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NUVEEN CALIFORNIA DIVIDEND ADVANTAGE MUNICIPAL FUND 2

Form NSAR-A

April 27, 2004

PAGE 1  
000 A000000 02/29/2004  
000 C000000 0001127706  
000 D000000 N  
000 E000000 NF  
000 F000000 Y  
000 G000000 N  
000 H000000 N  
000 I000000 6.1  
000 J000000 A  
001 A000000 NUVEEN CALIFORNIA DIVIDEND ADVANTAGE FUND 2  
001 B000000 811-10197  
001 C000000 3129178200  
002 A000000 333 WEST WACKER DRIVE  
002 B000000 CHICAGO  
002 C000000 IL  
002 D010000 60606  
002 D020000 1286  
003 000000 N  
004 000000 N  
005 000000 N  
006 000000 N  
007 A000000 N  
007 B000000 0  
007 C010100 1  
007 C010200 2  
007 C010300 3  
007 C010400 4  
007 C010500 5  
007 C010600 6  
007 C010700 7  
007 C010800 8  
007 C010900 9  
007 C011000 10  
008 A000001 NUVEEN ADVISORY CORP  
008 B000001 A  
008 C000001 801-12353  
008 D010001 CHICAGO  
008 D020001 IL  
008 D030001 60606  
008 D040001 1286  
011 A000001 DELETE  
011 A000002 DELETE  
011 A000003 DELETE  
011 A000004 DELETE  
011 A000005 DELETE  
011 A000006 DELETE  
011 A000007 DELETE  
012 A000001 EQUISERVE INC.  
012 B000001 84-05925  
012 C010001 BOSTON  
012 C020001 MA  
PAGE 2  
012 C030001 02940  
013 A000001 ERNST & YOUNG  
013 B010001 CHICAGO  
013 B020001 IL  
013 B030001 60611  
014 A000001 NUVEEN INVESTMENTS, LLC

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014 B000001 8-13464  
015 A000001 STATE STREET BANK AND TRUST COMPANY  
015 B000001 C  
015 C010001 BOSTON  
015 C020001 MA  
015 C030001 02206  
015 E010001 X  
015 A000002 DELETE  
015 A000003 DELETE  
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018 000000 Y  
019 A000000 Y  
019 B000000 144  
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020 C000001 0  
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020 C000005 0  
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020 C000007 0  
020 C000008 0  
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020 C000010 0  
021 000000 0  
022 A000001 SIEBERT & CO.  
022 B000001 13-2639174  
022 C000001 5242  
022 D000001 0  
022 A000002 CITIGROUP GLOBAL MARKETS INC.  
022 B000002 13-3214963  
022 C000002 602  
022 D000002 3782  
022 A000003 GOLDMAN SACHS  
022 B000003 13-5108880  
022 C000003 0  
022 D000003 3193  
022 A000004 BEAR STEARNS  
022 B000004 13-3604093  
022 C000004 2125  
022 D000004 0  
022 A000005 MORGAN STANLEY DEAN WITTER  
PAGE 3  
022 B000005 13-2655998  
022 C000005 1606  
022 D000005 0  
022 A000006 STONE & YOUNGBERG  
022 B000006 94-1052545  
022 C000006 1487  
022 D000006 0  
022 A000007 UBS FINANCIAL SERVICES  
022 B000007 13-2638166  
022 C000007 1400  
022 D000007 0  
022 A000008 DAIN RAUSCHER  
022 B000008 41-0212020  
022 C000008 0  
022 D000008 1393  
022 A000009 SUN AMERICA CAPITAL SERVICE, INC.

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|     |         |                    |  |
|-----|---------|--------------------|--|
| 022 | B000009 | 13-3140916         |  |
| 022 | C000009 | 975                |  |
| 022 | D000009 | 0                  |  |
| 022 | A000010 | WULFF HANSEN & CO. |  |
| 022 | B000010 | 94-0993720         |  |
| 022 | C000010 | 835                |  |
| 022 | D000010 | 0                  |  |
| 023 | C000000 | 21928              |  |
| 023 | D000000 | 16113              |  |
| 024 | 000000  | N                  |  |
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| 025 | D000002 | 0                  |  |
| 025 | D000003 | 0                  |  |
| 025 | D000004 | 0                  |  |
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| 025 | D000006 | 0                  |  |
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| 026 | C000000 | N                  |  |
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| 026 | E000000 | N                  |  |
| 026 | F000000 | N                  |  |
| 026 | G010000 | N                  |  |
| 026 | G020000 | N                  |  |
| 026 | H000000 | N                  |  |
| 027 | 000000  | N                  |  |
| 028 | A010000 | 0                  |  |
| 028 | A020000 | 0                  |  |
| 028 | A030000 | 0                  |  |
| 028 | A040000 | 0                  |  |
| 028 | B010000 | 0                  |  |
| 028 | B020000 | 0                  |  |
| 028 | B030000 | 0                  |  |
|     | PAGE    | 4                  |  |
| 028 | B040000 | 0                  |  |
| 028 | C010000 | 0                  |  |
| 028 | C020000 | 0                  |  |
| 028 | C030000 | 0                  |  |
| 028 | C040000 | 0                  |  |
| 028 | D010000 | 0                  |  |
| 028 | D020000 | 0                  |  |
| 028 | D030000 | 0                  |  |
| 028 | D040000 | 0                  |  |
| 028 | E010000 | 0                  |  |
| 028 | E020000 | 0                  |  |
| 028 | E030000 | 0                  |  |
| 028 | E040000 | 0                  |  |
| 028 | F010000 | 0                  |  |
| 028 | F020000 | 0                  |  |
| 028 | F030000 | 0                  |  |
| 028 | F040000 | 0                  |  |
| 028 | G010000 | 0                  |  |
| 028 | G020000 | 0                  |  |
| 028 | G030000 | 0                  |  |
| 028 | G040000 | 0                  |  |
| 028 | H000000 | 0                  |  |
| 030 | A000000 | 0                  |  |
| 030 | B000000 | 0.00               |  |
| 030 | C000000 | 0.00               |  |
| 031 | A000000 | 0                  |  |

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|     |         |         |
|-----|---------|---------|
| 031 | B000000 | 0       |
| 032 | 000000  | 0       |
| 033 | 000000  | 0       |
| 035 | 000000  | 0       |
| 036 | B000000 | 0       |
| 038 | 000000  | 0       |
| 042 | A000000 | 0       |
| 042 | B000000 | 0       |
| 042 | C000000 | 0       |
| 042 | D000000 | 0       |
| 042 | E000000 | 0       |
| 042 | F000000 | 0       |
| 042 | G000000 | 0       |
| 042 | H000000 | 0       |
| 043 | 000000  | 0       |
| 044 | 000000  | 0       |
| 045 | 000000  | Y       |
| 046 | 000000  | N       |
| 047 | 000000  | Y       |
| 048 | 000000  | 0.000   |
| 048 | A010000 | 125000  |
| 048 | A020000 | 0.650   |
| 048 | B010000 | 125000  |
| 048 | B020000 | 0.638   |
| 048 | C010000 | 250000  |
|     | PAGE    | 5       |
| 048 | C020000 | 0.625   |
| 048 | D010000 | 500000  |
| 048 | D020000 | 0.613   |
| 048 | E010000 | 1000000 |
| 048 | E020000 | 0.600   |
| 048 | F010000 | 0       |
| 048 | F020000 | 0.000   |
| 048 | G010000 | 0       |
| 048 | G020000 | 0.000   |
| 048 | H010000 | 0       |
| 048 | H020000 | 0.000   |
| 048 | I010000 | 0       |
| 048 | I020000 | 0.000   |
| 048 | J010000 | 0       |
| 048 | J020000 | 0.000   |
| 048 | K010000 | 2000000 |
| 048 | K020000 | 0.575   |
| 049 | 000000  | N       |
| 050 | 000000  | N       |
| 051 | 000000  | N       |
| 052 | 000000  | N       |
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| 053 | B000000 | Y       |
| 053 | C000000 | N       |
| 054 | A000000 | Y       |
| 054 | B000000 | N       |
| 054 | C000000 | N       |
| 054 | D000000 | N       |
| 054 | E000000 | N       |
| 054 | F000000 | N       |
| 054 | G000000 | N       |
| 054 | H000000 | Y       |
| 054 | I000000 | N       |
| 054 | J000000 | Y       |
| 054 | K000000 | N       |
| 054 | L000000 | N       |

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|     |         |   |       |
|-----|---------|---|-------|
| 054 | M000000 | Y |       |
| 054 | N000000 | N |       |
| 054 | O000000 | Y |       |
| 055 | A000000 | N |       |
| 055 | B000000 | N |       |
| 056 | 000000  | N |       |
| 057 | 000000  | N |       |
| 058 | A000000 | N |       |
| 059 | 000000  | Y |       |
| 060 | A000000 | Y |       |
| 060 | B000000 | Y |       |
| 061 | 000000  |   | 0     |
| 062 | A000000 | Y |       |
| 062 | B000000 |   | 0.0   |
| 062 | C000000 |   | 0.0   |
|     | PAGE    | 6 |       |
| 062 | D000000 |   | 0.0   |
| 062 | E000000 |   | 0.0   |
| 062 | F000000 |   | 0.0   |
| 062 | G000000 |   | 0.0   |
| 062 | H000000 |   | 0.0   |
| 062 | I000000 |   | 0.0   |
| 062 | J000000 |   | 0.0   |
| 062 | K000000 |   | 0.0   |
| 062 | L000000 |   | 0.0   |
| 062 | M000000 |   | 0.0   |
| 062 | N000000 |   | 0.0   |
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| 062 | P000000 |   | 0.0   |
| 062 | Q000000 |   | 0.0   |
| 062 | R000000 |   | 0.0   |
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| 063 | B000000 |   | 8.9   |
| 064 | A000000 | Y |       |
| 064 | B000000 | N |       |
| 066 | A000000 | N |       |
| 067 | 000000  | N |       |
| 068 | A000000 | N |       |
| 068 | B000000 | N |       |
| 069 | 000000  | N |       |
| 070 | A010000 | Y |       |
| 070 | A020000 | N |       |
| 070 | B010000 | N |       |
| 070 | B020000 | N |       |
| 070 | C010000 | Y |       |
| 070 | C020000 | N |       |
| 070 | D010000 | N |       |
| 070 | D020000 | N |       |
| 070 | E010000 | Y |       |
| 070 | E020000 | N |       |
| 070 | F010000 | N |       |
| 070 | F020000 | N |       |
| 070 | G010000 | Y |       |
| 070 | G020000 | N |       |
| 070 | H010000 | N |       |
| 070 | H020000 | N |       |
| 070 | I010000 | N |       |
| 070 | I020000 | N |       |
| 070 | J010000 | Y |       |
| 070 | J020000 | N |       |
| 070 | K010000 | Y |       |
| 070 | K020000 | N |       |

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|       |         |   |        |
|-------|---------|---|--------|
| 070   | L010000 | N |        |
| 070   | L020000 | N |        |
| 070   | M010000 | N |        |
| 070   | M020000 | N |        |
| 070   | N010000 | N |        |
|       | PAGE    | 7 |        |
| 070   | N020000 | N |        |
| 070   | O010000 | Y |        |
| 070   | O020000 | N |        |
| 070   | P010000 | N |        |
| 070   | P020000 | N |        |
| 070   | Q010000 | N |        |
| 070   | Q020000 | N |        |
| 070   | R010000 | N |        |
| 070   | R020000 | N |        |
| 071   | A000000 |   | 21928  |
| 071   | B000000 |   | 16113  |
| 071   | C000000 |   | 322754 |
| 071   | D000000 |   | 5      |
| 072   | A000000 | 6 |        |
| 072   | B000000 |   | 8067   |
| 072   | C000000 |   | 0      |
| 072   | D000000 |   | 0      |
| 072   | E000000 |   | 0      |
| 072   | F000000 |   | 1046   |
| 072   | G000000 |   | 0      |
| 072   | H000000 |   | 0      |
| 072   | I000000 |   | 11     |
| 072   | J000000 |   | 36     |
| 072   | K000000 |   | 5      |
| 072   | L000000 |   | 9      |
| 072   | M000000 |   | 4      |
| 072   | N000000 |   | 0      |
| 072   | O000000 |   | 0      |
| 072   | P000000 |   | 0      |
| 072   | Q000000 |   | 0      |
| 072   | R000000 |   | 8      |
| 072   | S000000 |   | 3      |
| 072   | T000000 |   | 0      |
| 072   | U000000 |   | 0      |
| 072   | V000000 |   | 0      |
| 072   | W000000 |   | 161    |
| 072   | X000000 |   | 1283   |
| 072   | Y000000 |   | 508    |
| 072   | Z000000 |   | 7292   |
| 072AA | 000000  |   | 85     |
| 072BB | 000000  |   | 0      |
| 072CC | 010000  |   | 17798  |
| 072CC | 020000  |   | 0      |
| 072DD | 010000  |   | 6745   |
| 072DD | 020000  |   | 0      |
| 072EE | 000000  |   | 0      |
| 073   | A010000 |   | 0.4560 |
| 073   | A020000 |   | 0.0000 |
| 073   | B000000 |   | 0.0000 |
| 073   | C000000 |   | 0.0000 |
| 074   | A000000 |   | 0      |
|       | PAGE    | 8 |        |
| 074   | B000000 |   | 0      |
| 074   | C000000 |   | 0      |
| 074   | D000000 |   | 334723 |
| 074   | E000000 |   | 0      |

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|             |        |
|-------------|--------|
| 074 F000000 | 0      |
| 074 G000000 | 0      |
| 074 H000000 | 0      |
| 074 I000000 | 0      |
| 074 J000000 | 0      |
| 074 K000000 | 0      |
| 074 L000000 | 4518   |
| 074 M000000 | 11     |
| 074 N000000 | 339252 |
| 074 O000000 | 835    |
| 074 P000000 | 90     |
| 074 Q000000 | 0      |
| 074 R010000 | 0      |
| 074 R020000 | 0      |
| 074 R030000 | 0      |
| 074 R040000 | 582    |
| 074 S000000 | 110000 |
| 074 T000000 | 227745 |
| 074 U010000 | 14791  |
| 074 U020000 | 0      |
| 074 V010000 | 15.40  |
| 074 V020000 | 0.00   |
| 074 W000000 | 0.0000 |
| 074 X000000 | 114    |
| 074 Y000000 | 19471  |
| 075 A000000 | 0      |
| 075 B000000 | 219114 |
| 076 000000  | 14.32  |
| 077 A000000 | N      |
| 078 000000  | N      |
| 080 C000000 | 0      |
| 081 B000000 | 0      |
| 082 B000000 | 0      |
| 083 B000000 | 0      |
| 084 B000000 | 0      |
| 086 A010000 | 0      |
| 086 A020000 | 0      |
| 086 B010000 | 0      |
| 086 B020000 | 0      |
| 086 C010000 | 0      |
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| 086 D020000 | 0      |
| 086 E010000 | 0      |
| 086 E020000 | 0      |
| 086 F010000 | 0      |
| 086 F020000 | 0      |

PAGE 9

|             |                   |
|-------------|-------------------|
| 087 A010000 | COMMON STOCK      |
| 087 A020000 | 67069X104         |
| 087 A030000 | NVX               |
| 088 A000000 | N                 |
| 088 B000000 | N                 |
| 088 C000000 | N                 |
| 088 D000000 | Y                 |
| SIGNATURE   | STEPHEN D. FOY    |
| TITLE       | V.P. & CONTROLLER |