



The California Office of the Small Business Advocate (CalOSBA) supports economic growth and innovation statewide. CalOSBA's core mission is to provide resources to all California small businesses, disabled veteran business enterprises (SB/DVBEs), minority and women-owned businesses, and individuals who own and operate businesses in low-wealth and rural communities.

CalOSBA supports outreach and engagement efforts through advocacy, sharing resources, and building resilience through programs and our Technical Assistance Network that supports growth and business sustainability.

This month's newsletter highlights the ecosystem and CalOSBA's efforts to serve California businesses statewide.

In This Issue:

- [From the Advocate](#)
- [Reporting Unclaimed Property](#)
- [Regional Advisors Corner](#)
- [Grant Programs](#)
- [Resiliency and Outreach](#)

[From the Advocate](#)



There are financial experts advising us all to prepare for the worst in the form of continued inflation, recession, and a possible budget deficit. “Financial uncertainty” seems like the go-to forecast and the safe bet.

I never want to diminish the anxiety that small business owners carry when faced with uncertainty. My office has a responsibility to acknowledge that, in the current context of high interest rates, it is hard work to obtain a business loan... and the interest rates are scary, presuming you succeed. We must acknowledge that inflation has been eating into margins and that hiring is still a huge challenge. We have to be honest about possible budget deficits.

But here’s the thing: when I dug into the economic research to prepare for this month’s column, I found several reasons to hope for the best.

I am repurposing my quote from last year: “Resilience is still the word of the day.”

Let’s go ahead and make “Resilience” the word of the century. California continues to demonstrate its economic resilience, defying all the naysayers. I don’t say this because everything is perfectly accounted for; that would be hubris. However, I say it because California has proven over the past two years just how good we are at both parts of the aphorism: planning for the worst... and hoping for the best.

So, open your browser and Google “recession” if you must, but I’m here this month to remind you of some encouraging outcomes of 2022 and some things to look forward to in 2023.

[Read the full article on LinkedIn here](#)

[Reporting Unclaimed Property](#)

The New Year is here, and businesses across California are busy reviewing their books, preparing tax documents, and setting goals for 2023. Is finding unclaimed property part of your business’s annual routine? If not, it should be, and not just because it’s required by law. Reporting unclaimed property creates many benefits for businesses by reducing liability and improving customer service. To guide you through the reporting process, the State Controller’s Office (SCO) offers free resources for businesses.



What Is Unclaimed Property?

Unclaimed property is any financial asset that has remained inactive (or dormant) by the owner for a period of time specified in the law, usually three years. Unclaimed Property can include uncashed payroll checks (which have a one-year dormancy period); savings and checking accounts, vendor payments, and customer refunds. In fact, you may have unclaimed property in your name or for your business. Search SCO's unclaimed property database at [Claimit.ca.gov](https://claimit.ca.gov) to find out.

Identifying Unclaimed Property: Bookkeeping Tips and Tricks

The first step of the reporting process is to locate unclaimed property in your books and records, and January is an excellent time to identify unclaimed funds that may soon meet or have met their designated dormancy period. SCO's Dormancy Periods Table and Property Reporting Cycles can help you pinpoint those dates. For many businesses, identifying unclaimed property is the most time-consuming part of the reporting process. Here are some tips to speed things along:

- Keep Thorough Records
 - Use journal entries and memos routinely.
- Track Dormancy, Dates of Last Contact, and Owner Activity
 - Make note of communications with owners specifying these dates. Create fields to input these dates into your accounting software.
- Keep Track of Unclaimed Property
 - Keep a separate list of property that is at risk of becoming unclaimed. If you already have a working list of as-yet unclaimed property when it comes time to report, you will have already performed much of the legwork involved in reporting.

Let's work together to reunite customers with unclaimed property and get this property off of your small business accounting books. Learn more helpful tips about the unclaimed property process [here](#).

[Regional Advisors Corner](#)

Second Annual Kern Entrepreneurship Resource Expo



The Second Annual Kern Entrepreneur Resource Expo was held at the Kern High School District Career and Technical Education Center on November 29, 2022. Entrepreneurs from throughout Kern County came out to learn about business programs available through CalOSBA, and technical assistance centers were on hand to answer questions and discuss resources. Attendees created new networking opportunities, gained valuable knowledge, and connected with economic development partners from throughout Kern County.

[Grant Programs](#)

California Venues Grant Program Opens Second Round of Funding

CalOSBA has announced a second round of nearly \$45 million in new funding for the California Venues Grant Program. The program provides grants to eligible independent live events venues whose revenues were impacted by COVID-19 in 2020.

Application Window: December 19, 2022, through January 31, 2023.

Eligible applicants: Independent live events venues that have been affected by COVID-19.

Eligible grant award: Grants awarded under this program will be in an amount equal to the lesser of \$250,000 or 20 percent of the applicant's gross earned revenue in California for the 2019 taxable year.

Application process: Applicants who have applied for other programs with CalOSBA will need to complete a new and separate application to be eligible for this program. Please visit cavenuesgrant.com for more information.

[Resiliency and Outreach](#)

Central Valley - How Triassic Vineyards is Making a Big Impact in

California's Central Valley



One of the most important reasons to work with a Small Business Development Center (SBDC) is the ability to access and use their resources, networks, and expertise. SBDCs offer their members access to funding, market analysis, business consultation, and technical assistance. This funding can be a key asset to help Central Valley businesses grow and expand their operations.

Enter retired couple Jim and Sally Arnold.

The Arnolds acquired Triassic Vineyards in 2012 and worked with Jay Thompson from the CSU Bakersfield SBDC to help increase sales. Triassic Vineyards is a winery located in the small town of Tehachapi, California. The winery was founded in 1997 by the Sherrill family and is renowned for its eccentric brand of American wine, which focuses on Sauvignon Blanc, Semillon, and Chenin Blanc.

The winery sits atop a 7,000-acre scorching desert plateau, which provides unique soil for producing high-quality wine. The vineyards are planted with a mix of Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, and Petit Verdot, that are all grown on fertile volcanic soils.

See how the CSU Bakersfield SBDC helped them in their quest for success in this short clip [here](#).

Visit Triassic Vineyards online [here](#).

SoCal - Join CalOSBA and Small Business Resource Partners at the 2023

Small Business Expo on Friday, January 20, 2023



The poster for the 2023 Small Business Expo features a central image of a woman speaking into a microphone. To the left, logos for America's SBDC California, Women's Business Center, and PTAC are displayed. Below these, a section titled 'FEATURED HAPPENINGS' lists three activities: 'SUPPORT & LENDING', 'PROCUREMENT', and 'NETWORKING', each with a small circular icon. To the right, the event title '2023 SMALL BUSINESS EXPO' is prominently displayed in a large, bold font. Below the title, a tagline reads 'Explore your area resources to start and grow your small business'. At the bottom right, the event details are provided: 'FRIDAY, JAN. 20 | 8:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.', the location 'Southwestern College Performing Arts Center', and a note that 'Light refreshments will be served'.

AMERICA'S SBDC CALIFORNIA
SAN DIEGO AND IMPERIAL NETWORK

WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER
San Diego & Imperial

PTAC
PROCUREMENT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER

2023 SMALL BUSINESS EXPO

Explore your area resources to start and grow your small business

FEATURED HAPPENINGS

- SUPPORT & LENDING**
Get to know your small business resource centers and specialized lenders
- PROCUREMENT**
Learn about government contracting opportunities
- NETWORKING**
Meet key entities and others in the regional small business community

FRIDAY, JAN. 20 | 8:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.
Southwestern College Performing Arts Center
Light refreshments will be served

Calling all small business owners in San Diego and Imperial Counties – this is a must-attend free event! Meet and network with other small business owners, build relationships with resource partners, meet access to capital lender partners, and connect with procurement opportunities.

The event will be held on January 20, 2023, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Southwestern College Performing Arts Center at 900 Otay Lakes Road, Chula Vista, CA 91910.

Learn more and register for your free ticket to the event [here](#).

Check out the latest workshops, trainings, and webinars from CalOSBA's technical assistance partners by clicking [here](#) to view the statewide calendar.

For more small business resources and information, visit calosba.ca.gov

No-cost and low-cost training is available through Technical Assistance Centers across the state. Browse the training schedule on the CalOSBA website by [clicking here](#).

[Submit a request to CalOSBA](#)



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