

Los Angeles County's assessor. In Noguez's first year in office, his administration granted 23 tax reductions to the company, cutting the value of its properties by \$307 million, four times what the company received in the previous four years. Noguez had raised more than \$1 million during his campaign to be assessor, the next highest candidate raising less than \$50,000. David Demerjian, head of the district attorney's public corruption unit, said his team was investigating a tax break on the \$21.5-million home of the company's chief executive, Jordan Kaplan, who with his wife and parents were Noguez's biggest contributors. The county refunded the company more than \$4.5 million in 2011, with tax bills reduced an average of 27% while for others, the average reduction was 16%, a *Los Angeles Times* analysis found. The investigation led to searches of a dozen sites in two states and the arrest of a former county appraiser on 60 felony counts related to improper assessment reductions. Noguez spent 19 months as head of the assessor's office, the agency responsible for setting taxable values on more than \$1 trillion in real estate. Prior to securing the top job, he worked for more than two decades as a county appraiser, specializing in large commercial properties. Douglas Emmett Inc. owns 58 office buildings and nine luxury apartment complexes in Southern California and Hawaii. See <http://articles.latimes.com/2012/jul/16/local/la-me-assessor-20120717>.

Transitions

In British Columbia, **Curtis Helgesen** was promoted to Chief Administrative Officer in the District of Elkford.

In the Yukon, Whitehorse appointed **Stan Westby** as its new City Manager.

Dylan Jones is the new President & CEO of the Canada West Foundation.

In Ontario, **Pat Pilgrim** is the new Chief Administrative Officer and Clerk for the Municipality of Centre Hastings. **Manny Baron** is the Town of Petrolia's new Chief Administrative Officer.

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