of the California Corporations Code deals specifically with Public Benefit Corporations. For the current Corporations Code go to

[http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/calawquery?codesection=corp&codebody=&hits=20)

[bin/calawquery?codesection=corp&codebody=&hits=20](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/calawquery?codesection=corp&codebody=&hits=20) .Scroll to Division 2,Part 2.

OTHER RESOURCES

BoardSource

BoardSource has outstanding tools for improving nonprofit boards and other resources. Its free monthly e-newsletter focuses on a range of topics. Members have access to additional material. <http://www.boardsource.org/>

Guidestar.org

Donors go here to see an organization's annual 990, a good reason to make sure your 990 describes your programs accurately and attractively. Go to <http://www.guidestar.org/> and click on analyze nonprofit data.

California Association of Nonprofits

CAN has a variety of trainings and informational materials and also advocates for nonprofits in California. It provides access for its members to group insurance plans that may be more cost-effective than stand-alone policies.

<http://www.canonprofits.org>

Society of Corporate Secretaries and Governance Professionals

http://www.governanceprofessionals.org/society/Governance_for_Nonprofits_-_Board_Responsibilities.asp?SnID=379987163 "Governance for Nonprofits, From Little Leagues to Big Universities," updated in 2008, is a helpful guide, drawn in part from BoardSource.

CompassPoint Nonprofit Services

Provides nonprofit consulting, training and information.

<http://www.compasspoint.org>

Blue Avocado

"Practical, provocative, fun food for thought for nonprofits." It includes monthly items as well as resources like a discussion of the role of executive sessions.

<http://www.blueavocado.org/>

Grassroots Fundraising magazine

Grassroots Fundraising Journal, \$39-48 per year (6 issues).

<http://www.grassrootsfundraising.org/>

Urban Institute

Effective nonprofits measure whether they are making the differences identified in their mission and vision statement. The Urban Institute has some excellent guides to measure outcomes and links to additional sites.

<http://www.urban.org/center/cnp/Projects/outcomeindicators.cfm>

Foundation Center

And for even more, go to the Foundation Center's listing of online nonprofit resources, an amazing resource, likely more than you ever wanted to know.

<http://foundationcenter.org/gainknowledge/nonprofitlinks/>