



## Office of Council President Tony Young

### For Immediate Release

**Contact: Jill Esterbrooks**

Phone: (619) 517-1113

## FREE SMART TAXES EVENT HELPS WORKING FAMILIES

SAN DIEGO, Calif. – Hardworking local families can get a leg up on tax season by attending a free Smart Taxes event being held on Saturday, Jan. 28 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Jacobs Center in southeastern San Diego.

Sponsored by the San Diego Reinvestment Task Force, residents countywide can get help from IRS-certified tax volunteers in preparing income tax filings and determining eligibility for money-saving Earned Income and Child Tax Credits -- which can provide a huge financial boost for moderate- and low-income families and individuals in this recovering economy.

Reinvestment Task Force partners, including San Diego City Council President Tony Young, County Supervisor Ron Roberts and the San Diego Housing Commission, are teaming up with other non-profit and governmental agencies to host the free one-day event planned to increase awareness on claiming the often missed Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC).

“Taking advantage of this tax credit is one of the single best ways to help working families who are struggling to make ends meet,” said Council President Young. “And what’s good for families is good for business. It’s estimated that every EITC refund dollar realized by a family translates into a dollar spent on local economic activity.”

According to the IRS, many workers might be eligible for a special tax credit this year and not even know it. As a result, they may overlook claiming the EITC, which could put anywhere from \$2 to \$5,751 into their pockets.

The IRS encourages anyone who earned \$49,078 or less from wages, self-employment or farming in 2011 to see if they qualify.

To help accurately determine their EITC eligibility and prepare their returns, Smart Taxes event participants should bring:

- Photo proof of identification

- Social Security cards for themselves, their spouse and dependents or Social Security number verification letters issued by the Social Security Administration, or Individual Taxpayer Identification Numbers (ITIN)
- Birth dates for all persons listed on the tax return
- Wage and earning statement(s) Forms W-2, W-2G, and 1099-R, from all employers
- Interest and dividend statements from banks (Forms 1099)
- Copies of last year's federal and state returns, if available
- Bank routing and account numbers for direct deposit of their refunds
- Other relevant information about income and expenses
- Amounts paid for day care, if applicable and the day care provider's identifying number.

***Admission and parking are free for the Smart Taxes event at the Joe & Vi Jacobs Center, 404 Euclid Ave.*** For more information, or to obtain copies of the tax forms and schedules that will be prepared, please contact RTF staff at (619) 578-7538 or [RTF@sdhc.org](mailto:RTF@sdhc.org); or visit [www.SanDiegoRTF.org](http://www.SanDiegoRTF.org).

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