

International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies

# 73 PANNUAL CONFERENCE

HUMAN RIGHTS: A UNIFIED VISION FOR EQUITY & JUSTICE

MUGUST 14-18, 2022 SHERATON GRAND LOS ANGELES





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# **IAOHRA**

# LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT & CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE CHAIRS

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF OFFICIAL HUMAN RIGHTS AGENCIES

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> > Angela Rush Treasurer Fort Worth, TX

**Jean M. Kelleher, J.D.** *Immediate Past President* Alexandria, VA

Washington, D.C. Office 444 N. Capital St., N.W. Suite 237 Washington, D.C. 20001 202.624.5410 IAOHRA@sso.org

#### REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

**James L. Stowe** Atlantic Region Montgomery County, MD

**Diane Clements-Boyd** *Midwest Region*Evansville, IN

Jeffery Lorick Southern Region Clearwater, FL

**MEMBERS-AT-LARGE** 

**Tamie Dixon-Tatum** *Anderson, IN* 

JoAnne Kamuf Ward, J.D. New York City, NY August 14, 2022

Dear IAOHRA Member Agencies and Conference Attendees:

We are pleased to welcome you to Los Angeles, California, site of the 2022 International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies Annual Conference at the Sheraton Grand Hotel Los Angeles.

Our theme for the conference is "Human Rights: A Unified Vision of Equity and Justice." During this conference we will examine how we define equity, the application of justice and the direct connection and relevancy to our work.

The planning of our conference has been coordinated by Diane Clements-Boyd and Jim Stowe with the help of a great team of our colleagues and agency members from across the United States. We have planned for you a conference that we hope will both informative and inspiring.

The focus this year will be on social justice, housing and all the related issues, employment discrimination legal update, hate violence, reparations, community policing and creating equity programs in your local jurisdictions, just to name a few areas.

Our conference will again be highlighted by a full day tour of cultural highlights in the city and county of Los Angeles, as we experience their cultural diversity and learn about the civil rights history of this community, state and nation. We will of course provide time on the schedule for your own exploration of its landmarks, people, food and nightlife.

On behalf of the IAOHRA Board and the Conference Planning Committee, we thank each of you for joining us and as we reconvene in person and reconnect and rekindle old relationships with colleagues and initiate new ones, as we must continue to focus on the important work before us. We hope you will stay engaged and fully participate in the conference plenaries and workshops, and take full advantage of the information offered by our expert presenters and, just as important, share your own expertise and experience.

Our special thanks to the local host Committee Chair IIan Davidson, President of the Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations and the staff; the Honorable Holly Mitchell, Chair of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and Honorable Hilda Solis, LA County Supervisor; the Honorable Eric Garcetti, Mayor of the City of Los Angeles; District Attorney George Gascon; Fesia Davenport, CEO of Los Angeles County; Rudy Ortega Jr., Tribal President of Fernando Tataviam People and all those from Los Angeles County who played a part in this year's conference.

An extra special thanks to all our sponsors, presenters, workshop leaders and our Keynote Speakers Maya Wiley, Father Gregory Boyle, Lisa Rice and Dr. Michael Eric Dyson. And a big thanks to the Leadership Team at HUD FHEO for your extraordinary support for this year's conference. United in our efforts, united in our cause and united in our purpose, we can make a difference ensuring equity and justice for all of our communities moves from vision to reality.... Have a great conference and welcome to LA!!



Robin S. Toma, Esq.
Robin S. Toma, Esq.
IAOHRA President



James Stowe
James Stowe
IAOHRA 2022 Conference Co-Chair



Diane Clements-Boyd
IAOHRA 2022 Conference Co-Chair





ERIC GARCETTI
MAYOR

August 14, 2022

International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies (IAOHRA) 444 N Capitol St N.W. Suite 237 Washington, D.C. 20001

RE: 2022 IAOHRA Annual Conference - Human Rights: A Unified Vision for Equity and Justice"

Dear Friends:

Thank you for hosting the 2022 IAOHRA Annual Conference in the City of Los Angeles and for your stewardship in highlighting the work of local, state, and federal agencies in promoting and protecting civil and human rights.

For seventy-three years, you have represented and advocated for over 150 million residents within your member agencies in developing and enforcing anti-discrimination statutes. From urging courts and schools to implementing bias training to supporting civil rights protections for transgender residents, IAOHRA has continued to be a strong voice for safeguarding the human and civil rights of all people.

As a representative of four million Angelenos, I am proud of the strides that the City's Civil + Human Rights and Equity Department has made through its Human Relations Commission, the Transgender Advisory Council, and other commissions. Together, we continue to work toward making Los Angeles a more inclusive city, a home where everyone can find belonging.

Thank you again for convening this conference with a renewed focus on equity and justice when unity is needed the most. I look forward to our continued partnership and welcome everyone to the City of Angels!

Sincerely,

ERIC GARCETTI Mayor







# BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 W. Temple Street, Ste. 866, Los Angeles, California 90012 Phone: 213-974-2222 | Fax: 213-680-3283

#### **HOLLY J. MITCHELL**

CHAIR, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS SUPERVISOR, SECOND DISTRICT

August 14, 2022

Dear International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies Conference Attendees:

Welcome to the County of Los Angeles!

I serve as the Chair of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors - the elected officials called "Supervisors" - who lead Los Angeles County government. In that role, I am especially honored to tell you how pleased I am that the International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies (IAOHRA) is holding its annual conference in Los Angeles County!

The protection of the human rights of all through equity, inclusion and healthy intergroup relations that are based on respect for our rights - especially our most disadvantaged communities - is one of the highest priorities of our county government. Our Commission on Human Relations and its LA vs Hate program, and our Anti-Racism, Diversity and Inclusion (ARDI) Initiative, are two of our leading agencies in this regard.

Making equity a requirement of our American Rescue Plan and all our spending, ensuring our budget is aligned with a "care first, jails last" approach, and community safety coupled with a sense of belonging for everyone, free from hate and violence...these are some of the major changes which Los Angeles County is advancing to make this a county where human rights is at the center of its purpose.

I hope each of you will have the opportunity to experience not only the popular places of Los Angeles, but also the often-hidden stories of resistance to injustice that have made our community what it is.

We're glad Los Angeles County is part of the IAOHRA network to learn, grow and become stronger, so that we can sustain this work for the long road that is required to achieve the level of equity and justice that is needed.

May you have a wonderful and inspiring time with us!

Sincerely,

Holly J. Mitchell

Hmitchell

Chair, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors

Supervisor, Second District



# IAOHRA

# IAOHRA SPOTLIGHTS: H.J. BELTON HAMILTON, IAOHRA PRESIDENT 1968

When H.J. Belton Hamilton died Oregon lost a trailblazing civil rights pioneer whose passion for education and an open society informed every aspect of his life and whose commitment to equal treatment under the law bettered the lives of countless Oregonians.

Hamilton was the grandson of a slave, born in the Deep South when legalized discrimination limited what a black boy could do or even dream of. Yet he became part of a small group of influential black professionals in Portland in the 1950s and 1960s who broke racial barriers in medicine, law, politics and journalism.

Hamilton himself was the first African American to graduate from Stanford University in 1949 and went on to become the first black assistant state attorney general, the first black federal administrative law judge in Oregon, and board president of the Urban League of Portland, all while mentoring future lawyers and judges, serving as a leader in his church and various civic groups, and integrating his interracial family into the fabric of his suburban neighborhood and schools.

Belton Hamilton was one of 10 siblings who grew up on a farm in Mississippi in the 1920s. "Coloreds" could only go to school up to the eighth grade in his small town.

But young Belton didn't want to be a farmer, he wanted to go to school. He moved to the city by himself at age 13, got a job working nights as a mortician's assistant and graduated from the all-black high school in Columbus, Miss.

Drafted into the Army as a medic, he served in Europe during World War II and wound up receiving a Purple Heart and three battle stars. Overseas, he saw a world where black and white people could co-exist, not segregated by race. And that revelation became his compass. After the war, he moved to Portland at the urging of a sister, who had come to work in the shipyards and told him of a place where Negroes had more opportunity. Hamilton attended the University of Portland for two years on the G.I. Bill, then transferred to Stanford, where he was one of two black students in the 1940s.

He got his degree, moved back to Portland and set his sights on law school. He began at the University of Oregon, where he roomed with future state senator Vern Cook of Gresham, and finished at Lewis & Clark College, graduating in 1953.



H.J. Benton Hamilton overcame the limited opportunities he had as a youth in the segregated South to become a lawyer, judge and civil rights advocate in Oregon.

It was a standing joke amongst family and friends that no matter where he went, he seemed to know every person who had ever gone to any of the colleges he had attended. Whenever you walked down the street with him, he knew everyone.

Though he was known as a tough negotiator and brilliant strategist as a lawyer—he was astute about people and problems and politics—his outgoing nature and sense of humor put co-workers and neighbors at ease. He was about 6 feet tall, a sharp dresser, a great dancer, an eloquent speaker and a formidable debater. He studied the Greek tragedies, knew the Bible inside and out, studied the great philosophers and would draw from all those sources in the courtroom, invoking some moral tenet or quoting Scripture to make a point.

His ability to communicate and his broad contacts, both black and white, served him well as a member of an informal coalition of government officials, ministers, business people and community leaders that sought to ease racial tensions in Portland following the 1968 assassination of Martin Luther King Jr.

John Gustafson, a former assistant state labor commissioner, said Hamilton was one of the most important individuals in the history of civil rights in Oregon. There was probably no piece of state legislation, major court case or state attorney general's opinion involving civil rights, apprenticeship and training, or worker rights from the mid-1950s to 1970 that Hamilton did not affect as



H.J. Belton Hamilton and Midori Minamoto met as students at the University of Oregon and their marriage in 1957 became the first recorded union between an African American and Japanese American in Oregon.

an assistant attorney general and chief counsel of the Bureau of Labor. As Attorney General Robert Thornton's lead attorney on civil rights and worker protection issues, he testified before the legislature and argued before the Oregon Supreme Court.

As a lawyer, Hamilton believed he had an opportunity to fundamentally change people's lives and he advocated for workers who hadn't been paid or tenants who'd been discriminated against. And because he worked for the state, he was glad he didn't have to charge the disenfranchised for his services. Later, as an administrative law judge for the Social Security Administration, he saw to it that people received the benefits they were entitled to.

Tom Trotta, who worked with Hamilton for 30 years as an assistant attorney general and as an administrative law judge, said his colleague had "a sense of justice about him that just wouldn't quit. If he saw something wrong, he saw to it that it got corrected."

Hamilton's passionate belief in an open and integrated society, where people were free to make their own choices, and his fearlessness in being a social pioneer, extended famously to his personal life. He married a fellow UO student, Midori Minamoto, whose Japanese American family was sent to an internment camp in Idaho during WWII.

In the late '50s, when they took their vows, interracial marriage in Oregon was rare. The young couple bought a home in West Linn, then more of a rural refuge than affluent suburb, and raised their two children to celebrate their dual heritage at a time when they were often the only students of color in their public school classrooms.

The unusual sight of an African American man and his Asian wife was met at times with hostility or racism, and prompted Hamilton to declare in a published collection of Christmas newsletters that traced the family's doings over more than three decades: "Interracial living is not for sissies."

The Hamiltons' son, Konrad, would obtain a Ph.D from Stanford and become a history professor and department chair at Knox College in Illinois. Their daughter, Camille, would graduate from Stanford and UCLA law school and become a lawyer, working for the city of San Francisco and later moving into private practice.

Both drew life lessons from a dad they idolized. Konrad remembered his father taking him as a young boy to Urban League meetings and even to a jail so he would understand his middle class privileges and develop a social conscience.

"He didn't just generally believe in desegregation. This was a guy who in the '40s and '50s, was doing lunch counter sit-ins in Portland," his son said. "When he said he was for integration, that's the way he lived. He moved to West Linn and we were the only non-white family in the neighborhood." Camille said her parents had a strong sense of being an early pioneering couple. "They didn't say to us, 'You're just like everyone else.' They used to tell us, you're not like everybody else. You're special. You have this unique heritage and you represent a coming together of two resilient, ancient cultures, and to use it as a tremendous resource."

It was in the West Linn family home where Belton Hamilton, slowed by two major strokes in 1999 and 2007, died of natural causes on April 15.

Mr. Hamilton passed away on April 15, 2011. He was 86.



# IADHRA IAOHRA PAST PRESIDENTS 1968-2022

NAME	STATE	TERM
Robin S. Toma	California	2017 - Present
Jean M. Kelleher	Virginia	2012 - 2017
Shawn Martel Moore	New York	2011 - 2012
Leon L. Russell	Florida	2007 - 2011
James L. Stowe	Ohio	2003 - 2007
Beverly L. Watts	Kentucky	1999 - 2003
William M. Hale	Texas	1995 - 1999
Claude R. Rogers	Missouri	1993 - 1995
Leah Gaskin-White	Pennsylvania	1991 - 1993
Albert Nelson	Florida	1989 - 1991
Joyce E. Tucker	Illinois	1987 - 1989
James E. Clyburn	South Carolina	1985 - 1987
Galen Martin	Kentucky	1983 - 1985
Bobbie Butler	Michigan	1981 - 1983
Ruth Rasmussen	Michigan	1979 - 1981
Allen J. Correll	lowa	1977 - 1979
James W. Baldwin	Washington, D.C.	1975 - 1977
Vivian L. Carver	Washington	1973 - 1975
Arthur L. Green	Connecticut	1971 - 1973
James H. Blair	New Jersey	1971
Frank Kent	Minnesota	1970
Rev. Charles King	Indiana	1969
H.J. Belton Hamilton	Oregon	1968



# IASHRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS' AND OFFICERS' BIOGRAPHIES



#### **PRESIDENT**

**ROBIN S. TOMA** is Executive Director of the Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations Commission, appointed in 2000. Under his leadership, the agency is working to transform prejudice into acceptance, inequity

into justice, and hostility into peace. By building community capacity and focus in key areas, racialized gang violence has been lessened. Through demonstration projects in high schools, the power of integrating human relations strategies into school campuses has brought about greater inclusion, harmony, reduced fighting and conflict, and improved academic performance. The Commission's signature annual report on hate crime in the county has shown a long-term trend downward in hate crime until recent years, while the Commission has invested in hate violence prevention community partnerships and training peacemakers through the countywide dispute resolution program.

His published writings include A Primer on Managing Intergroup Conflict in a Multicultural Workplace, Day Laborers Hiring Sites: Constructive Approaches to Community Conflict (co-author with Jill Esbenshade), and he contributed a piece on racialized gang violence in the book Uncommon Common Ground: Race and America's Future.

Robin serves as President on the board of directors of the International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies (IAOHRA), and was President of and is on the Board of the California Association of Human Relations Organizations (CAHRO). He's been a Senior Fellow at the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs since 2009 and had the privilege to be part of Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government's Executive Session on Human Rights Commissions and Criminal Justice (2006-2008), and the Kellogg National Fellowship/Leadership Program (1994-97). He was appointed by the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights to serve on the California State Advisory Committee (2012 to present) and helped create and serve on the L.A. Unified School District's Commission on Human Relations, Diversity, and Educational Equity. He served three years on the national interim leadership team of the Within Our Lifetime Network for Racial Equity and Healing.

In August 2014, Robin spoke in Geneva on the review of the U.S.

Government's compliance with the treaty to eliminate racial discrimination (CERD) and was an invited adviser to the Obama Administration's delegation to the U.N. Human Rights Council in Geneva, for the U.S. first-ever presentation on its human rights record as part of the United Nations' Universal Periodic Review process in November 2010. He was also invited to serve on the official U.S. Delegation to the U.N. World Conference Against Racism in Durban, South Africa, in 2001.

Robin is the son of Americans of Japanese and Okinawan ancestry; his mother and her family spent World War II imprisoned in the U.S. internment camps solely because of their Japanese ancestry. Robin's paternal grandfather was an immigrant Okinawan sugar cane plantation worker in Maui. Robin grew up in the Echo Park/Silver Lake neighborhoods of L.A., attending LAUSD public schools. He received a B.A. with highest honors in Sociology and honors in Economics from the University of California at Santa Cruz, and a J.D. degree and M.A. degree in Urban Planning from UCLA. Robin is fluent in Spanish, having studied and worked in Barcelona for two years, and was a teacher in L.A.'s public schools.

Prior to working at the Commission, Robin was a staff attorney at the American Civil Liberties Union Foundation of Southern California for almost 7 years and litigated a wide range of human rights and civil liberties cases in federal and state courts.



#### **1ST VICE PRESIDENT**

For **DR. ALISA WARREN**, the advancement of equality in our society has been a career cornerstone. Since January 2008, Dr. Warren has served as the Executive Director for the Missouri Commission on Human Rights

(MCHR), a state agency with four offices statewide. Under her strategic leadership, MCHR works diligently to prevent and eliminate discrimination in employment, housing, and public accommodations. Her dedication to fighting racism and bias against women and other marginalized communities is in her DNA. Promoting inclusion manifests itself in her extensive efforts, through education and outreach initiatives, to bring greater understanding about anti-discrimination laws to the four corners of her home state of Missouri and the nation. Building networks between government, business,

and advocacy groups is a main focus for Dr. Warren; she believes that vibrant community partnerships are key to advancing social justice—and she strives to foster and strengthen those vital connections as a means to broaden fundamental freedoms.

Throughout her 20-year career, Dr. Warren has worn many hats, all fashioned after a common theme of equal opportunity for all. She has appeared as a subject matter expert on human rights and social justice on numerous television and radio programs, virtual webinars and podcasts, trained many thousands of people on human rights, racial justice and women's issues, diversity and inclusion, and served as a keynote speaker at local, state, and national events. As a change agent, her executive level experience also includes such distinguished roles as: Director of Diversity Initiatives for the University of Missouri-College of Engineering; Executive Director for the Missouri Community Service Commission; Missouri Director of the Office of Equal Opportunity; and Director of the State of Missouri Supplier Diversity Program.

Dr. Warren has been actively involved over the years with a number of organizations such as the: International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies Board of Directors as 1st Vice President; St. Louis-FOCUS Board of Directors; the Missouri Supreme Court Commission on Race and Ethnic Fairness in the Courts-Public Engagement Co-Chair, Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis Fair Housing Task Force; U.S. Commission on Civil Rights Missouri State Advisory Council; U.S. President's Initiative on Race; Missouri Human Rights Conference Chair; Governing Board for Central Missouri United Way; Girls Scouts of the Missouri Heartland Board of Directors; Strategic Leadership for State Executives at the Duke University Governor's Center; the State of Missouri Diversity Council Chair; the Ferguson Community Forward Initiative; and the Governor's Diversity and Inclusion Initiative.

A proponent of education for the advancement of civil rights, her own education uniquely establishes a strong basis for her expertise in the field. Dr. Warren holds a Ph.D. in Applied Social Sciences in the area of Community Development and Social Disparities; a Master of Public Administration; and a Bachelor of Science degree all from the University of Missouri-Columbia.





#### **2ND VICE PRESIDENT**

**CAROL JOHNSON, J.D., M.A.,** recently was named as the first Civil Rights Director for the City of Austin's inaugural Civil Rights Office. In that role, Director Johnson will create and head the brand new agency to enforce civil,

human, and worker rights in Austin. Director Johnson has spent her professional career advocating for housing protections, educational equality, fair wages, safe labor standards, workers' compensation for injured workers, police reform, and other important and necessary civil rights protections in housing, education, employment, and public accommodations.

A trailblazer, Director Johnson served as the first African American Deputy Prosecuting Attorney in Garland County, Arkansas, and went on to direct the State of Arkansas' first civil rights enforcement agency—the Arkansas Fair Housing Commission. Director Johnson served for 14 years as Executive Director of the Arkansas Fair Housing Commission, the only state agency specifically charged with protecting the civil rights of Arkansans and the sole civil rights enforcement agency in the state. Director Johnson had the distinction of serving as a founding Executive Director of the Commission, a quasi-judicial, regulatory, enforcement agency that receives, investigates, and otherwise resolves fair housing/fair lending complaints within the State of Arkansas' 75 counties and nearly 3 million residents. At AFHC, Director Johnson worked under the Gubernatorial leadership of the past three Arkansas Governors in a bi-partisan capacity.

Director Johnson additionally served as one of a few African American Civil Rights Directors for the State of Oregon where she was tasked with defending rights to equal opportunity in employment, housing, public accommodations, vocational career schools, whistleblower, FMLA, pay equity, health benefit protections, paid leave and other state protected laws across more than 30 protected classes and bases.

In 2016, Director Johnson was named to the Arkansas Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights and was in 2018 appointed Chair of the Arkansas Advisory Committee.

During her tenure with AFHC, Director Johnson resolved numerous fair housing/fair lending cases and assisted many Arkansas municipalities in creating and/or amending existing ordinances to comply with zoning requirements and has worked with numerous housing authorities, housing developers, housing providers, lenders, real estate professionals, and others to lend critical technical support aimed at open housing access to protect both the public interest and the needs of the housing industry. Director Johnson led the state in creating fair housing/fair lending education programs and training opportunities for those in the housing community and regularly trains housing providers, architects, property owners, managers,

developers, consultants, appraisers, attorneys, municipalities, non-profits organizations, home-seekers, and others on applicable fair housing/fair lending laws and regulations.

Director Johnson is committed to designing and promoting educational outreach opportunities for the general public as well as industry leaders and annually hosted a free national conference to highlight issues of import in the civil rights community. In 2019, Director Johnson hosted her 14th national conference with more than 400 attendees, and which featured HUD Secretary Dr. Ben Carson.

Director Johnson has served as an Instructor and Subject Matter Expert for the National Fair Housing Training Academy and has developed several innovative and creative education outreach initiatives designed to increase fair housing awareness, including the AFHC Fair Housing Ambassador Program—a collaborative effort with colleges and universities throughout the state to assist college students in developing leadership skills to advance civil rights issues statewide. In 2011, Director Johnson spearheaded a unique Memorandum of Understanding to affirmatively further fair housing statewide via collaboration with the state agency responsible for disbursing governmental funding to the housing developers working within Arkansas.

Director Johnson serves on numerous boards and committees, including the National Community Reinvestment Coalition, the International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies, the Oregon Black Pioneers, the National Bar Association (Arkansas and Oregon Chapters), and is a member of the Portland Chapter of The Links, Incorporated.

A licensed attorney, Director Johnson has worked in various areas of administrative, civil and criminal law. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, Texas, a Master of Arts degree from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and a Juris Doctor from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock William H. Bowen School of Law.



#### **SECRETARY**

**KENNETH GUNN** (he/him/his) has dedicated his career to public service, specifically civil rights law for more than 30 years. He currently serves as the First Deputy Commissioner of the Chicago Commission on Human Relations.

The Commission serves as the City of Chicago's civil rights agency responsible for investigating and adjudicating complaints of discrimination, aiding hate crime victims, mediating racial and ethnic tensions, and providing anti-bias training.

As the First Deputy, Ken is responsible for the managing the day-to-day operations of the agency under the direction of the commissioner. He is involved in all aspects of the Commission's work including reviewing complaints of discrimination, strategizing to address hate crimes and community tensions, and directing personnel and fiscal operations. He also provides legal counsel to the staff and Board of Commissioners and works with the Mayor and City Council to draft and review legislation.

Before coming to the Commission, Ken worked for the Office of the Cook County Public Guardian where he represented abused and neglected children. While in law school, he served as an intern with the Illinois Attorney General's Office where he assisted in the investigation and resolution of consumer fraud complaints.

He is a graduate of the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, where he received his Bachelor of Arts (BA) Degree in History, and his Law degree (JD).

Ken devotes much of his time to several volunteer activities. He is a certified court mediator and serves as a volunteer mediator for the Center for Conflict Resolution. He also serves on several boards and committees including Housing Choice Partners of Illinois Inc. (Treasurer), Center for Conflict Resolution Board of Directors (Secretary), Chicago Bar Association Judicial Evaluation Committee, Emmanuel Baptist Church Board of Trustees (Chair), and Durban Social Service Committee of Chicago Sister Cities International. He is also the past Chairman of the Cook County Commission on Human Rights.



#### **TREASURER**

**ANGELA RUSH** is the Assistant Director of Diversity and Inclusion for the City of Fort Worth (City). Ms. Rush joined the City in 2001 after working in executive management in the private sector for ten years. During her tenure

with the City, Ms. Rush has performed in many different roles. She has served as the City's Neighborhood Education & Outreach Manager, Assistant Director of Community Relations, and the City's Human Relations Administrator. Ms. Rush currently serves as the Assistant Director of Diversity and Inclusion, with oversight over the City's civil rights enforcement programs.

Ms. Rush also serves as the executive advisor to the Mayor's Committee on Persons with Disabilities (MCPD) and the staff liaison to the Fort Worth Human Relations Commission (FWHRC). The MCPD works to ensure that all persons with disabilities have the opportunity to enjoy full and equitable access to lives of independence, productivity and self-determination.

The FWHRC, as a federally certified Fair Housing Assistance Program (FHAP) Agency and Fair Employment Practice Agency (FEPA), is charged with enforcing anti-discrimination laws. Staff, under the direction of Ms. Rush, conduct investigations into complaints alleging discrimination in housing, employment, and public accommodations. Enforcement staff is also responsible for ensuring the City's compliance with the American with Disabilities Act and Title VI provisions.

During her time with the City, Ms. Rush has developed and implemented the City's annual neighborhood workshop and awards program; the City's annual neighborhood food drive program; numerous Fair Housing, Fair Employment and ADA conferences, workshops and training; and assisted the FWHRC, and staff, with developing and implementing the City's award-winning Movies That Matter program. She has both led, and served on, various City committees, including the GIS Steering Committee, Complete Count Census Committee, Call Center Committee, Charitable Giving Committee, City of Fort Worth Employee Food Drive and more. Ms. Rush also worked with the City's Task Force on Race and Culture (Task Force) charged with leading community conversations about race and culture, assessing disparities in municipal services, and leadership training. Ms. Rush served as a staff liaison to the Task Force as a whole, and also served as the liaison to the Task Force's Governance Committee. The Task Force's work culminated with 22 recommendations across criminal justice, economic development, education, governance, health, housing and transportation. Currently, Ms. Rush is working with the City's Chief Equity Officer and the FWHRC to review, analyze, and update the Task Force's recommendations.

Ms. Rush is a firm believer in civil and human rights, community development, neighborhood empowerment, civic engagement and community building which has led to her serving on two nonprofits dedicated to these values. She served for more than nine years as a board member to Neighborhoods, USA (NUSA), a national non-profit organization committed to building and strengthening neighborhood organizations. While serving on the NUSA board, Ms. Rush served in various leadership positions including President, Vice President, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Awards Program Committee Chair, Public Affairs Committee Chair and Membership Services Chair. Currently, Ms. Rush serves as Treasurer of the International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies (IAOHRA). For more than 70 years IAOHRA, a national nonprofit headquartered in Washington D.C., has worked tirelessly: to promote equal opportunity and equal treatment for all, to aid in the elimination of unlawful discrimination, to coordinate member agencies' concerns and interest before all branches of the federal government and to educate the public and private sector on human rights and civil rights issues.

Ms. Rush holds both a B.A. degree in Business and a Master's degree in Leadership and Management. Ms. Rush is a certified mediator, and also holds certifications in several fields/areas, including: project management, organizational management and NIMS/ICS municipal emergency management.



#### **IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT**

**JEAN M. KELLEHER** has been Director of the City of Alexandria's Office of Human Rights since May 2000. Before that, she was a Managing Attorney at Legal Services of Northern Virginia, the region's legal aid

program. Ms. Kelleher graduated from Connecticut College, did postgraduate work at Georgetown, and received her law degree from the Washington College of Law at American University. She has been a litigator and an administrator of pro bono, lawyer referral, and children's law programs. In 2007 she became a Certified Public Manager through the George Washington University/COG (Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments) Institute for Excellence in Public Leadership. She serves on the City Manager's Management Team and on the City Council's Legislative Committee. She is a Past President of the Alexandria Bar Association, served on the board of directors of the Bar Foundation, and has represented Alexandria on the Virginia State Bar Council and Executive Committee. Ms. Kelleher currently serves on the Board of Trustees of the Scholarship Fund of Alexandria. In 2021 she was selected as a Fellow of the Virginia Law Foundation, recognized for the promotion of public understanding of the law, the encouragement of excellence in the delivery of legal services and the improvement of the administration of justice.



#### **MEMBER-AT-LARGE**

**TAMIE TATUM-DIXON**, Department Head, City of Anderson Human Relations. Tamie Dixon-Tatum has extensive experience in the fields of Office Management, Office Policies, Procedures, Payroll, Marketing, Human

Resources, Public Relations, Radio & Television Broadcasting, Teaching, and Municipal/Community Partnerships. She has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Telecommunications and a master's degree in Public Affairs. Ms. Dixon-Tatum is a former employee of both DRA and Guide Lamp, as well as a former Union Member of Local 662 and Local 663. Her experience, expertise, and education make her a well-rounded individual and professional.

Tamie is currently involved in numerous community programs such

as the Strengthening Families Program through Intersect, and she is a youth, community, education, and equal opportunity advocate. Currently, she works for the City of Anderson as the Human Relations director, and a guest radio personality for Vision for Success and the Bill Jackson Show for WHBU 1240AM/103.7FM. Previously, Tamie worked in Madison County Superior Court 2's Juvenile Division as the Juvenile Case Manager for the Reclaiming Futures Program and the Madison County Prosecutor's Office as Office Manager under Thomas Broderick Jr. She has also worked for The Crossing Education Center as the Community & Business Development Coordinator which helped to match youth with job training and community service opportunities.

In addition to her extensive employment and educational background, she has spearheaded the Ollie H. Dixon Back-To-School Picnic and Parade for nearly 25 years. This program has provided school supplies for thousands of disadvantaged children through-out Madison County for over two decades.

Tamie Dixon-Tatum works tirelessly to serve the community as a youth, education, community, and equal opportunity advocate as well as a multi-media professional.



#### **MEMBER-AT-LARGE**

**JOANN KAMUF WARD** is the Deputy Commissioner for Policy and External Affairs at the NYC Commission on Human Rights. Prior to joining the Commission, Kamuf Ward directed the Human Rights in the U.S. Project at

the Columbia Law School Human Rights Institute, where she focused on promoting the use of a human rights framework to strengthen racial, gender, and socioeconomic justice, and strengthening government accountability. She has written about U.S. human rights policy on Just Security, the Human Rights at Home Blog, and Politico, and co-authored *How the Trump Administration's Efforts to Redefine Human Rights Threaten Economic, Social, and Racial Justice for the Colum-bia Human Rights Law Review* in 2019. JoAnn lives in Brooklyn, NY with her husband and two daughters.



## REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE ATLANTIC REGION

**JAMES L. STOWE** (Jim) currently serves as the Director of the Montgomery County Maryland Office of Human Rights.

Under Jim's leadership, the office has created

new and expanded initiatives to combat the incident of hate violence activities through the Committee Against Hate Violence and the

convening of a county wide symposium on "Bullying in Schools" and a forum on Post 911 Issues and Concerns within the Muslim and Sikh Community; and an increase effort in outreach activities with the Montgomery County Human Rights Commission to convene public forums on Racial Profiling, the Criminal Justice System, Police Community Relations, LGBTQ and the Transgender Community, Stopping Violence A Lesson from Charleston, South Carolina.

The Digital Divide; and an increase in programming for youth with an expansion of the Human Rights Youth Diversity Camp for 5th Graders, supporter of the NAACP- ACTSO program and Smart Start back to school program; an initiative with Interfaith Works and the Montgomery County Jewish Community Relations Council to improve faith and community relationship between African American and Jewish Clergy and African American and Jewish residents and an initiative with the Montgomery County Department of Correction and Rehabilitation on Re-entry to the Employment for Returning Citizens; the Civil Rights Educational Freedom Experience; Veterans programs and the Friendship Picnic which is for an effort to build and foster unity in the entire community.

Mr. Stowe is a member of a number of community organizations and works with these programs and activities throughout Montgomery County. In addition Mr. Stowe has served as President of the International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies and the National Association of Human Rights Workers and continues to serve in leadership roles with both organizations. He is the recipient of a number of local and national civic and human rights awards and recognitions.

The Montgomery County Maryland Office of Human Rights provides leadership to the people of Montgomery County enforcement of anti-discrimination laws, educating the citizens about cultural diversity and identifying and resolving community tensions; as it works toward "Creating a Culture of Service and a Climate of Fairness and Inclusion." Mr. Stowe is the fourth director of the Montgomery County Office of Human Rights in its nearly sixty years of historic existence.



## REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE MIDWEST REGION

**DIANE CLEMENTS-BOYD** was appointed Executive Director of the Evansville-Vanderburgh County Human Relations Commission in January of 2004. Prior to

joining the Human Relations Commission, she served as a Program Manager at the Evansville Black Coalition, Inc., from 1995 to 2004.

Diane has been in the forefront of advancing social justice and advocacy efforts in the city of Evansville for over 20 years. In addition to being responsible for enforcing municipal civil rights laws, Diane is responsible for administering several advisory boards. In 2009, she worked with disability advocates to create the city's first Advisory Board on Disability Services. The board provides guidance to the City of Evansville and Vanderburgh County in matters concerning individuals with disabilities and offers a public forum for members of the community to raise issues of concern. Diane advised city officials on the need for civil rights protections for the LGBT community. In 2011, the Evansville City Council passed an ordinance to include protections for LGBT individuals. Diane also advises the Evansville Commission on the Social Status of African Males, whose mission is to create practical proposals and workable remedies in the areas of employment, education, health and criminal justice to reduce problems that African American males face. Under her direction, the Evansville Commission on the Social Status of African American Males spearheads the Indiana Black Barbershop Health Initiative, the Million Father March and criminal record expungement workshops.

Diane serves as chairperson of the Indiana Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights; Past president of the Indiana Consortium of State and Local Human Rights Agencies; member of the Evansville Commission on Homelessness; and the Evansville Women's Equality Day Committee. Diane received the 2011 Freedom Award from the State of Indiana Martin Luther King Commission, the 2009 Black Women's Task Force Community Service Award, and the Evansville Chapter of the NAACP Lifetime Community Advocate Award. Diane is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., and serves as the Indiana Social Action Coordinator. Diane is a graduate of the University of California Los Angeles with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Sociology.

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE
SOUTHERN REGION

**MR. JEFFERY D. LORICK** serves as Director of the Pinellas County Office of Human Rights, where he has been employed since July 2016.

As a dedicated Civil Rights Leader, Mr. Lorick

serves as a confidential point of contact for employees to communicate with management, identifies clarification on issues or dilemmas, reports irregularities, identifies compliance issues that require follow-up or investigation, and conducts diversity and inclusion training for Pinellas County. Mr. Lorick has demonstrated a fierce commitment to promoting diversity and inclusion.

Mr. Lorick has been the keynote speaker for national and international civil rights conferences speaking on topics such as Fair Housing as well as cultural diversity. He currently provides a safeguard for the civil violation as well as the social, and economic liberties of the

citizens of Pinellas County and surrounding communities.

Before joining the Office of Human Rights in Pinellas County, Jeffery served as Director of the Human Rights Commission in Terre Haute, Indiana for ten years.

Mr. Lorick is a highly respected human rights leader, characterized as having strong entrepreneurial skills, and leadership team-building skills. He is a great leader who possesses a clear vision, is courageous, and has integrity, honesty, humility and a clear focus.





#### SUNDAY, AUGUST 14, 2022

12:00 PM - 2:00 PM	IAOHRA Board of Directors Meeting
2:00 PM - 6:30 PM	Conference Registration   California Foyer
6:30 PM - 8:30 PM	Opening Welcome & Reception Hosted by the Sheraton Grand The Deck   <i>Featuring GR818ers</i>
	<b>Special Guest: Ron Wakabayashi,</b> Former Regional Director, U.S. Department of Justice Community Relations Service
	Recognition of Members & Networking
	<b>Robin Toma,</b> IAOHRA President, Director, Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations

MONDAY, AUGUST 15, 2022		
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Conference Registration   California Foyer	
7:30 AM - 8:30 AM	Continental Breakfast   California Foyer	
8:30 AM - 9:00 AM	OPENING CEREMONY	
LOCATION	SPEAKERS	
(California Ballroom)	Opening Ceremony   California Ballroom  Robin Toma, IAOHRA President, Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations  Rudy Ortega, Jr., Tribal President, Fernando Tataviam People  The Honorable Holly J. Mitchell, Chair, Los Angeles County  Board of Supervisors  The Honorable Hilda L. Solis, Los Angeles County Supervisor,  District One  The Honorable George Gascón, Los Angeles District Attorney  The Honorable Eric Garcetti, Mayor, City of Los Angeles  Ilan Davidson, President and Host Committee Chair, Los Angeles  County Commission on Human Relations	
	Conference Overview  Jim Stowe, Montgomery County Md. Office of Human Rights  Diane Clements-Boyd, Evansville-Vanderburgh County Human Relations Commission	
9:15 AM - 10:15 AM	OPENING PLENARY	
LOCATION	SPEAKERS	
(California Ballroom)	Maya Wiley, President and CEO, Leadership Conference on Civil & Human Rights Introduction: Robin Toma	
10:15 AM - 10:30 AM	Break	

#### **SESSION TITLES**

**SPEAKERS** 

DEI vs. Human Relations:
Planning for Your
Organizational Success in Both

(The Wiltern A)

Dr. Anthony W. Wade, Anthony Wade Consulting

Facilitator: Diane Clements-Boyd

This session will emphasize the importance of defining and articulating the differences between the internal organizational activities related to DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) and the external activities of Human Relations. It will include examples of progressive DEI strategies necessary for leading internal organizational cultural change in the public, private, nonprofit and higher education sector.

# Re-Imagining Equity: Human Centric Housing Markets

(The Wiltern B)

**Junia Howell,** Visiting Assistant Professor of Sociology, University of Illinois Chicago

**Facilitator: Tamie Dixon-Tatum** 

It is widely acknowledged that U.S. housing policies have created and exacerbated racial inequality and homelessness. Yet, practically speaking, how do we begin to address these injustices? This workshop presents cutting edge academic research on property appraisals and their foundational role in perpetuating inequities. We will then discuss potential solutions and what individuals and agencies can do to be bring about change.

# Restorative Justice: An Alternative to Punitive Discipline

(The El Capitan A)

**Gerald Kuhn,** City of Omaha Human Rights & Relations Commission

Facilitator: Jean Kelleher

This workshop is for community activists and public safety officials with an interest in alternatives to jail time for misdemeanor infractions. Restorative Justice Practices will foster better police/community relations through collaboration, communication, and non-punitive human relations education.



# Artificial Intelligence & the Dangers of Perpetuating Existing & Creating New Inequities

(The El Capitan B)

Kareem Saleh, Fair Play Facilitator: Angela Rush

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is being touted as a technological wonder with a myriad of potential applications to improve productivity and lower costs for industry, government, and other sectors of the economy. However, evidence suggests that some AI tools can lead to increased discrimination of already marginalized groups. This workshop will explore this important and emerging issue in civil and human rights.

#### Updates from HUD: Advancing Equity & Strengthening Enforcement

(The Orpheum A&B)

**Melody Taylor,** Executive Director, Interagency Task Force on Property Appraisal & Valuation Equity (PAVE) and HUD FHEO Acting Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary of Enforcement & Program Compliance, U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development

**Erik Steinecker,** Acting Director, Fair Housing Assistance Program (FHAP), U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development

**Facilitator: Jeffery Lorick** 

This presentation will provide updates from HUD's Office of Fair Housing & Equal Opportunity (FHEO) on steps being taken to advance the equity agenda, and on HUD's efforts to strengthen fair housing enforcement efforts, updates regarding FHEO's Fair Housing Assistance Program, and regulatory updates.

Adjudicating Administrative Complaints of Discrimination (with a Focus on Fair Housing Complaints) - Part 1

(The Los Angeles A&B)

**Michael P. Seng,** Professor of Law and Director, Fair Housing Legal Support Center, University of Illinois Chicago

**Dawn Cummings,** General Counsel, Tennessee Human Rights Commission

**Facilitator: Kenneth Gunn** 

The objective of this two-part workshop is to provide substantive guidance and "real life" problems and solutions to Commissioners tasked with presiding over a public hearing and to those who are involved in the administrative hearing process. The workshop will focus on fair housing law.

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	PRESIDENT'S LUNCHEON
LOCATION	SPEAKER
(California Ballroom)	Keynote Speaker: Father Greg Boyle, Founder of Homeboy Industries Salome Agbaroji, LA Urban Youth Poet Laureate 2022 Facilitator: Robin Toma

1:15 PM - 2:30	PM
SESSION TITL	ES

## BREAKOUT SESSIONS

#### **SPEAKERS**

#### **Attacks on LGBTQ Rights**

(The Wiltern A)

Ricardo Martinez, Equality Texas

Shedrick Davis, Western Regional Director, Lambda Legal

Facilitator: Angela Rush

The Human Rights Campaign has reported that more than 300 anti-LGBTQ+ bills have been introduced in state legislatures across the country in 2022. Many of these bills seek to restrict or reverse laws passed to protect the transgender community. In the U.S. Supreme Court's recent decision overturning Roe v. Wade, Justice Clarence Thomas added that the Court should now seek to reverse prior decisions protecting LGBTQ+ rights including the right to marriage. This workshop will help provide important information to participants on this disturbing assault on the civil rights of the LGBTQ+ community.

# Addressing the Racial Wealth Gap

(The Wiltern B)

**Melany De La Cruz-Viesca,** Deputy Director, UCLA Asian American Studies Center and Managing Editor, AAPI Nexus

**Celeste Rodriguez,** Senior Project Manager, Los Angeles Community Investment for Families Department

Ronnell Hampton, Principal Equity Strategist, LA Civil Rights
Department with the City of Los Angeles, Professor in Landscape
Architecture, Cal Poly Pomona and Owner, Growing Greatness
Now, A Policy & Urban Design Consulting Firm

**Facilitator: Alisa Warren** 

This session will explore racial wealth inequality in Los Angeles. The presentation will reference the report, "The Color of Wealth in Los Angeles," which seeks to better understand the factors that influence and create disparities in wealth accumulation, particularly intergenerational resource transfers, historical context, and local asset markets. Presenters will also discuss innovative solutions to address wealth inequality through two Los Angeles City programs—Basic Income Guaranteed: Los Angeles Economic Assistance Pilot (BIG: LEAP) and Los Angeles Reforms for Equity and Public Acknowledgment of Institutional Racism (LA REPAIR) Peace & Healing Centers and Participatory Budgeting programs.

#### Advancing Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion in Media & Advertising—A Personal Story

(The El Capitan A)

**Justin Polk,** Co-Founder and Director, Invisible Collective

Facilitator: Jean Kelleher

This workshop will deal with the personal story of Justin Polk and the change, challenges and triumphs he's experienced championing DEI within media and advertising.

Adjudicating Administrative Complaints of Discrimination (with a Focus on Fair Housing Complaints) - Part 2

(The Los Angeles A&B)

**Michael P. Seng,** Professor of Law and Director, Fair Housing Legal Support Center, University of Illinois Chicago

**Dawn Cummings,** General Counsel, Tennessee Human Rights Commission

**Facilitator: Kenneth Gunn** 

The objective of this two-part workshop is to provide substantive guidance and "real life" problems and solutions to Commissioners tasked with presiding over a public hearing and to those who are involved in the administrative hearing process. The workshop will focus on fair housing law.

Building A Movement Out of Moments: A Conversation with HUD's National Fair Housing Training Academy

(The Orpheum A&B)

**Nathan Roth,** Faculty, National Fair Housing Training Academy Faculty (NFHTA), U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development

**Jeffrey May, MURP,** Faculty, National Fair Housing Training Academy Faculty (NFHTA), U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development

**Facilitator: Cleveland Horton** 

Join NFHTA leadership and faculty in this multi-directional conversation on emerging fair housing training trends, ways NFHTA convenes and educates fair housing practitioners and partners to advance equity, and how, together, we will build the knowledge, skills, and capacity necessary to ensure the fair housing movement thrives in each of our communities.

2:30 PM - 2:45 PM	Break
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM	PLENARY SESSION
SESSION TITLE	SPEAKERS
Employment Discrimination Legal Update	Anna Park, Regional Attorney, U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), Los Angeles District Office
(California Ballroom)	Facilitator: Jean Kelleher

EEOC will provide a legal update from a national perspective and provide insight into litigation trends.

# 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM SESSION TITLE

#### **PLENARY SESSION**

#### **SPEAKERS**

Government-Led & Community-Oriented Collaborations for Undoing Systemic Racism: LA County's Anti-Racism, Diversity & Inclusion (ARDI) Initiative

(California Ballroom)

**D'Artagnan Scorza, Ph.D.,** Executive Director, Anti-Racism, Diversity & Inclusion Initiative, County of Los Angeles

**Facilitator: Robin Toma** 

Systemic racism is a product of misguided governmental policies which have continued to impact communities of color for decades. This workshop will explore ways in which government and the community can work together to develop and implement new programs and policies to bring equity to decisions that impact us all.

# 5:15 PM - 7:00 PM SESSION TITLE SPEAKERS Dr. Derrick Harkins, HUD Center for Faith-Based & Neighborhood Partnerships Cantor Ilan Davidson, President, Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations (California Ballroom) Milia Islam-Majeed, South Coast Interfaith Council Pastor Lisa Williams, San Pedro United Methodist Church Heavy hors d'oeuvres and beverages will be served

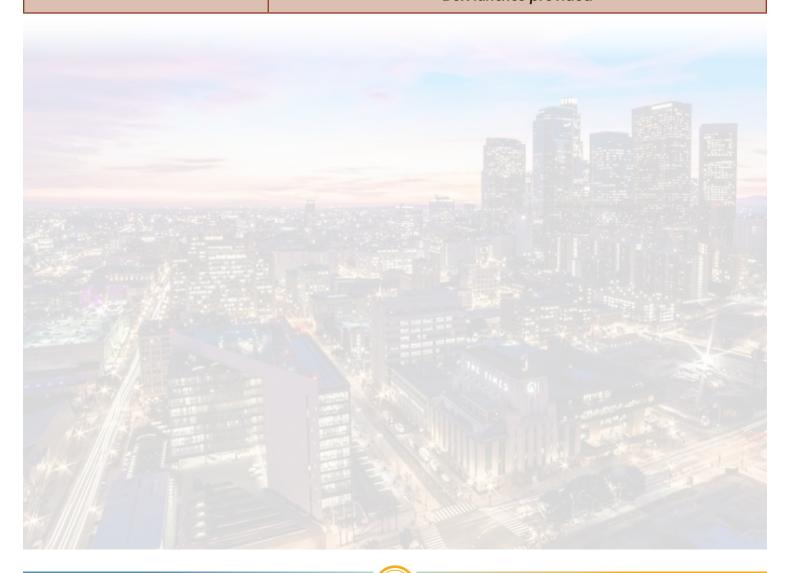
The Interfaith Café will be an interactive session to explore how one's faith can be a vehicle for advocacy that also aligns with human and civil rights priorities. Faith leaders will discuss mobilization efforts and strategies to address social justice issues and uplift for the unhoused and downtrodden.



THESDAY	, AUGUST	16	2022
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Continental Breakfast | California Foyer 7:30 AM - 8:30 AM

#### 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM **PLENARY SESSION SESSION TITLE LOCATIONS** Museum of Tolerance California African American Museum Plaza de Cultura y Artes (History of Latinx and Indigenous People of Los Angeles) A 'Human Rights Slice' Chinese American Museum **Tour of Los Angeles** Japanese American National Museum Board buses at 8:00 AM sharp in front of the hotel Buses will return to the hotel by 5:30 PM | Mask required on bus Box lunches provided



### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2022

7:30 AM - 8:30 AM	Continental Breakfast   California Foyer
8:00 AM - 8:30 AM	Regional Meetings  ATLANTIC REGION (The Wiltern A)  Jim Stowe, Regional Representative  MIDWEST REGION (The Wiltern B)  Diane Clements Boyd, Regional Representative
	SOUTHERN REGION (The El Capitan A) Jeffery Lorick, Regional Representative WESTERN REGION (The El Capitan B) Robin Toma, IAOHRA President

8:45 AM - 9:15 AM	PLENARY SESSION
SESSION TITLE	SPEAKERS
Constructive Candid Conversations	Robert Sowell, Assistant Executive Director, Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations
(California Ballroom)	Facilitator: Jim Stowe

In the session, we will discuss how we can engage with one another in conversations about challenging topics in ways that are open and frank as well as respectful and productive. Skills emphasized in this session include listening with empathy, and speaking without attacking.

9:30 AM - 10:30 AM SESSION TITLES	BREAKOUT SESSIONS  SPEAKERS
Access to Capital as a Human Right in Black & Brown Communities  (The Wiltern A)	Mark Pinsky, Founding Partner, CDFI Friendly America  Déjà Thomas, Program Manager, UCLA Center for Racial Equity (CARE), UCLA Labor Center  Facilitator: Angela Rush

This session will address the historical inequities of access to capital and employment for communities of color at the systems level. The speakers will share strategies to help level the playing field to increase access and address how their work seeks to transform systems and narratives that limit equitable access.

# Reparations for African Americans: California & Beyond

(The Wiltern B)

Kamilah Moore, Chairperson, California Reparations Task Force Facilitator: Ken Gunn

Reparations for African Americans is a domestic human rights issue. Learn about the movement for reparatory justice for African Americans in California and beyond.

## Human Rights Implications of Homelessness

(The El Capitan A)

**Eve Garrow,** Homelessness Policy Analyst, ACLU of Southern California

**Shayla Myers,** Senior Attorney, Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles

**Facilitator: Tamie Dixon-Tatum** 

Housing is a human right. But instead of replenishing our affordable housing supply, cities, counties, and the state have embarked on a campaign of human rights violations against unhoused people—effectively making it a crime to be unhoused. Join a discussion on the need to respect the human rights of unhoused people and efforts to uphold these rights.

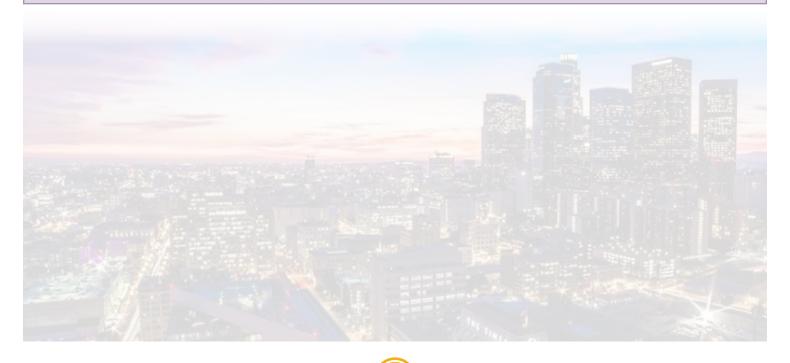
#### Reproductive Justice in a Post-Roe Country

(The El Capitan B)

**Rachel Rebouché,** Interim Dean, Temple University Beasley School of Law

Facilitator: Jean Kelleher

This workshop will assess the regulation and practice of abortion after the Supreme Court hands down a decision that overturns Roe v. Wade, the case that established constitutional protection for abortion rights.



The Legacy of George Floyd: Sharing Responsibility for Community Safety

(The Orpheum A)

**Juliana Serrano,** Vice President, Advocacy & Equity, Planned Parenthood Pasadena & San Gabriel Valley (PPPSGV) and the City of Pasadena Community Police Oversight Commission

**Fernando Rejon**, Executive Director, Urban Peace Institute **Isabelle Gunning**, Commissioner, LA County Commission on Human Relations; Mayor Tom Bradley Professor of Law, Southwestern Law School

**Facilitator: Jeffery Lorick** 

The murder of George Floyd on May 25, 2020, by a Minneapolis Police Officer proved to be the tipping point in police/community relations after other high-profile incidents of police brutality in the U.S., igniting countless protests across the country. Police departments nationally have responded by changing procedures and working together with the community to bring change and healing. Join us for this important discussion to learn how this important work is being done and how we can implement some of these ideas in our own jurisdictions.

#### Equity Index: Real Life Application

(The Orpheum B)

**Nancy Shattuck,** Fair Housing Outreach Specialist, City of Tacoma, Office of Equity & Human Rights

**Facilitator: Cleveland Horton** 

The City of Tacoma has a community vision to be an inclusive and equitable place to live, learn, work and play. The Equity Index measures various neighborhood indicators to understand where and for who opportunity exists. A real-life example of how to use this tool to plan, implement and assess community work.

#### 10:45 AM - 11:45 AM

#### **SESSION TITLE**

Reversing the Rise in Hate Violence: Models for Government-Community Partnership in Building an Anti-Hate System

(California Ballroom)

#### **PLENARY SESSION**

#### **SPEAKERS**

**Terri Villa-McDowell,** LA vs. Hate Coordinator/LA County Commission on Human Relations

**Rebecca Monroe,** Deputy Director of Strategic Initiative, California Civil Rights Department

**Facilitator: Robin Toma** 

According to the FBI, there were 8263 hate crime incidents in the U.S. in 2020 which represents an increase or 32% in race/ethnicity-based hate crimes from 2019. Hate-based mass shootings as evidenced by the tragedies in Buffalo, New York and Charleston, South Carolina highlight the stark growth in the level of hate violence. Join us for this workshop to learn how government and community partnerships can be key resources in preventing the growth of hate activity.

12:00 PM - 1:15 PM	LUNCHEON PLENARY
SESSION TITLE	SPEAKERS
	<b>Lisa Rice (Keynote),</b> President and CEO, National Fair Housing Alliance
Mining the Data: Algorithm Bias in Housing	<b>Bryan Greene,</b> Vice President of Policy Advocacy, National Association of Realtors
(California Ballroom)	Farrah Wilder, Vice President and Chief Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Officer, California Association of Realtors
	Facilitator: Jim Stowe

Data and technology are the new civil rights frontier and the National Fair Housing Alliance (NFHA) is leading the way in addressing biased technologies and algorithms. Its CEO, Lisa Rice, will discuss groundbreaking enforcement actions as well as programs and policies the agency is championing to eliminate bias from the technologies that impact our lives. This session will also cover a brief history of housing and lending discrimination as a basis for understanding how structural barriers were created and persist to this day. It also covers the extent to which technologies in the housing and lending sectors are built and designed using biased, and at times inaccurate information thereby perpetuating discriminatory outcomes. Participants will gain essential information for human and civil rights workers who must investigate and enforce the nation's civil rights laws. Participants must understand how discrimination has evolved over the decades. Today, bias often happens via technologies used to make decisions about whether people will be able to rent an apartment or obtain a mortgage as well as what price they will pay for housing-related goods and services.

1:30 PM - 2:45 PM	PLENARY SESSION
SESSION TITLE	SPEAKERS
Introduction to Disability Justice: A Leg Up with Glamputee Alex Locust	Alex Locust, Community Organizer, Coordinator and Certified Rehabilitation Counselor, Stonewall Project, San Francisco AIDS Foundation
(California Ballroom)	Facilitator: Diane Clements-Boyd

As we expand our frameworks to promote human rights, join Alex Locust for an introductory taste of disability justice as an essential ingredient for collective liberation. Alex will invite reflections around accessibility, interdependence, cross-movement solidarity, and celebrating wholeness to deepen your justice efforts and foster equitable spaces for all body/minds.

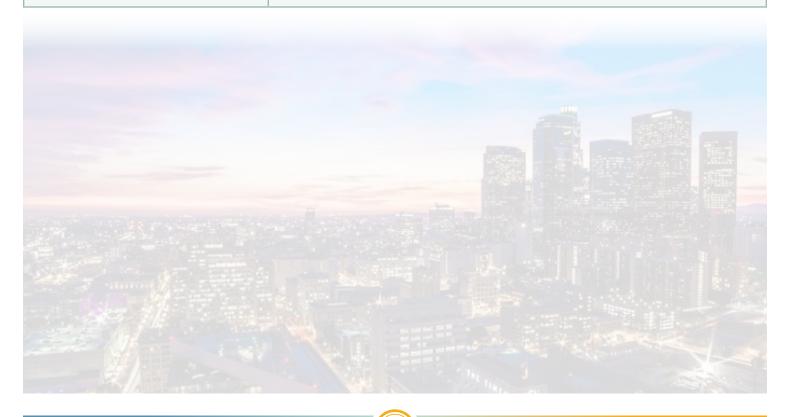
3:00 PM - 5:30 PM LOCATION	IAOHRA ANNUAL MEETING
	Required for All Member Agency Representatives - Open to All Agencies
(The Orpheum A-B)	Elections, Resolutions, and Other Organizational Actions Robin Toma (Presiding), IAOHRA President

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM LOCATION	AWARDS DINNER
(California Ballroom)	Keynote Speaker: <b>Dr. Michael Eric Dyson</b> Mistress of Ceremonies: <b>Dr. Alisa Warren</b>

Dr. Michael Eric Dyson is a globally renowned scholar of race, religion and contemporary culture. In 2021, he became the Centennial Chair and University Distinguished Professor of African American and Diaspora Studies in the College of Arts and Science and University Distinguished Professor of Ethics and Society in the Divinity School at Vanderbilt University. Prior to joining Vanderbilt, Dr. Dyson was a professor of sociology at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C.

8:00 PM - 9:30 PM

**Unity Celebration - Music & Dancing** *Music by DJ Worldwide Dre* 



### THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 2022

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM

Full Breakfast | California ABC Corrider

9:15 AM - 10:15 AM

#### **PLENARY SESSION**

#### **SESSION TITLE**

#### **SPEAKERS**

Housing Segregation & The Division of America

(California Ballroom)

Gene Slater, Author of "Freedom to Discriminate: How Realtors Conspired to Segregate Housing and Divide America"

Facilitator: Angela Rush

By understanding how the nation's organized real estate industry created housing segregation and then the modern conservative vision of freedom to defend it, we can understand the obstacles to fair housing and civil rights today.

#### 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

#### **PLENARY SESSION**

#### **LOCATION**

#### **SPEAKERS**

#### What's Going On?

(California Ballroom)

#### A Moderated Discussion with IAOHRA Membership

Led by **Chad Dion Lassiter**, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission

**Facilitator: Cleveland Horton** 

Understanding the importance of growing and nurturing new leadership within IAOHRA and the agencies it represents, this discussion will engage the audience in a discussion of best practices with regards to leadership and social justice principles. The goal is to have a truly intergenerational discussion with participation from the newest members of IAOHRA to the "more seasoned" among our ranks. You won't want to miss this one!

12:00 PM

Conference Adjourn





# IADHRA SPEAKERS', MODERATORS' AND PRESENTERS' BIOGRAPHIES



SALOME AGBAROJI is the Los Angeles County Youth Poet Laureate of 2022-23. She is a Nigerian-American poet that has written and/or performed spoken word poetry for the Golden Globes Pre-Show, Stacey Abrams' INTO ACTION social justice event,

the likes of Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti, Black Lives Matter founder Patrisse Cullors, and many more. Her focuses outside of poetry are civic engagement and advocacy about issues such as racism towards minority communities, immigrant stories, injustices in the international community, and more. You can find her at salomeagbaroji.com or on Instagram at @salomeagabroji.



PIERRE IVAN ARREOLA (AKA PIERRE BOOGIE) is an artist and activist of Mexican, Salvadorean and Mesoamerican indigenous heritage from Pacoima, CA with over a decade of experience advancing social justice around the world. His early life was filled with music

that drew from his parents experience as migrants-his father who sought musical dreams as a member of a Mexican rock band and his mother who used her voice to express her tumultuous escape from Salvadorean Civil War. Pierre's organizing journey dates back to high school when he and his friends co-founded "The GR818ERS" ('greatone-eighters'), a grassroots youth-led collective utilizing Hip Hop culture to uplift the San Fernando Valley. As a first-generation college student, Pierre went on to Brown University where he received a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and was awarded the Royce Sport & Society Fellowship and the C.V. Starr Social Entrepreneurship Fellowship to build the capacity of The GR818ERS as a force for social change. After college, Pierre continued organizing young people, all the while working as a legal advocate to improve countywide health and welfare access at Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County. Fueled by creativity and empowered by community, Pierre has served as an arts educator in various capacities using dance as a medium for learning and healing. Pierre was recognized as the City of Los Angeles Impact Maker to Watch in 2016 followed by the ACTIVATE arts advocacy fellowship which he leveraged to establish AWOKE, a nonprofit organization inspired

by the transformational work of The GR818ERS. Pierre currently serves as a board member of two academic centers at Cal State University, Northridge: the Center for Southern California Studies and the Center for the Interdisciplinary Pursuit of Hip Hop Elevation & Research. He has been featured as a guest speaker in various forums regarding youth and community development, social entrepreneurship, and Hip Hop culture around the world including Brown University, USC, UCLA, UC Berkeley, CSUN, the Tempe Center for the Arts, Casa de Cultura Altamira in Mexico, and the University of Zagreb in Croatia. Pierre is also a Senior Intergroup Relations Consultant for the LA County Commission on Human Relations where he leads the Police-Community Relations Project and helps produce the annual LA County Hate Crime Report. Pierre's expertise lies in developing and implementing creative collaborative strategies for advancing equity, trauma prevention, and violence interruption. His background in legal services and health advocacy coupled with his expertise on public safety and harm-reduction strategies informs his approach to community organizing. He provides critical technical assistance to cities across the county as they heed calls to reimagine public safety, and was appointed to the City of Los Angeles' Executive Task Force on Youth Development to help craft the blueprint for the City of Los Angeles' youth investment strategy in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. As the Executive Director of AWOKE, Pierre oversees program planning and implementation, in addition to managing finances, strategic planning, compliance and fund development.

AWOKE was created by **THE GR818ERS** ('great-one-eighters'), founded in 2010 by youth as a grassroots collective dedicated to improving social tensions in the San Fernando Valley using Hip Hop culture as a vehicle for change. As high school students, this youth collective organized themselves to combat the disenfranchisement and stereotypes they had experienced as residents of Pacoima, a Los Angeles neighborhood challenged with poverty. For the past decade, The GR818ERS have developed and implemented community programming centering the arts, athletics, and activism to engage young people as changemakers in their neighborhood and globally. The GR818ERS collective is still the driving force behind AWOKE, invoking their trauma-informed lens to design and implement program efforts.



**PAUL BOOTH** has worked for nearly four decades serving the City of Cincinnati in social service agencies and government, and is a passionate advocate on issues including housing, diversity, equity and inclusion, and social justice.

After beginning his professional career managing public housing, he was appointed to Cincinnati City Council in 1989 to fill an unexpired term and was later appointed again in 1998. Mr. Booth was Special Assistant to Congressman David S. Mann for one term. He was then elected Cincinnati City Council for two terms (1999 and 2001). He served as President Pro Temp of City.

Upon leaving City Council, he was appointed by the Governor of Ohio to consecutive terms on two Commissions; the State Personnel Board of Review, and with the Department of Commerce. Booth currently is Division Manager of the Office of Human Relations for the City of Cincinnati.

Mr. Booth has been active in numerous community organizations including the NAACP of which he's a life member and former President of the local branch. He's also served as Chair, Citizens Committee on Youth; Trustee, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center; Trustee of Cincinnati Hills Christian Academy; Board of Trustees, The United Way; member of the Board of Advisors of The King Center in Atlanta, Georgia; and the Dan Beard Council Boy Scouts of America Board of Trustees. He is the former Co-Chair of the Economic Inclusion Advisory Council, City of Cincinnati and past Commissioner of the Cincinnati Human Relations Commission. Mr. Booth is a member of the Greater Cincinnati Chapter of National Action Network and a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. In addition, he currently serves as Commissioner, Ohio Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission; Member, Community Relations Committee, Ronald McDonald House Charities: and Member, International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies.

A native of Cincinnati, Ohio, Mr. Booth is a graduate of Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia where he earned a degree in Business Administration.

A recipient of several Awards and Citations, Mr. Booth and his wife Cynthia, have two sons, Paul Jr. and Martin and one granddaughter, Laila. They are members of Legacy Pointe Church where his son, Paul Jr., is founding pastor.



**FATHER GREGORY BOYLE** is the founder of Homeboy Industries in Los Angeles, the largest gang-intervention, rehabilitation, and re-entry program in the world.

Born and raised in Los Angeles and Jesuit priest, from 1986 to 1992 Fr. Boyle served as

pastor of Dolores Mission Church in Boyle Heights. Dolores Mission was the poorest Catholic parish in Los Angeles that also had the highest concentration of gang activity in the city.

Fr. Boyle witnessed the devastating impact of gang violence on his community during the so-called "decade of death" that began in the late 1980s and peaked at 1,000 gang-related killings in 1992. In the face of law enforcement tactics and criminal justice policies of suppression and mass incarceration as the means to end gang violence, he and parish and community members adopted what was a radical approach at the time: treat gang members as human beings.

In 1988 they started what would eventually become Homeboy Industries, which employs and trains former gang members in a range of social enterprises, as well as provides critical services to thousands of individuals who walk through its doors every year seeking a better life.

Fr. Boyle is the author of the 2010 New York Times-bestseller Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion. His second book, Barking to the Choir: The Power of Radical Kinship, was published in 2017. And his new and third book is The Whole Language: The Power of Extravagant Tenderness that recently debuted in Fall of 2021.

He has received the California Peace Prize and been inducted into the California Hall of Fame. In 2014, President Obama named Fr. Boyle a Champion of Change. He received the University of Notre Dame's 2017 Laetare Medal, the oldest honor given to American Catholics. Homeboy Industries was the recipient of the 2020 Hilton Humanitarian Prize validating 32 years of Fr. Greg Boyle's vision and work by the organization for over three decades.



**DAWN CUMMINGS** became the General Counsel for the Tennessee Human Rights Commission ("THRC") in July of 2017. While with the THRC, Ms. Cummings has had the opportunity to administratively litigate several discrimination cases. In 2007, Ms. Cummings

became the Staff Attorney for the Metropolitan Human Relations Commission ("Metro") in Fort Wayne, Indiana. In July of 2013, she was named as the Executive Director of the Metro. While at Metro, Ms. Cummings represented the Commission in the Indiana Supreme Court, Indiana Court of Appeals, and Allen County Superior Court. Immediately out of law school Ms. Cummings served as a Deputy Attorney General for the State of Indiana. Ms. Cummings graduated from Ball State University summa cum laude with a Bachelor Degree in Political Science. And in 2004, Ms. Cummings graduated cum laude with a Juris Doctor Degree from Western Michigan Cooley Law School.



CANTOR ILAN DAVIDSON has been pleasing audiences with his singing since before he could read. At age five, he began singing with his Cantor, Philip Moddel, and hasn't shut up since. At ten, he made his Operatic debut with the Fullerton Civic Light

Opera's production of Bizet's Carmen, as a street urchin. Since then, he has performed roles in opera and musical theatre, performing, directing, and producing world-class productions.

Among his many accomplishments, Cantor Davidson is also known as a contemporary Jewish songwriter and performer, having delighted audiences all over the world, including Israel and Lithuania with the soulful sounds of his music. His recordings, Stained Glass (1995) and In A Hanukkah Mood (2007) are collections of original and covered songs by himself and many contemporary Jewish artists.

Cantor Davidson left the stage and in 1995 joined the Temple Beth El family, in San Pedro, where he has brought many new programs and much enthusiasm to all he does. Coming from a long line of Cantors, it must have been Besheret for Cantor Davidson, although talented in all areas of musical performance, to finally settle down into his career as Hazzan for Temple Beth El in San Pedro, California. In 2007, Cantor Davidson founded a new foundation, KindredSPIRITS, producing an annual world humanitarian aid event. KindredSPIRITS premiered on June 5, 2008 at Walt Disney Concert Hall, adding that prestigious concert hall to the evergrowing list of venues around the world, where Davidson has performed. Now, entering their 7th year, Global KindredSPIRITS, Inc. is an official 501©3, and has raised awareness and close to \$300,000 for its beneficiaries over the years. As a past president of the South Coast Interfaith Council, Ilan fought for tolerance and understanding of ALL faiths in a difficult climate. Whether it is raising his voice for justice, Hazzanut, Pop, Opera, Musical Theatre, or folk music, Cantor Ilan Davidson shares his soul and genuine love in every note.

When asked about his finest accomplishment, Cantor Davidson invariably responds, "After all the great concerts, services, and roles, my finest role in life is that of husband to my beautiful wife, Jodi, and daddy to my gorgeous daughters, Jordan and Zoe."

Mr. Davidson was appointed to the Commission by and represents the Fourth Supervisorial District. He now serves as the president of the LA County Commission on Human Relations.



SHEDRICK (RICK) DAVIS is the Regional Director of the Western Regional Office for Lambda Legal, the oldest and largest national legal organization committed to achieving full recognition of the civil rights of lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, transgender people and

people with HIV. He is responsible for expanding Lambda Legal's organizational reach in eleven Western states with a focus on strategic planning, financial development, and educational and media efforts.

Davis has a long history with Lambda Legal having served on the Board of Directors for seven years with the last two as Co-Chair. He was also a founding member of Lambda Legal's National Leadership Council. As a native of Los Angeles he has been involved in numerous local civic and charitable organizations.

As an attorney, Davis is admitted to practice law in California. Previously to assuming his position at Lambda Legal in March of 2012 he was Vice President and Assistant General Counsel at JPMorgan Chase in Los Angeles. During his twenty year career there he worked for the Credit Card Division in the areas of financial consumer regulation, litigation, and consumer bankruptcy and creditor rights. Prior to that position he was an associate attorney at Manning, Leaver, Bruder and Berberich and a Deputy District Attorney for the County of Los Angeles.

Davis received a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science at the University of California, Riverside. He then studied law at the University of California, Los Angeles where he holds a Juris Doctor degree.





MELANY DE LA CRUZ-VIESCA is the Deputy Director of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center (AASC) and the Managing Editor of AAPI Nexus, a nationwide journal focusing on Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) policy, practice, and community issues.

She also runs AASC's Census Information Center, a joint partnership with the U.S. Census Bureau. She is the lead author of *"The Color of Wealth in Los Angeles,"* which is the first report examining the racial wealth gap in Los Angeles.

Her research focuses on racial stratification, demographics, and public policy issues in the United States. She specializes in examining the experiences of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in relation to wealth inequities, housing, community economic development, and education. For over 20 years, she has conducted community-based participatory research projects that uplift communities of color and support programs, services, and advocacy efforts by community-based organizations serving vulnerable populations.

She is the former Chair of the Closing the Women's Wealth Gap Research Working Group and a member of the Insight Center for Community Economic Development's Experts of Color Network. She was appointed by Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa in 2008 and re-appointed by Mayor Eric Garcetti to the City's Human Relations Commission. She holds a master's degree in urban planning from UCLA and a bachelor's degree in ethnic studies and urban studies and planning from UC San Diego.



MICHAEL ERIC DYSON, one of America's premier professors, preachers and public intellectuals, and the author of over 25 books, including seven New York Times bestsellers, is a former contributing opinion writer for *The New York Times* and is a one-time political

analyst for MSNBC. The recipient of a PhD in Religion from Princeton University, Dyson is presently Distinguished University Professor of African American and Diaspora Studies, College of Arts & Science, and Distinguished University Professor of Ethics and Society, The Divinity School, and NEH Centennial Chair at Vanderbilt University.





ERIC GARCETTI is a fourth-generation Angeleno and the 42nd Mayor of Los Angeles. Born and raised in the San Fernando Valley—the son of public servants and the grandson and great-grandson of immigrants from Mexico and Eastern Europe—Mayor Garcetti's

life has been shaped by a deep commitment to the core values of justice, dignity, and equality for all people. In 2016, his leadership led to the formation of the Transgender Advisory Council, making the City of Los Angeles the largest city in the U.S. to establish a permanent council of transgender and non-binary community leaders to advise the City on how to best serve the needs of transgender, non-binary, and gender non-conforming residents. This Council, along with other commissions, is housed in the City's Human + Civil Rights and Equity Department, whose mission is to maintain and strengthen the City's diversity, equity, and accountability.

The Mayor's government service began in L.A. City Council, where he spent four terms as Council President before being elected Mayor in 2013 and winning re-election in 2017 by the widest margin in the history of Los Angeles. Beyond his time at City Hall, Mayor Garcetti has served his country as an intelligence officer in the United States Navy Reserve and taught at the University of Southern California and Occidental College. He and his wife, First Lady Amy Elaine Wakeland, are the proud parents of a daughter, Maya, and have been foster parents for more than a decade.



**EVE GARROW** joined the ACLU of Southern California in November 2014. She is the Policy Analyst and Advocate for the Dignity for All Project, which seeks to promote policies that prevent and reduce housing displacement and end the criminalization of persons who

are unhoused. Her work includes policy analysis, research, public education, and advocacy to promote policy changes that will secure the human right to housing, end housing displacement and the criminalization of people who are unhoused and increase the human dignity of all people.

Prior to joining the ACLU, Eve was an Assistant Professor of Social Work at the University of Michigan, where she engaged in research and policy analysis on the implementation of social policies that target marginalized populations, including people who are unhoused.

Eve received her B.A. in Cultural Anthropology from the University of California Santa Barbara and her M.S.W. and Ph.D. in Social Welfare from the University of California Los Angeles.



On Dec. 7, 2020, **GEORGE GASCÓN** was sworn in as the 43rd District Attorney of Los Angeles County, delivering his visionary approach to criminal justice reform to the nation's largest local prosecutorial office. On his first day in office, Gascón ended the use

of the death penalty as a sentence in Los Angeles County; stopped charging children as adults; eliminated many sentencing enhancements that do not benefit public safety and contribute to mass incarceration; and, in accordance with state law, removed cash bail for misdemeanor or nonserious or nonviolent felony offenses. For the former police officer, public safety remains his highest priority. As a leader among progressive prosecutors, Gascón is working to build a national model of criminal justice reform that supports and restores crime victims and while addressing mass incarceration, racism and social systemic inequities. He was the first District Attorney in the nation to call for an end to cash bail and to launch an automatic record clearing program for marijuana convictions and the only District Attorney in California to support a state law that created a stricter standard for when police can use deadly force. Gascón rose through the ranks of the Los Angeles Police Department from patrol officer to Assistant Chief of Police. He served as Chief of Police in Mesa, Ariz., before being named San Francisco's first Latino Chief of Police. He was appointed San Francisco District Attorney in 2011, becoming the nation's first police chief to become District Attorney. At age 13, Gascón migrated with his parents to the United States from Cuba. After serving in the U.S. Army, he earned a bachelor's degree in history from California State University, Long Beach, and later received a law degree from Western State University, College of Law. He is married to Fabiola Kramsky, a three-time Emmy Award-winning journalist.



BRYAN GREENE is Vice President of Policy Advocacy at the National Association of REALTORS® where he oversees all legislative and regulatory advocacy on behalf of the association's 1.5 million members. Bryan joined NAR in November 2019, and

spent his first year at NAR raising the association's profile in Washington and nationwide on all fair-housing-related policy matters as NAR's first Director of Fair Housing Policy.

Before joining NAR, Bryan served for ten years as the highest-ranking career official in HUD's Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity (FHEO), where he oversaw the policy direction and

operational management of the 600-person office enforcing the nation's housing anti-discrimination laws. Under Bryan's leadership as FHEO General Deputy Assistant Secretary, HUD pursued large-scale, high-profile cases that addressed systemic discrimination and provided widespread relief. Bryan also managed HUD's Fair Housing Assistance Program (FHAP) and HUD's Fair Housing Initiatives Program (FHIP), which together provide over \$70 million to state and local government agencies and nonprofit organizations fighting discrimination in local communities.

Bryan has held other senior positions at HUD during his three decades at the agency, including a stint as the Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary for Economic Affairs in HUD's Office of Policy Development and Research (PD&R), where he worked to reduce regulatory barriers to affordable housing.

Bryan was the 2007 recipient of the Presidential Rank Award, the highest federal honor bestowed upon federal senior executives for outstanding service.

Bryan earned his degree in Government from Harvard University.



**ISABELLE GUNNING** (she/her/hers) is a racial/social justice activist, scholar, and teacher who has focused for years on conflict resolution and dialogue, specifically, how to bring together stakeholders from across the political, economic and social spectrum who

do not agree with each other to talk about and resolve the difficult problems that confront us as a society. She was motivated to study law in order to support progressive changes in our larger society. Following a clerkship with Chief Judge William Bryant of the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, she served as a staff attorney with the Public Defender Service in Washington, D.C., and later with the Southern Africa Project of the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law. Professor Gunning taught for six years as a member of the faculty at the University of California, Los Angeles School of Law before her appointment to Southwestern in 1992.

Active in the larger realm of legal education, Professor Gunning served on the Board of the Clinical Legal Educators Association and was one of the three founding editors-in-chief of the Clinical Law Review. She also served on the Executive Committee of the Association of American Law Schools (AALS) Section on Gay and Lesbian Issues, as Co-Chair of the AALS Section on Clinical Legal Education Scholarship Committee, and as a member of the American Bar Association's (ABA) Skills Training Committee. She has served as a law school site evaluator for the ABA and AALS. Under the auspices of the ABA's African Law Initiative, she has traveled to

Ethiopia and Tanzania to speak on clinical legal education, and under the auspices of the National Institute for Trial Advocacy and the Black Lawyers Association of South African, she has traveled to South Africa to teach trial advocacy.

Professor Gunning's interests in conflict resolution, multicultural dialogue, and the search for and creation of shared values in the context of racial and other socially defined power and hierarchy dynamics form the crux of much of her scholarship. Her earlier scholarship used a Critical Race Theory lens in the context of International Human Rights and Feminism to explore cross-cultural dialogue around culturally challenging practices. She also writes in the area of alternative dispute resolution and explores the impact of race on the ability of ADR practices to provide fairness and justice for subordinated communities. She has also written on lawyers from a broad range of religious and spiritual backgrounds dialoguing together to explore the creation of shared values across religious/spiritual differences.

Professor Gunning's interest in alternative dispute resolution and conflict resolution has also guided much of her community service and professional work. She has served in the past as a pro bono mediator through the Los Angeles County Bar Association's Dispute Resolution Services Gay and Lesbian Mediation Project, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference's Martin Luther King Jr. Dispute Resolution Center, and the Asian Pacific American Dispute Resolution Center. More recently, she has served as a facilitator for community dialogues for a number of organizations including Days of Dialogue (a Los Angeles based organization for community dialogues on challenging contemporary community issues like policing); Trust Talks (a limited series of community dialogues on homelessness sponsored by the Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations and the Downtown Clergy Council); and Community Healing Forums (faith-based community dialogues related to socially relevant events e.g. #MeToo and Say Their Names). She is also licensed as a practitioner/spiritual counselor by her home church, the Agape International Spiritual Center.

Professor Gunning was appointed in 2015 as a Commissioner to the Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations which works to develop programs that proactively address racism, homophobia, religious prejudice, linguistic bias, anti-immigrant sentiment, and other divisive attitudes that can lead to inter-cultural tension hate crimes, violence, and aggressions. From 2016 through 2018 she was elected and served as the President of the Commission and during her tenure presided over the hearings which lead to the report and related video of the LACCHR "Redefining Policing with our Community" (2020).

Professor Gunning is a board member of the American Civil

Liberties Union of Southern California and has served as the So Cal Affiliate's president and Affiliate's representative to the National ACLU Board. In addition, Professor Gunning has over 15 years of experience serving as a labor arbitrator and civil service hearing examiner in workplace disputes.



RONNELL HAMPTON is a Principal Equity Strategist at the Civil + Human Rights and Equity Department with the City of Los Angeles. He was previously working for the Department as a 2021 FUSE CORPS Executive Fellow. Ronnell's work focuses on the digital

divide, food security, and COVID-19 response, as well as supporting the development of the Office of Racial Equity.

Prior to working with FUSE CORPS, Ronnell served as Policy Manager with the Los Angeles Food Policy Council. In this position, Ronnell facilitated policy development using a collective impact approach to manage community organizing by cultivating relationships with impacted people, community organizations, and government agencies. By leveraging strategic approaches to policy development and implementation that centers racial, social, economic, and environmental justice, Ronnell moves the Good Food For All Agenda forward.

In addition to the policy works, Ronnell facilitated project management for the brick and mortar transformation of storefronts in South Los Angeles, participating in the Healthy Neighborhood Market Network Program. Ronnell interpreted business development needs, project design goals, and project features. He facilitated these outcomes by collaborating with business owners, architect firms, contractors, and other stakeholders.

Ronnell Hampton graduated from CSU Dominguez Hills with a B.A. in Negotiation Conflict Resolution and Peace-building, and a Minor in Africana Studies. Ronnell went on to receive his Masters in Urban Sustainability from Antioch University in 2017. Ronnell is also certified in computer-aided drafting design and is currently completing a degree in Architectural Drafting and Design. Ronnell's goal is to continue improving academics, economics, and health for the most vulnerable demographics by making material changes in the built, systemic, and natural environments.

In 2017, Ronnell started Growing Greatness, an organization committed to social and environmental justice. Growing Greatness provides consultation and customized training for small to midsize organizations that include DEI, Social Justice, Policy, and Personal Development. Ronnell's passion is rooted in developing infrastructure and resources to improve underserved and underrepresented

communities' outcomes. Ronnell is a member of American Planning. Association, National Organization for Minority Architects, and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated.



In June of 2021, THE REVEREND DOCTOR DERRICK HARKINS was named an appointee to the Biden Harris administration where he serves as Director of the Center for Faith Based and Neighborhood Partnerships at the Department of Housing and Urban

Development (HUD). Prior to his role at HUD, he was Director of Interfaith Outreach for The Democratic National Committee, where he also led faith outreach during the 2012 reelection campaign of President Barack Obama.

From 2015 to 2020 Harkins was Senior Vice President for Innovations in Public Programs at Union Theological Seminary in New York City.

He has served as Chair of the Board of Odyssey Impact Productions and is an executive producer of several acclaimed documentaries including, "The Rape of Recy Taylor," and most recently, "A Crime on the Bayou."

Dr. Harkins served for seventeen years as pastor of the Nineteenth Street Baptist Church in Washington, DC. Before beginning his pastorate at Nineteenth Street, he served as the Senior Minister of the New Hope Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas, where he was also President of the Greater Dallas Community of Churches, and a founding board member of The Dallas Leadership Foundation. In Dallas, his was a leading voice in the efforts toward reconciliation between the African American and Latino communities.

Dr. Harkins' ministerial career began at the Historic Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem, New York as Assistant Minister. He has been a guest lecturer on the church and social action at a number of colleges and universities including, Rutgers, Cornell, Iona College, Howard University, and Harvard's Kennedy School of Government.

Dr. Harkins was a contributing author for The Audacity of Faith: Christian Leaders Reflect on the Election of Barack Obama (Judson Press) He has earned a B.S. degree in Broadcasting and Film, from Boston University, a Master of Divinity degree in Church History from Union Theological Seminary, NY, and a Doctorate in Homiletics as a Proctor Booth Fellow from United Seminary, in Dayton, Ohio. A native of Cleveland, Ohio, he and his wife Juli, a healthcare policy specialist, are the parents of two adult daughters.



MR. CLEVELAND HORTON serves as Deputy Director of the Maryland Commission on Civil Rights, serving the citizens of the State of Maryland as one of the leaders of the state's leading civil rights agency. In this capacity, Mr. Horton is responsible for

establishing and maintaining strategic partnerships and overseeing MCCR's investigative efforts throughout the state.

Throughout his years of experience as a leader in civil rights and fair housing, Cleveland has gained a keen understanding of the importance and impact that civil rights and equity for all individuals has on the community at large. Most notable his recent work with the Baltimore Regional Partnership on the Regional Assessment of Fair Housing.

Cleveland Horton is a graduate of the Community College of Baltimore County with an Associates of Arts Degree in Business Administration Specializing in Human Resources Management. Mr. Horton went on to continue his education at the University of Baltimore obtaining both a Bachelor's in Business Administration and a Master's Degree focusing on Human Resources Management.

Mr. Horton is the owner of The Homes by Horton Group, a real estate consulting firm that assists potential buyers and sellers achieve their financial goals and dreams of homeownership. He is also the owner and CEO of Venture Property Management which helps individuals and organizations develop and maintain residential real estate portfolios.

A strong connection to his community is extremely important to Cleveland as he participates in various civic and community groups. Mr. Horton is currently working on establishing a non-profit that will help transition homeless families out of homelessness and into hopefulness.



JUNIA HOWELL is an urban sociologist and race scholar who uses quantitative (numbers) and qualitative (narrative) tools to identify and dismantle the specific policies, processes, and practices that uphold White supremacy. Currently, her work focuses

on the policies, processes, and practices within the housing industry and disaster relief. Her work has been published in over a dozen academic journals and featured in hundreds of news articles across a wide array of outlets, legislative hearings, presidential speeches, and federal and local bills. Prior to her current position

at the University of Illinois Chicago, Dr. Howell was an Assistant Professor of Sociology at the University of Pittsburgh. She received her PhD in sociology from Rice University.



**GERALD "MIKE" KUHN** takes a vision and makes it reality through sound leadership and experience. Born in Michigan but, raised in Omaha, NE, Gerald rose above becoming another black male statistic by raising above the influence of gangs and drugs that plagued

his community. Gerald left Omaha in 2000 to pursue athletics and academics at Hampton University in Virginia. He found himself traveling the world with a passion for life. Helping people on his journey, Gerald has worked with children and adolescents in the foster care arena. He has also served people with intellectual disabilities, mental health issues, children with juvenile justice behavior issues, and families living below the poverty line. Gerald moved back to Omaha, NE in 2014 to bring his experience and knowledge back the place he calls home.

Respected as a credible voice in his community, Gerald now works for the City of Omaha as the Assistant Director of Human Rights and Relations and the City's American's with Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinator. He is now making his dreams come true by ensuring the citizens of Omaha have resources to eradicate discrimination in the work place, their housing situation, as well as public spaces that do not allow the same access to people with disabilities. Gerald also oversees the Small and Emerging Business program that allows smaller companies to bid on city projects without fear of being overlooked because of their age, gender, sexual orientation, or ethnicity. Gerald has prepared for this role by attaining his undergraduate degree in Criminal Justice and two Master's degree in Counselling and Social Justice from Marygrove College.

Gerald is also certified in Restorative Justice and Mediation. Because of this qualification, the City of Omaha called upon him during the times of civil unrest during the summer of 2020 to develop a Restorative Justice Diversion program for those arrested during the protests. This diversion class allowed for those who were arrested and the arresting officers to come together in a neutral environment to discuss what happened and see each other as a whole person, as opposed to only seeing each other in the light of the situation of the arrest. The program allows for open dialogue between citizens and officers to help both sides gain a greater understanding and bring our community together. In March of 2021, the City of Omaha implemented the Restorative Justice Diversion as a pilot program for the misdemeanor offenses of resisting arrest, obstruction of justice, and disorderly conduct. After the six month

pilot program, the City instituted the program in its full capacity as a permanent program.

When Gerald is away from his job with the City of Omaha he is always engaged in his community, both domestic and abroad. Gerald hosts an annual shoe drive in Omaha, NE where he collects used athletic shoes for children and young adults. He then raises money to deliver them to impoverished third world countries. Locally, he is very active in motivating and speaking to young professionals. Grateful for his upbringing, Gerald serves his community by being a mentor for 100 Black Men of Omaha and volunteering as a coach in the North Omaha community. Gerald loves to spend time with his two sons and his immediate family. Gerald works hard to instill good morals and character in his sons. They volunteer during the holiday season to help less fortunate people in the community and they love to come help their dad at work because they get a chance to interact with people from all walks of life.



CHAD DION LASSITER is a National Expert in the field of American Race Relations. Mr. Lassiter has worked on race, peace, and poverty-related issues in The United States of America, Africa, Canada, Haiti, Israel, and Norway, and is called upon frequently

by media outlets to provide commentary on race relations and potential solutions.

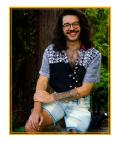
He is the current Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission, where over his four years in this position, he has continued to push the Commonwealth forward in the spaces of DEI Training, Unconscious Bias Training, Anti-Racism Training and has developed and launched a 'No Hate in Our State Townhall' to address the surge of White Nationalism in Pennsylvania, a 'Social Justice Lecture Series' providing an outlet for the communities in the State to discuss imperative issues and serves as a Racial Reduction Response team for those communities impacted by hatred. He oversees a staff of 87 with three Regional Offices that comprise the 67 Counties in Pennsylvania and manages an annual budget of \$11 million dollars.

He has also developed programs under his appointment, such as a 'Global Social Justice Initiative', 'Black and Jewish Beloved Community Dialogue', and the 'College Race Dialogue Initiative.' Mr. Lassiter received his Master's degree from the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Social Work, where he was the A. Phillip Randolph Award winner in 2001 and was the recipient of the University of Pennsylvania's Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Involvement Award in 2008.

Mr. Lassiter is a co-founder and current president of the University of Pennsylvania's School of Social Policy & Practice's Black Men at Penn, the first Ivy League Black male group of social workers. Since 2003 this transcendent group has sought to recruit Black males into the profession, as well as, provide Anti-Racism and violence prevention training to urban and suburban schools around the country and diversity and inclusion training for corporate entities and penal systems.

Mr. Lassiter has been recognized by the *Philadelphia Tribune* as "The Most Influential African American Leader from 2010-2022", as the "Young Leaders of the Future Under 30" by *Ebony Magazine* in 2003 and "Who's Who among African-Americans" 17th edition in 2004 with such notables as Colin Powell and Michael Jordan.

On November 18th, 2019, Mr. Lassiter was inducted into the University of Pennsylvania's School of Social Policy and Practice Alumni Hall of Fame. On October 26, 2021, Mr. Lassiter was chosen as National Association of Social Workers, Pennsylvania Chapter Social Worker of the Year for 2021.



ALEX LOCUST is a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor and proud multiracial "glamputee" spreading the word about social justice, one workshop at a time. Whether on the runway or in a counseling session, Alex aspires to emulate the tenacity of the trailblazers before him and

fiercely advocates for equity in all community spaces.

He graduated from San Francisco State University with an M.S. in Clinical Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling and earned the Peggy H. Smith Distinguished Graduate Student award as well as Graduate Student of the Year from the National Council on Rehabilitation Education.

Alex is a counselor-coordinator, providing substance use counseling rooted in harm reduction at the Stonewall Project within the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. In addition, Alex is a community organizer and travels the country facilitating workshops in a broad spectrum of environments. Armed with bombastic charm, whimsical humor, and a sharp wit, Alex synthesizes professional insight with lived experience to create engaging workshops grounded in cultural humility, intersectionality, and fostering empathetic, holistic views of marginalized communities. Alex is passionately committed to educating others on how to adopt a disability justice framework for community building and strives to empower other disabled folx to feel included in the movement.



RICARDO MARTINEZ (he/him) joined Equality Texas as its CEO in December of 2019 following a national search. Ricardo is a first generation immigrant from Mexico who grew up in Brooklyn, New York and attended public schools through high school. He was

the second person of his immediate family to graduate high school and the first to earn a Bachelor's and Master's degree. Ricardo was called to a career as an advocate for equity and inclusion after participating in a program called Council for Unity in junior high school. Council for Unity focused on leadership development, self-expression, mediation, conflict resolution, mindfulness and advocacy. Ricardo credits his participation with helping him to uncover his passion and life purpose for mission-based work.

After post-secondary education, Ricardo amassed seventeen years of nonprofit fundraising, organizing, advocacy, and leadership experience with organizations like PENCIL, Summer Search, GLSEN, and Stand for Children. Most recently at Stand for Children, Ricardo lead a national organizing and constituent engagement effort for five years. Immediately prior to his tenure at Stand for Children, he spent several years with GLSEN; initially as Senior Manager of Field Services on the national team in NYC and later as the President of the Phoenix Chapter. Under Ricardo's leadership, GLSEN Phoenix was an instrumental coalition partner in overturning Arizona's "no promo homo" law, which prohibited K-12 schools from including LGBTQ representation, content, and history in their curriculum.

Ricardo has an undergraduate degree from Stony Brook University, and a master's degree in nonprofit management from The New School in New York City. He was honored by the Obama Administration as an emerging LGBTQ Leader in 2012 and recently awarded the Stony Brook University's 40 Under 40 award for the impact he has had in Civil Service and Activism since graduating from the university.



MILIA ISLAM-MAJEED is the daughter of immigrant parents who migrated here in 1986 from Bangladesh. She has since then lived in the United States spending most of her childhood and adolescence in a small Midwestern town of Fulton, Missouri. She obtained her

undergraduate degree in World Religions and Psychology from Westminster College in Missouri and thereafter moved to Boston for her graduate work. She is a 2004 graduate of Harvard University where she earned her Masters in Theological Studies of the World Religions and Anthropology. Since graduation, Milia has been

invited to speak about the importance of interfaith work throughout the world including in Italy, Austria, Belgium, South Africa, Indonesia, Singapore, Turkey, Australia and the Middle East. Currently, she serves as one of 11 individuals worldwide selected to be a research fellow at the Dali Lama Center for Ethics and Transformative Values at MIT where her research focuses on the intersection of Islam and Ethics. She is also the Executive Director of the South Coast Interfaith Council (SCIC) – the largest and oldest interfaith council based out of Long Beach and serving 35 cities in Southern CA.



JEFFREY PAUL MAY believes the greatest act of patriotism is to stand up for Civil Rights of the most vulnerable community members. Through his personal interests and professional pursuits, he has committed himself to utilizing his talents to be a resource for the United

States and to making the world a better place.

Mr. May is a national expert on fair housing enforcement, planning, and education. He is the principal of International Development and Planning, LLC. A minority-owned consulting firm that specializes in assisting government agencies, nonprofits, and private clients with training, technical assistance, plans, studies, analyses, and strategies to support fair housing and lending, and develop and preserve community and economic development investments.

Mr. May was introduced to fair housing while seeking assistance for clients being denied housing opportunities because of their disabilities. Since first learning about the protections of the Fair Housing Act, he has been one of the most enthusiastic supporters and champions. He joined the Greater New Orleans Fair Housing Action Center as Coordinator of Investigations and later became its Executive Director. Mr. May has held leadership positions at several national organizations engaged in fair housing work including the National Fair Housing Alliance, the National Community Reinvestment Coalition, and the DB Consulting Group, Inc.

Mr. May holds a B.A. in Sociology and a Master's in Urban and Regional Planning. He was a member of the Fannie Mae Housing Impact Advisory Council, and the National Fair Housing Alliance's Board of Directors. He has been a member of the state of Louisiana and National American Planning Associations.





TERRI VILLA-MCDOWELL is Project Coordinator for the LA vs. Hate program, a countywide initiative of the Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations. A longtime public interest attorney, she now coordinates the L.A. County Anti-Hate Campaign, "L.A. vs

Hate" at the urging of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to protect vulnerable communities targeted for hate acts, and bullying in schools - both incidents reported at historic highs, nationally and countywide. She has worked in the area of providing social emotional supports, implementing a continuum of care and system of supports for children for over 15 years at the school district and county level. Terri has been an appointed member to the California Department of Education Superintendent's Student Mental Health Policy Workgroup since 2015, helping develop policies to bring needed mental health services to California's children. Currently, she is working with the State of California Department of Fair Employment & Housing department to implement California vs Hate, a statewide legislative initiative to provide a state hate incident reporting line, and case management services for victims of hate acts. She will help with technical assistance to counties seeking to replicate LA County's LA vs Hate program.



Supervisor HOLLY J. MITCHELL currently serves as Chair of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors. As the daughter of parents who were public servants and a third-generation Angeleno, Mitchell leads with a deep understanding of the vital safety net LA

County provides to millions of families and is committed to ensuring that all residents can thrive.

Supervisor Mitchell is honored to represent the two million residents of Los Angeles County's Second District—including the neighborhood she grew up in—Leimert Park, along with the cities of Carson, Compton, Culver City, El Segundo, Gardena, Hawthorne, Hermosa Beach, Inglewood, Lawndale, Los Angeles (portions), Manhattan Beach, Redondo Beach, and a dozen unincorporated communities.

Since being elected to the Board of Supervisors on November 3rd, 2020, Supervisor Mitchell has made poverty alleviation a countywide priority and has anchored an equitable recovery plan from the health and economic pandemic caused by COVID-19. Within her first year as Supervisor, with support of the Board of Supervisors, Mitchell passed a landmark countywide guaranteed income program, made

LA County the first in the nation to phase out urban oil drilling and has strengthened the County's ability to quickly respond to mental health crises among our unhoused residents.

Before serving on the first all women-led Board of Supervisors in the history of LA County, Mitchell served for a decade in the California Legislature as a representative for the 54th Assembly District and 30th Senate District, both in Los Angeles County. During her tenure she passed over 90 bills—including the landmark antihair discrimination law The CROWN Act, making California the first in the nation to pass this law ending hair discrimination.

Supervisor Mitchell became the first African American to serve as Chair of the Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee. Under her guidance, she helped the State of California successfully build its financial reserves with the passage of three consecutive state budgets—each totaling over \$200 billion.

Early in her career, Supervisor Mitchell had transformative leadership opportunities serving as a CORO Foundation Fellow, a legislative advocate for Californians experiencing poverty at the Western Center on Law and Poverty, and working for pioneering legislative leaders like the Honorable Diane Watson.

Before running for public office, Supervisor Mitchell led Crystal Stairs for seven years, California's largest nonprofit dedicated to child and family development. As CEO, she fought for low-income families across Los Angeles County to gain access to childcare and poverty prevention resources.

As a member of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, Mitchell also serves on the boards of Los Angeles County Children and Families First (First 5 LA), Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum Commission, L.A. Care Health Plan, and Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts.

Supervisor Mitchell was awarded an honorary Doctorate Degree of Humane Letters from Charles Drew University and is a proud UC Riverside Highlander.



**BECKY L. MONROE** is the Deputy Director of Strategic Initiatives and External Affairs at the California Civil Rights Department (CRD), the state agency charged with enforcing California's civil rights laws. CRD was formerly called the Department of Fair Employment

and Housing (DFEH). The mission of CRD is to protect the people of California from unlawful discrimination in employment, housing, businesses, and state-funded programs, and from bias-motivated violence and human trafficking. Before joining CRD, Monroe worked

for the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of the Associate Attorney General, as a Consultant - Senior Advisor. Before this consultancy, Monroe was the Senior Director of the Fighting Hate and Bias Program at The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights. She was Director and Distinguished Practitioner in Residence for the Divided Community Project at the Ohio State University College of Law from 2019 to 2020. Monroe was Director of the Stop Hate Project at The Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law from 2017 to 2018. She was Director on Policy and Strategy and Senior Counselor to the Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights in the Civil Rights Division at the U.S. Department of Justice from 2012 to 2017. Monroe was on detail from the U.S. Department of Justice as Senior Policy Advisor for The White House Domestic Policy Council on civil rights issues from 2014 to 2015. She was Acting Director and Senior Counsel for the Community Relations Service at the U.S. Department of Justice from 2009 to 2012. Monroe was Policy Counsel at the Constitution Project from 2008 to 2009 and Latino/a Outreach Volunteer for the Promote the Vote Program at Obama for America from 2007 to 2008. Monroe was Director of the Employment Rights Project at Bet Tzedek Legal Services from 2005 to 2008. She was an Associate at Strumwasser and Woocher LLP from 2003 to 2005 and a Paralegal for the Employment Litigation Section at the U.S. Department of Justice from 1998 to 1999. She earned a Juris Doctor degree from Yale Law School, and was a law clerk to the Honorable Richard A. Paez, Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.



**KAMILAH MOORE** is a reparatory justice scholar and an attorney with a specialization in entertainment and intellectual property transactions. As a law student, Moore contributed to human rights reports related to domestic and international human rights

issues, including, but not limited to racial inequality in Brazil, the human right to sanitation in Lowndes County, Alabama, USA; and the human right to remedy for indigenous Black women affected by racialized gender violence in Papua New Guinea. While studying abroad at the University of Amsterdam, Moore wrote a master thesis exploring the intersections between international law and reparatory justice for the trans-Atlantic slave trade, chattel slavery, and their legacies. She earned a Juris Doctor degree from Columbia Law School in New York City, a Master of Laws degree in International Criminal Law from the University of Amsterdam, and a Bachelor's degree from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). Kamilah Moore was appointed to the Reparations Task Force by Speaker of the Assembly Anthony Rendon.



**SHAYLA MYERS** is a senior attorney in the Housing and Communities workgroup at the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles (LAFLA). There, she works alongside community organizations, unhoused residents, and tenants to end the criminalization of poverty. She

litigates in state and federal court to protect and expand the civil rights of unhoused residents and to prevent the expansion of laws that criminalize homelessness. Prior to joining the Legal Aid Foundation, she was a Skadden Fellow at the Los Angeles LGBT Center and then an associate at a Plaintiff's side Civil Rights Firm in Los Angeles. Shayla clerked for the Honorable Sandra Segal Ikuta on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, and graduated from UCLA Law School, with concentrations in Public Interest Law and Policy and Critical Race Studies. Before attending law school, Shayla coordinated an advocacy program and hotline for sexual assault survivors in Albuquerque, New Mexico, where she grew up.



**RUDY ORTEGA, JR.** is the Tribal President of the Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians, a native sovereign nation of northern Los Angeles County. As the elected leader of his Tribe, Ortega Jr. oversees the governmental body and manages affairs pertaining to the

rights of all Fernandeño Tataviam tarahat (people).

Ortega Jr. is a member of Siutcabit, the lineage of present-day Encino, CA. His ancestors come from the villages that originated in the geographical areas of Santa Clarita Valley, Simi Valley, and San Fernando Valley. His great-grandfather Antonio Maria Ortega, from whom he receives his traditional role as tomiar or leader, fought in Los Angeles Superior Court in the 19th century to preserve traditional lands and protect Native title to Mexican land grants from encroaching settlers. His father, the late Rudy Ortega Sr., served as the previous leader of the Tribe for over fifty years and was elected to the Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission in 1977. Following his father's leadership, Ortega Jr. was appointed to the Native American Indian Commission by Mayor James Hahn in 2004, where he serves today as a commissioner.

From 2004 - 2018, Ortega Jr. invigorated the Tribe's non-profit Pukúu Cultural Community Services as the Executive Director. Through this role, he served the greater Los Angeles County American Indian community and oversaw Haramokngna American Indian Cultural Center. Through his seat as Tribal President, Ortega Jr. helped establish the Tataviam Land Conservancy, Paséki Strategies

Corporation, and a co-management agreement with the City of San Fernando for Rudy Ortega Sr. Park.

Currently, Ortega Jr. is a member of the Los Angeles River Master Plan Steering Committee, Santa Clarita Watershed Recreation and Conservation Authority, Edison Consumer Advisory Panel Board, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy appointed by Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr., and a Commission member of the Climate Emergency Mobilization Committee appointed by Mayor Eric Garcetti.



ANNA Y. PARK is the Regional Attorney for the Los Angeles District Office of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ("EEOC"). Ms. Park is one of fifteen Regional Attorneys tasked nationally to oversee and direct all employment discrimination litigation

on behalf of the EEOC for her vast region which covers Southern California, Central California, Nevada, and the Pacific which includes Hawaii, Guam, American Samoa, Wake Island, and the Northern Mariana Islands. She is the first AANHPI woman to hold this position.

Since joining the EEOC, Ms. Park has brought influential and innovative cases. Ms. Park has been recognized for her work on groundbreaking cases like EEOC v. Trans Bay Steel and EEOC v. Global Horizons, et al., challenging labor trafficking as a civil rights violation under federal anti-discrimination laws. Notably, Global Horizons was the largest national origin discrimination case brought by the EEOC, garnering judgments and settlements exceeding \$22 million on behalf of Thai farmworkers and changing the way discrimination issues are handled in the industry.

She has also brought significant harassment cases spanning a myriad of industries, including agriculture, construction, trucking, gaming, entertainment, garment, hospitality, food and beverage, travel, and janitorial services. The case of EEOC v. ABM Industries, Inc. et al., was featured on PBS's Frontline: "Rape on the Night Shift" and recently \$18 million in EEOC v. Activision, et al. Recently, she was the architect of the \$10 million resolution with JPL for age discrimination for the EEOC.

Ms. Park is consulted as a subject matter expert within and outside of the EEOC on discrimination issues including human trafficking, immigration, sexual harassment, and other complex employment discrimination cases. She also serves on the regional taskforce for the White House Initiative on Asian Americans, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islanders.



**MARK PINSKY** is a leading voice in public conversations about public purpose finance.

As President of Five/Four Advisors, he is providing strategic thinking to banks, CDFIs, foundations, and others. He launched FiveFour Advisors in 2016 to help organizations and

their leaders increase their ability to achieve their missions and goals.

As Founding Partner of CDFI Friendly America (www.cdfifriendlyamerica. com), he has created a new way for underserved and under-resourced people and communities to gain access to responsible, affordable financing for businesses, housing, commercial real estate, and nonprofits.

Most recently, he is co-author of *Organized Money: How Progressives Can Leverage the Financial System to Work For Them, Not Against Them* (The New Press, October 2019). Organized Money (www.organizedmoney.org) is a bold strategy to organize a new progressive financial system to influence how finance is practiced in the U.S. and around the world. His co-author, Keith Mestrich, is CEO of Amalgamated Bank (AMAL), the nation's largest socially responsible bank.

He is one of the nation's leading strategists on community development financial institutions (CDFIs) and mission-centered finance. He led 70X growth in the CDFI industry from 1992-2016, innovation in policy and practice, and public understanding of the role and value of the CDFI industry.

Pinsky speaks regularly to industry and affiliated audiences, and his annual "State of the CDFI Industry" speech from 2000-2015 informed the work of many CDFIs, investors, and funders.

He was a Board Member of the Urban Empowerment Fund of the National Urban League and a Member of the Advisory Board for Springboard Health, a project of the Geisinger Health System. He sits on several New Market Tax Credit Advisory Boards, as well.

From 1995 into 2016, he was President & CEO of Opportunity Finance Network (OFN). During that time, Pinsky served in leadership positions ranging from Chair of the Federal Reserve Board of Governor's Community Advisory Council to Chair of the Board of Net Impact to Founding President of a synagogue in Bucks County, Pennsylvania. He founded and chaired the boards of AERIS, The CDFI Coalition, and others, and sat on advisory boards to Wells Fargo, Capital One, Goldman Sachs, Ben Franklin Partnerships, and BBVA Compass.

He played a central policy role in the 1990s in the creation of the CDFI Fund in the Department of the U.S. Treasury and later played

leading roles in creating New Markets Tax Credits, the CDFI Bond Guarantee Program, the Capital Magnet Fund, the Small Business Loan Fund, and other programs.

He created the NEXT Awards for the CDFI industry in 2007 in collaboration with Wells Fargo and the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. In 2011, he led development of Create Jobs for USA in partnership with Starbucks, Google, Banana Republic, and other corporations. He worked with Goldman Sachs in developing its 10,000 Small Businesses, and with Citigroup on the Communities at Work Fund. In the 1990s, he led development of the Equity Equivalent investment product, and he is a leading policy strategist around the Community Reinvestment Act.

Pinsky lives and works in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.



JUSTIN POLK is a co-founder and director at Invisible Collective, an innovative and disruptive creative production company based in Los Angeles. Justin started Invisible with the mission to create authentic and dynamic content that is culturally reflective of the

American and global experience, and to provide opportunities behind the camera for creatives in underrepresented communities.

Justin has directed content and commercials for brands like Verizon, Hyundai and Major League Baseball. In 2019, he was awarded three Cannes Lions and one 2020 Webby Award for his work on the Verizon "First Responders" campaign.

A graduate of Colgate University, Justin started his career at Reebok as a team leader in their sports marketing division. He then went on to work in film production at Village Roadshow Pictures and Broken Lizard before applying his skills in advertising at agencies including Deutsch, Cashmere, and Zambezi.



RACHEL REBOUCHÉ is the Interim Dean and a James E. Beasley Professor of Law at the Temple University School of Law. She is also a Faculty Fellow at Temple's Center for Public Health Law Research and a leading scholar in family law, public health, and reproductive

health law. Prior to her appointment as Interim Dean, she was the Associate Dean for Research. Dean Rebouché is the author or editor of seven books, the author of dozens of articles in law reviews and peer edited journals, and a frequent contributor to national publications and media outlets in her areas of expertise.



**FERNANDO REJÓN** serves as Executive Director of the Urban Peace Institute leading the organization's efforts to transform systems and the lives of individuals to create community peace and safety and end the devastating cycle of mass incarceration. In 2008, he began his

work to build the Urban Peace Academy as a platform to train gang intervention/street outreach workers, law enforcement, community stakeholders, and public officials on implementing violence reduction strategies focused on redefining community safety and health. Fernando has now trained thousands of leaders nationally on the role of gang intervention and the development of non-traditional community safety strategies. In 2019, he co-created the National Street Outreach Partnership as a platform for frontline intervention organizations and advocates dedicated to shaping and strengthening the field of violence reduction to serve the most violence-impacted communities in the nation. He has emerged as a national thought leader on addressing complex issues around neighborhood violence, policing, and policy development. His work has been recognized nationally and internationally as an example of how sustained investment in mission-driven safety strategies generate long-term transformative change.



As president and CEO, LISA RICE directs the National Fair Housing Alliance's (NFHA) mission to eliminate all forms of housing discrimination and ensure equitable housing opportunities for all people and communities. NFHA leads the fair housing movement and is

the trade association for over 200 member organizations throughout the country.

Ms. Rice is a published author contributing to several books and journals addressing a range of fair housing issues including: The Fight for Fair Housing: Causes, Consequences, and Future Implications of the 1968 Federal Fair Housing Act; Designed for the Future: 80 Practical Ideas for a Sustainable World; Discriminatory Effects of Credit Scoring on Communities of Color; and From Foreclosure to Fair Lending: Advocacy, Organizing, Occupancy, and the Pursuit of Equitable Credit.

She is one of the nation's leading experts on fair housing and lending policies having played major roles in crafting sections of the Dodd Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, establishing the Office of Fair Lending within the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, and implementing other legislative and policy initiatives.

She also helped lead the investigation and resolution of precedentsetting fair housing and lending cases securing remedies for millions of people as well as the elimination of systemic discriminatory practices. Ms. Rice serves on various Boards and Advisory Councils.



CELESTE RODRIGUEZ leads the Community Wealth portfolio for the Los Angeles Community Investment for Families Department (CIFD). In this role, she oversees the development and implementation of financial empowerment initiatives including LA's Guaranteed Basic

Income pilot and children's savings account program, both currently the largest programs of their kind in the nation. Prior to joining CIFD, Celeste also managed homelessness prevention initiatives and oversaw the Homelessness Services Team for the former Los Angeles Housing and Community Investment Department (HCID), coordinating contracts and funding for homeless relief efforts in Los Angeles. She has served as the Racial Equity Officer for both HCID and CIFD, developing strategic plans for meeting the city's race equity goals. Rodriguez previously served as Deputy Director of Community Development Strategies for the Office of Mayor Garcetti where she helped initiate many of the programs CIFD now oversees and led the development of the Mayor's Consolidated Plan to provide support services, capital improvement projects, and economic development opportunities in underserved communities throughout LA.



Born in Lancaster, PA, <u>NATHAN ROTH</u> began his career in multifamily real estate where he oversaw a staff focused on delivering an optimal experience for residents while maintaining profitability. Upon this foundation, Nathan aimed his industry experience

squarely at combating systems of injustice, inequity, and inequality – specifically in housing and intersecting areas.

Before joining HUD, Nathan worked as a fair housing practitioner and was the creator and first director of the Housing Equality & Equity Institute within a Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI). Under his leadership the Institute (now a FHIP EOI grantee) created various products and services designed to affirmatively further fair housing. This included an alternative security deposit product to engage landlords to end homelessness, a Landlord/Tenant Rights and Responsibilities manual in multiple languages to assist burgeoning refugee communities, and a Housing Resource Center with computers and information to connect those negatively impacted by the Digital Divide.

Nathan joined HUD to leverage his local skills in HUD's implementation of the 2015 AFFH rule. This included leading HUD's first robotic process automation proof of concept to enhance program participants' capacity to submit approved fair housing planning documents. Nathan also co-chaired FHEO's Innovation Strategic Plan resulting in leadership creating the FHEO Professional Development Institute, designing and communicating initiatives focused on the customers FHEO serves, and reimagining HUD's National Fair Housing Training Academy (where Nathan serves as the GTM).

Nathan is currently on detail to the Office of the Secretary staffingthe Interagency Task Force on Property Appraisal and Valuation Equity. This includes supporting the PAVE Executive Director through the establishment of a national communications and engagement strategy and effective governance.



KAREEM SALEH is the founder and CEO of FairPlay, the world's first Fairness-as-a-Service company. Financial Institutions use FairPlay's APIs to embed fairness considerations into their marketing, underwriting, pricing, and collections algorithms as well as to automate

their fair lending compliance. Previously Kareem served as Executive Vice President at Zest.ai, where he led business development for the company's machine learning-powered credit underwriting platform. Prior to Zest.ai, Kareem served as an executive at SoftCard, a mobile payments startup that was acquired by Google. Kareem also served in the Obama Administration, first as Chief of Staff to the State Department's Special Envoy for Climate Change, where he helped manage the 50-person team that negotiated the Paris Climate Agreement, then as Senior Advisor to the CEO of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) where he helped direct the U.S. Government's \$30B portfolio of emerging market investments with responsibility for transaction teams in Europe, Latin America and the Middle East. Kareem is a Forbes contributor and a frequent speaker on the application of AI to financial services. He is a graduate of Georgetown University Law Center and an honors graduate of the University of Chicago.



**DR. D'ARTAGNAN SCORZA** believes that education can be used as a tool for civic and social empowerment in order to advance justice in communities. Currently serving as the inaugural Executive Director of Racial Equity for Los Angeles County, Dr. Scorza's work has

centered on building leaders who fight for equity in communities and

schools. He founded and was the Executive Director of the Social Justice Learning Institute and served on the Inglewood Unified School District as President of the Board of Education.

Dr. Scorza serves as a lecturer in the Fielding School of Public Health at UCLA, is a UC Regent Emeritus and is the current President of the UCLA Alumni Association. In these roles, he helped pass policies that established veterans' services centers and prioritized \$160 million for student services across UC campuses. He also improved sustainability in Inglewood schools by helping to secure \$350 million to support school construction efforts.

As a US Navy Iraq War Veteran, Dr. Scorza believes that being a responsible leader means setting a strong personal example. Upon returning to his hometown of Inglewood from his tour in Iraq, he was eager to help youth in his community by expanding literacy programs, helping more teens to graduate high school and pursue higher education. Dr. Scorza created the Urban Scholars program to help train students to be social justice youth leaders while receiving opportunities for academic support, career pathway guidance, personal growth and college scholarships. Students who complete this program have a 95% graduation rate from high school, and 85% of those are successfully accepted into college. He also wrote and co-authored articles that focused on improving literacy practices for youth of color in urban communities.

For his work paving the way in advocacy, policy and philanthropy, he was recognized as one of the 40 Emerging Civic Leaders under 40 in 2018 and he received the UCLA Recent Graduate Achievement Award in 2016. He is an Education Pioneers Fellow and a Business Alliance for Local Living Economies (BALLE) Fellow, working to end discrimination against people in rural and urban communities by supporting them in their endeavors to start businesses and buy homes. He also serves on the National Science Foundation's PATHS UP Advisory Board, supporting workforce development for innovative and cost-effective technologies that heal chronic diseases in underserved areas.

Dr. Scorza has been quoted multiple times in publications such as The New York Times, LA Times, ABC News and ESPN about his work, and has been featured in LA Magazine and Huffington Post, and on several podcasts. He is a regular speaker and presenter on topics including equipping leaders to return to their communities to serve, how to help communities thrive, and advancing racial and social justice. He and his family enjoy taking family camping trips and spending time outdoors as often as possible.



MICHAEL P. SENG is a professor of law at UIC Law School. He has taught there since 1976. Among other courses he has taught are Constitutional Law, Federal Jurisdiction, Fair Housing Law, Predatory Home Lending Law, and Restorative Justice. Professor Seng is the

Director of the UIC Law School Fair Housing Legal Support Center.

Professor Seng received his AB and JD degrees from the University of Notre Dame. He has an honorary doctorate from Masaryk University in the Czech Republic. He has written on fair housing law and organizes and presents national trainings and educational programs on fair housing law and enforcement. In 2003, he was named a Pioneer of Fair Housing by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.



JULIANA SERRANO is the Vice President of Advocacy & Equity at Planned Parenthood Pasadena and San Gabriel Valley (PPPSGV). In this role, Juliana works to advance PPPSGV's mission through the strategic implementation of electoral and advocacy activities that promote

policies favorable to Planned Parenthood at all levels of government. She creates and leads the vision and strategy for our community affairs, government affairs, and advocacy work, and she leads the organization's diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) initiatives, focused on partnerships for health equity in our communities. Juliana also serves at the Executive Director of Planned Parenthood Advocates Pasadena and San Gabriel Valley (PPAPSGV), the advocacy and political arm of PPPSGV. Every day, Juliana strives to be a better advocate for and co-conspirator with communities marginalized and oppressed by the dominant culture.

Prior to joining the staff at PPPSGV, Juliana served as the Senior Associate for Peace & Justice and the Office for Creative Connections at All Saints Church for more than eleven years. She was honored to work alongside many faithful and dedicated activists, organizers and leaders, as well as elected officials in the Pasadena and San Gabriel Valley on efforts such as police reform; the fight for \$15; immigrant rights; homelessness; affordable housing; health care access; reintegration; environmental justice; voting rights and more.

From 2004-2010, Juliana was the Director of Operations at ENCOMPASS, a non-profit youth development organization. She helped create the organization after having served as Program Coordinator in the Youth and Education Programs Department for the Los Angeles Region of the National Conference for Community

and Justice (NCCJ). In addition, Juliana was the Advocacy Organizer for the Alliance Against Racial Mascots (ALLARM), a grassroots coalition that worked from 2002 - 2004 to rid the State of California of American Indian mascots from all public schools, K-12.

Juliana currently serves on The City of Pasadena's first Community Police Oversight Commission, as well as the Boards of Director's for Pasadenans Organizing for Progress (POP!), and Learning Works Charter School. Previously, Juliana was a Board Member for Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California (501c4); Planned Parenthood Pasadena and San Gabriel Valley (501c3); Planned Parenthood Advocates Pasadena and San Gabriel Valley (501c4); Jubilee Consortium; and the Pasadena/San Gabriel Valley Chapter of the National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI). She was an Advisory Board Member for the Pasadena Child Health Foundation, the Center for Council, the Pasadena Community College Flea Market, Friends in Deed, and served on the Pasadena Police Chief's Advisory Committee. Juliana served as a Commissioner for the City of Los Angeles Relocation Appeals Board from 2009-2013.

In 2021, Juliana received the YWCA Glendale & Pasadena "Racial Justice Award" and the "Community Award" from the NAACP – Pasadena Branch in 2018.

Juliana received her B.A. in Psychology, with minors in Sociology and Philosophy, from Loyola Marymount University (LMU/LA). It was there where she was inspired by the Ignatian value of being "men and women for others," and chose to focus her career on social change and social justice.

Raised in La Verne, Juliana is the youngest of three children and was nurtured by her parents who immigrated to the U.S. from Colombia, South America. She currently resides in Pasadena. She is an avid fan of art, music, and politics, enjoys spending time with her family and friends, going to concerts, cooking, and traveling.



NANCY SHATTUCK is the Fair Housing Outreach Specialist for the City of Tacoma in Washington State with two decades of experience in Human Rights, Advocacy and Education. She began her career as a Peace Corps volunteer in Ecuador where she learned

that the community itself guides and determines their needs and how to have them fulfilled. Her background in science and technology speaks to her passion for data collection and use in guiding program development; yet always keeping people at the center of her work. Dividing her career between Washington State and Ecuador has enabled her to be open to alternative, creative solutions, value integrity and innovation, responsible use of resources, and empathetic

interactions with her community. In her free time, Nancy enjoys being with her family and cooking and eating good food.



**GENE SLATER** has served as senior advisor on housing for federal, state, and local agencies for over forty years. He cofounded and chairs CSG Advisors, which has been one of the nation's leading advisor on affordable housing for decades.

Gene has structured programs for first-time homebuyers, mixed-income apartments, neighborhood revitalization and improved public housing throughout the country. He designed and implemented major housing strategies for Chicago, Denver, Los Angeles, New Orleans, Phoenix, Pittsburgh, San Diego, San Francisco, Seattle, Washington D.C. and Wichita, and advised the state housing finance agencies of California, Colorado, Connecticut, Illinois, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New York, Virginia and Washington State.

His projects have received numerous national awards, and in 2009, in the aftermath of the financial crisis, he helped design the program by which U. S. Treasury financed homes for 110,000 first time homebuyers and 40,000 affordable rental units.

Gene received a BA from Columbia summa cum laude, a fellowship to the London School of Economics, a master's in city planning from MIT, a master's from Stanford, and a mid-career Loeb Fellowship from Harvard, awarded to ten planners and architects from around the world each year, where he studied capital markets for housing at the Harvard Business School.

The author of *Freedom to Discriminate*, he gave the American Institute of Architects' first national webinar on the history of housing segregation.



**HILDA L. SOLIS** is the Los Angeles County Supervisor who represents the residents of the First District.

As a daughter of working-class, immigrant parents from Nicaragua and Mexico, she understood at a young age, the challenges that

workers face and the dignity that they deserved. Taught to value hard work and give back to her community, Supervisor Solis believes that government, with the right leadership, can help substantially improve the lives of many people. Raised in La Puente, California, Supervisor Solis was the first in her family to attend college at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, despite a lack of

institutional support from her high school. From there, Supervisor Solis began developing her political values as a progressive champion for the most marginalized people in our society. Since both of her parents were members of their unions, Supervisor Solis became an early advocate for workers' rights, better wages, and workplace safety – eventually becoming the United States Secretary of Labor for President Barack Obama.

Before making history as the first Latina to serve in the Presidential Cabinet, Supervisor Solis' public service spanned across the Rio Hondo Board of Trustees, both chambers of the California State Legislature, and the House of Representatives. She broke the glass ceiling repeatedly by becoming the first Latina ever elected to the State Senate, and the first woman to win the John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award for her work in environmental justice. After her time in the Obama administration, she came back home to continue her service locally as the County Supervisor for the First District.

During her tenure, Supervisor Solis continues to utilize her federal, state and local governing experience to deliver essential services to her constituents.

Supervisor Solis accelerated the County's efforts to combat homelessness and allocated funding to build thousands of affordable housing units in her district and around the County. She authored the groundbreaking Measure A to invest in communities without green space, expand open and recreational park space in their neighborhoods, and protect water quality. She led a coalition advocating for communities facing environmental injustices near the Exide recycling plant and helped to clean up poisonous lead in thousands of homes. Supervisor Solis is leading the effort to reimagine public safety in Los Angeles County and prioritize expanding healthcare and jobs instead of mass incarceration, leading the effort to cancel a \$1.7 billion contract to build a new jail. She pushed to fully fund a \$20 million dollar workforce and job training program for disadvantaged young people and authored more than 40 motions defending immigrant communities during the previous federal administration. Most recently, she also met the Biden White House's call to action to address the humanitarian crisis at the southern border, by setting up an emergency intake site in her district for thousands of unaccompanied children.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Supervisor Solis directed the County to set up mass testing, quarantine and isolation sites in the hardest-hit communities, while leading efforts to inform the County's 10 million residents. She established Project Roomkey and Homekey sites throughout her district to quickly shelter people experiencing homelessness. Under her leadership, the County allocated hundreds of millions of dollars toward rental and food assistance, healthcare, small business grants, community outreach, childcare, and

more. Additionally, she led the charge to quickly vaccinate as many people as possible during the reopening of Los Angeles County, ensuring a path of equitable economic recovery.

She resides in the City of El Monte with her husband, Sam, and their dog, Lisa.



ROBERT SOWELL (he, him, his) serves as Assistant Executive Director of the County of Los Angeles Commission on Human Relations. He provides administrative oversight to Commission staff and operations. Currently this includes hate crime documentation,

prevention, and response; a law enforcement equity initiative; the agency's work to equip and engage youth as social justice advocates and activists; and building the capacity of County units, municipal groups, and community partners to advance equity. His work includes designing and delivering customized training to groups such as community interventionists, housing managers, criminal justice professionals, government workers, young adults, and human services volunteers. He facilitates training in a variety of topics, including cultural competence; diversity, equity, and inclusion; what prejudice (including implicit bias) is, how it works, and what we can do about it; constructive candid conversations; positive conflict resolution; building and maintaining trust; leadership; and collaboration.

Robert also serves as an adjunct undergraduate professor teaching courses in child protective services, mediation, peacebuilding, criminology, and juvenile delinquency. He has earned graduate degrees in social work and in education and completed post-graduate work in public and urban affairs.



**ERIK STEINECKER** is the Acting Director for the FAIR Housing Assistance Program in the Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity at the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). In this capacity, he oversees the administration of the Fair

Housing Assistance Program, which provides funding annually on a noncompetitive basis to state and local agencies administering fair housing laws that provide rights and remedies that are substantially equivalent to those provided by the federal Fair Housing Act. Erik previously served as a program analyst in the FHAP Division for five years, and was also an Equal Opportunity Specialist for five years in HUD's Region X office where he investigated fair housing

discrimination complaints. He also serves as HUD's subject matter expert for housing related human rights inquiries and treaty reporting. Outside of his capacity at HUD, he is a certified mediator, and volunteers with Mediators Beyond Borders International. He is a current member of the Washington State Bar, and holds a law degree from Seattle University School of Law, a master's degree from the United Nations University for Peace, and a bachelor's degree from the University of Washington.



**GEORGE TAKEI** is known around the world for his role in the acclaimed original TV series *Star Trek*, in which he played Hikaru Sulu, helmsman of the starship Enterprise. But Takei's story, which includes an acting career that spans six decades, goes where few have

gone before. From a childhood spent with his family wrongfully imprisoned in Japanese American internment camps during World War II to becoming one of the country's leading figures in the fight for social justice, LGBTQ+ rights and marriage equality, Takei remains a powerful voice on issues ranging from politics to pop culture.



MELODY TAYLOR was appointed by HUD Secretary Marcia Fudge and Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy Susan Rice to serve as the Executive Director of the Interagency Task Force on Property Appraisal and Valuation Equity (PAVE). Concurrently, Melody also serves as the HUD FHEO Acting

Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary of Enforcement and Program Compliance. She serves the Department in implementing programs and policies in all matters relating to fair housing, economic opportunity, civil rights, and nondiscrimination in the implementation of HUD programs.

Melody's training, contributions and commitment to fair housing span a period of 20 years. Melody has an expansive civil rights career working with non-profit, human rights state and federal agencies including her work in program and policy development, and strategic planning for private and government entities.





**DÉJÀ THOMAS** is the Program Manager for the UCLA Center for Racial Equity (CARE) at Work housed within the UCLA Labor Center. The Center for the Advancement of Racial Equity at Work (CARE at Work) engages Black workers and economic justice advocates

and facilitates innovative solutions that address the needs of Black working-class people. Through a school to movement pathway of service, teaching, capacity building and research, our purpose is to reveal conditions of Black work in Southern California under glocal racial capitalism and model approaches for change.

Déjà's work focuses on managing the Center for Racial Equity at Work's programmatic priorities including capacity building and research with the Southern California Black Worker Hub for Regional Organizing and the implementation of our school-to-movement pathway, building the next generation of Black organizers. Her work aims to amplify the voices of the most marginalized workers in planning for a better economy. Ensuring that Black workers have access to high road jobs especially those in the new green economy is directly linked to Black communities having agency and autonomy over their futures amidst climate change and converging crises.

Calling California home, Déjà has family roots in Mississippi, Chicago, and New York. She grew up in Atlanta, a bit in New Jersey, and partially in Bellevue (WA). Family experiences at an early age shaped her understanding of the challenges and opportunities of Black worker determination. Her work experiences include process evaluation as part of the California Transformative Climate Communities program, theory of change documentation for a rural Ugandan social enterprise, and economic policy development with the LA Food Policy Council. She also co-authored the Essential Stories: Black Worker Economic Health Impact Survey in 2022.

Déjà has a Master of Urban and Regional Planning (MURP) degree with community economic development and design and development concentrations, as well as a Food Studies Certificate at UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs. She is a 2019 Switzer Environmental Fellow, 2016 Udall Scholar, and a 2016 Global Social Benefit Fellow at the Miller Center for Social Entrepreneurship.





ANTHONY W. WADE, PHD, is an organizational effectiveness consultant providing services in the areas of DEI and human capital solutions. This includes, but is not limited to, diversity-equity-inclusion, talent management, compensation administration,

change management, employee relations, equal employment opportunity (EEO), adult education and training, and executive/staff leadership development. A retired senior local government executive and military veteran, Dr. Wade's professional history includes service as a Chief Human Resources Officer and Human Relations Director for local government and higher education. An Adjunct Associate Professor with Webster University, he holds an earned Doctorate in Education and Human Resources Studies from Colorado State University. A past-president of the National Association of Human Rights Workers, Dr. Wade is a graduate of the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute and the Institute of Advanced Dispute Resolution's Advanced Practitioner in Mediation (APM) program. Additionally, he is nationally certified as a Professional in Human Resources (PHR) by the Human Resource Certification Institute.



**RON WAKABAYASHI** retired from the US Department of Justice, Community Relations Service, in 2020 following a 20 year career. He served as Regional Director over 3 regions, with 14 Western States and provided a six month stint as the Acting Deputy Director. The

Community Relations Service is known as "America's Peacemakers," created in Title X of the 1964 Civil Right Act to provide community conflict resolution. He is the recipient of the Roger Wilkins award for lifetime achievement.

Post retirement, he works with the Divided Communities Project [DCP] at the Moritz School of Law at the Ohio State University. At DCP, he provides services related to community conflict, reparations and hate crime.

Prior to his federal career, he was the Executive Director for the Los Angeles City Human Relations Commission and then for the Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations during the 1990s.

In the 1980's, he accepted the position of National Director of the Japanese American Citizens League and served during the period of the campaign for redress and federal apology for the wartime incarceration of Japanese Americans. He concluded his service following the signing of the legislation by President Reagan.

His early career was centered on community building establish multiple nonprofit service agencies, including the Asian American Drug Abuse Program.



FARRAH WILDER is the California Association of REALTOR®'s Chief Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer. Farrah supports C.A.R.'s fair housing and inclusion efforts. She collaborates with internal and external partners and key stakeholders including C.A.R.

members, REALTOR® associations, and others on initiatives that will dramatically heighten awareness, allyship, equity and capabilities within the REALTOR® community, the real estate industry and beyond.

Prior to working for C.A.R, Farrah was a Realtor with Compass and founder of a real estate team based in Oakland, California. Farrah served on the Boards of the Oakland and Oakland Berkeley Association of REALTORS® from 2014 through 2017 and was 2018 Chair of C.A.R.'s Federal Committee. She was a founding member of the Bridge Association of REALTORS® Housing Committee, a group that has advised on home buyer assistance programs, lobbied local government officials to prioritize down payment assistance programs and the needs of small housing providers in their budget and policy directives, and created a successful closing cost grant for first time home buyers.

Farrah earned a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from the University of Michigan and a J.D. from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. As an attorney, she worked for San Francisco non-profit, Equal Rights Advocates and the United States Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights.



MAYA WILEY is the president and CEO of The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights and The Leadership Conference Education Fund. A nationally respected civil rights attorney, Wiley has been a litigator at the ACLU, NAACP Legal Defense Fund, Inc., and

the US Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York. She has been a program creator in philanthropy, non-profits, government, and higher education. She helped create a criminal justice program for a major foundation in South Africa. Wiley co-founded and led a national policy advocacy organization, the Center for Social Inclusion, now a part of Race Forward, a national policy strategy organization working to end structural racism. She became the first Black woman to be Counsel to a New York City Mayor, Bill de Blasio, where she

worked to protect and expand civil rights, Minority and Women-Owned Business contracts and broadband access. Wiley became a Senior Vice President for Social Justice at the New School University, where she also founded the Digital Equity Laboratory. While there, she chaired the New York City Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB). As chair, she led the release of the "hold" on proceedings against Daniel Pantaleo whose illegal chokehold killed Eric Garner, and Co-Chaired the Mayor's School Diversity Advisory Group that authored two major reports on integrating New York City public schools. Wiley has received numerous awards, and has been a public voice for rights, justice, and democracy, through written opinion editorials and as a legal analyst for NBC News and MSNBC.



LISA WILLIAMS is the Pastor of the San Pedro United Methodist Church (San Pedro UMC), and a passionate activist for our un-housed neighbors. This passion began in 2015 when she heard someone say, "the faith community has abandoned those in need." Appalled by

that idea, she decided her calling was to embody the opposite.

As a native Southern Californian, Lisa first learned how important it was to take care of those "living on the margins" from her father, who was also a Methodist minister. Since being appointed to San Pedro UMC, Lisa has been instrumental in helping create the San Pedro Faith Consortium, a broad-minded interfaith group of clergy who address social issues in the community. Through this collaboration, her church hosts homeless families enrolled in Family Promise of the South Bay quarterly.

Lisa is a visionary who likes to think outside of the box. Involvement with Family Promise resulted in she and her church imagining the possibility of building affordable and permanent supportive housing on church property. Under Lisa's leadership, San Pedro UMC has embraced those in need, and she and the church are working with a non-profit developer to make that mixed-use project happen.

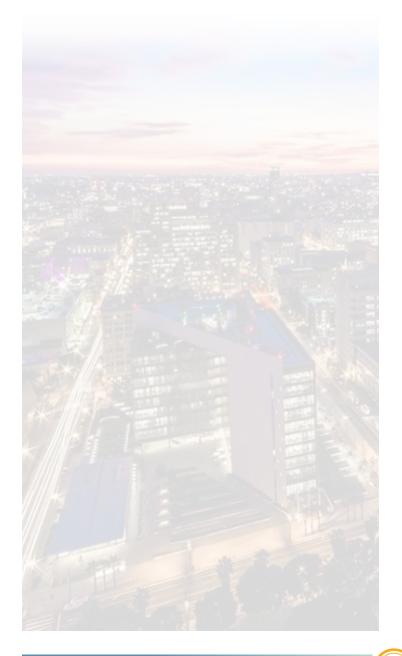
With the help of Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn's office, Lisa has brought vaccination clinics and monthly mobile showers to the neighborhood. She was also instrumental in creating the Children's Christmas Shopping Spree, where children from Toberman Neighborhood Center experience the joy of giving as they select a present for adult members of their family. This past year they served over 450 children and youth.

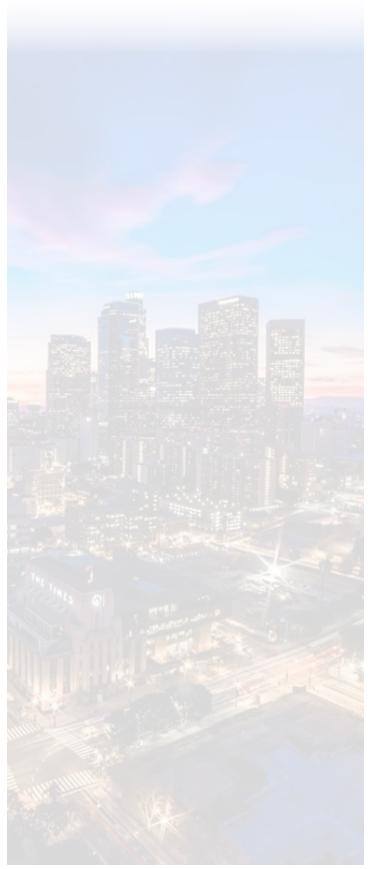
Prior to coming to San Pedro, Lisa founded Kid Zone, an after-school and summer camp program at Rolling Hills United Methodist church. In addition to providing quality care she was known for mentorship with her staff and building strong relationships with families.

In 2019, Lisa was the Woman of the Year recipient for the Los Angeles County Commission on Woman, representing the 4th Supervisorial District, Supervisor Janice Hahn.

Lisa is a Trustee at Toberman Neighborhood Center, a member of Rotary San Pedro and serves on the Quality of Life Committee for the San Pedro Chamber of Commerce. She chairs the Harbor Neighborhood Relief Fund and is a participant in the C2 Leadership Institute, empowering faith, and community to work together.

She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Behavioral Science from California State University, Dominguez Hill and is currently enrolled in seminary classes at Claremont School of Theology. Married to her high school sweetheart, Peter, they have a son Steven who lives in San Francisco.







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