



LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION FOR OLDER ADULTS

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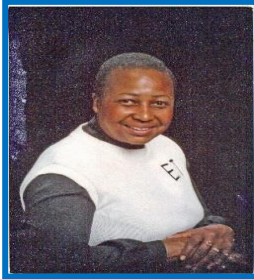
Board of Supervisors
Hilda L. Solis, 1st District
Mark Ridley-Thomas, 2nd District
Sheila Kuehl, 3rd District
Janice Hahn, 4th District
Kathryn Barger, 5th District

Executive Board
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Charles Mitchell, 2nd Vice President
Arlene Okamoto, Secretary
Helen Romero Shaw, Fiscal Officer
Linda Yamauchi, Past President

Executive Liaison
Anna Avdalyan, Program Manager

Executive Director
Guillermo Medina

2017-2018 COMMISSIONER BIOGRAPHIES



ESTELLA BEAVER-THOMAS

Commissioner Estella “ET” Beaver-Thomas has volunteered and is a member of the Congress of California Seniors, the California Senior Legislature, the California Association of Retired Americans, the Service Employees International Union 721 Senior Committee, and the City of Los Angeles Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Council. Commissioner Estella Beaver-Thomas joined LACCOA in May 2014.



MARGARET “MAGGIE” BELTON

Commissioner Margaret “Maggie” Belton is a retired Registered Nurse and Clinical Social Worker. She worked for the Personal Assistance Services Council from 2000-2005, and for St. Joseph’s Hospital from 1975-1980. She is currently an In-Home Supportive Services Stakeholder Advisory Committee Member. Commissioner Margaret Belton joined LACCOA in December 2013.



ROBERT BOLLER

Commissioner Robert Boller is the Director of Project Angel Food, a non-profit organization that delivers food to residents of Los Angeles County that are unable to shop or cook for themselves. He is currently a member of Hunger Action Los Angeles (HALA). HALA works to end hunger and promotes healthy eating through advocacy, direct service, and organizing. Commissioner Robert Boller joined LACCOA in February 2016.



MARVA COOPER BELL

Commissioner Marva Cooper Bell is a retired Human Services Manager. Since retiring, Commissioner Bell with more than 35 years of experience provides human resource management support to non-profit organizations, universities, and corporations. She also spends time volunteering at Jenesse Center, a domestic violence intervention program. Commissioner Marva Cooper Bell joined LACCOA in March 2016.



ALICE CRAFT

Commissioner Alice Craft is a retired Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) Special Education Assistant, and has over 10 years of experience serving as a caregiver for older adults. She received numerous awards from organizations such as Boy Scouts of America, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, LAUSD, and Service Employees International Union. Commissioner Alice Craft joined LACCOA in March 2016.



JERRY GAINES

Commissioner Jerry Gaines is a U.S. Navy Veteran who retired from the Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District – Secondary Education. He was recognized as the Los Angeles County Teacher of the Year and awarded the U.S. Congress Award for serving as Chair of the Military Reuse Committee. Commissioner Jerry Gaines joined LACCOA in October 2015.



RUTH E. GONZALES

Commissioner Ruth Gonzales is a retired teacher, accounting clerk, and receptionist. In 2002, West Covina Elementary School recognized her as Teacher of the Year. The 58th Assembly District declared her Woman of the Year in 2012. Since her retirement in 2005, she volunteers at the South El Monte Senior Center's Bingo Night every Tuesday. Commissioner Ruth Gonzales joined LACCOA in September 2015.



RAYMOND HALL

Commissioner Raymond Hall is a U.S. Marine Corps Veteran who has extensive knowledge of the issues Veterans face and founded A Senior Salute, Inc. A Senior Salute was developed to recognize senior Veterans for their life service. He volunteers for the California Senior Legislature and the American Legion Post 109. Commissioner Raymond Hall joined LACCOA in October 2016.



OLEETA IGAR

Commissioner Oleeta Igar has 21 years of experience working in Social Services. She currently works as a manager for Community Partnership, at the Personal Assistance Services Council (PASC). PASC is the public authority for In-Home Supportive Services in Los Angeles County. Commissioner Oleeta Igar joined LACCOA in July 2015.



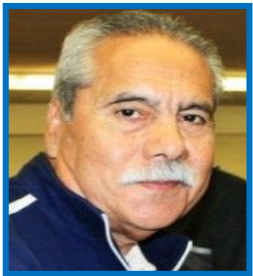
ANGELINA JAUREGUI

Commissioner Angelina Jauregui is a retired Information Systems Analyst for Los Angeles County. She is currently serving a third term as President of VIP Senior Club in Montebello, California. She spends time volunteering with the Lutheran Women Missionary League, where she was nominated National Chairman of the Heart to Heart Program. Commissioner Angelina Jauregui joined LACCOA in January 2016.



KYO "PAUL" JHIN, 1ST VICE PRESIDENT

Commissioner Paul Jhin retired from the U.S. Peace Corps in 2009, where he served as Director for the Office of Planning, Policy, and Analysis. He spends time volunteering with the California Postsecondary Education Commission and the Los Angeles County Citizen's Economic and Efficiency Commission. In 2015, he was the recipient of the Ellis Island Medal of Honor. He joined LACCOA in July 2014.



ROBERT JIMENEZ

Commissioner Robert Jimenez is a retired auto industry worker. He proudly served in the Vietnam War from 1965-1967. Commissioner Jimenez served as an Elected Official of the United States Workers Union, President of the Board of Directors for the Congress of California Seniors, and Area Counsel Vice President for the United Auto Workers Retirees Council. Commissioner Robert Jimenez joined LACCOA in January 2012.



DIANA LOVE, PRESIDENT

Commissioner Diana Love is a retired Field Representative for the California State Assembly. She currently serves as Board President for the House of Deliverance for Battered Women, an organization dedicated to alleviating domestic violence in Antelope Valley and the surrounding communities. In 2013, she was the recipient of the Outstanding Volunteer Service to Children Award from the Court Appointed Special Advocate for Children. She joined LACCOA in April 2015.



PETER MCGRATH

Commissioner Peter McGrath, Veteran of the United States Navy, is a retiree of the industrial industry. He spent many years as manager in sales and production. Commissioner McGrath is a member of the Burbank Board of Education, Burbank Noon Rotary, Burbank Housing Corporation, and the California Senior Legislature. The City of Burbank recognized his service to the community on several occasions. Commissioner Peter McGrath joined LACCOA in January 2016.



GAYLE MCKINNEY

Commissioner Gayle McKinney is a retired Medical Equipment Store Manager. She serves on the Board of the Alhambra Family Guidance Center, San Gabriel Valley YMCA, and the Alhambra Case Management Board. In 2015, she was honored by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and LACCOA, at the 50th Annual Older Americans Recognition Day Awards. Commissioner Gayle McKinney joined LACCOA in May 2015.



DENISE MENCHACA

Commissioner Denise Menchaca is an Accountant and Tax Consultant. She currently serves as Director of the San Gabriel Kiwanis Club. Commissioner Menchaca is also an active member of the National Women's Political Caucus of the Greater Pasadena Area and the San Gabriel Women's Division. She was the recipient of the City of San Gabriel 2014 Woman of Distinction Award. Commissioner Denise Menchaca joined LACCOA in June 2015.



PETER MEZZA

Commissioner Peter Mezza is a retired Housing Authority Administrator for the City of Santa Monica. He worked over 25 years in Social Services and Community Corrections. Currently, Commissioner Mezza serves on the Board of Teen Line, an organization that focuses on adolescent suicide prevention. His academic studies earned him multiple degrees in Government, Urban Studies, and Public Administration. Commissioner Peter Mezza joined LACCOA in February 2016.



CHARLES MITCHELL, 2nd VICE PRESIDENT

Commissioner Charles Mitchell is a Veteran of the United States Marine Corps and a retired Microbiologist. He has 25 years of legislative experience. That experience led him to serve as Vice President of Legal and Public Affairs for Blue Cross and Blue Shield. He currently volunteers with the California Senior Legislature, AAA Council for the City of Los Angeles, and Veterans of West Los Angeles. He joined LACCOA in September 2014.



SHEILA MOORE

Commissioner Sheila Moore, Licensed Clinical Social Worker, is the Senior Director of Comprehensive Older Adult Services for Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles. She worked with older adults and their families facilitating support groups for caregivers for 30 years. She is an active public speaker, educator, and clinician. Commissioner Sheila Moore joined LACCOA in July 2016.



ARLENE OKAMOTO, SECRETARY

Commissioner Arlene Okamoto is a retired Senior Services Coordinator for Methodist Hospital of Southern California. She served on the Board of Directors for the Red Cross, American Cancer Association, and Wellness Community Board. In support of her husband, she enjoys advocating on behalf of Veteran issues. Commissioner Arlene Okamoto joined LACCOA in July 2015.



ELIZABETH PAYNE

Commissioner Elizabeth Payne is a retired Activity Director for the City of Inglewood. She worked with older adults for over 40 years. She currently volunteers with the California Senior Legislature, the California Senior Leadership Alliance, and Relay for Life. Commissioner Elizabeth Payne joined LACCOA in March 2015.



CARMEN REYES

Commissioner Carmen Reyes currently works as Director of Community Relations and Outreach at the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA), David Geffen School of Medicine, Division of Geriatrics, Los Angeles Community Academic Partnership in Research in Aging (L.A. CAPRA). She serves as Commissioner on the State of California Commission on Aging, and is a member of the Los Angeles Aging Advocacy Coalition (LAAAC). Commissioner Carmen Reyes joined LACCOA in April 2017.



JULIA ROSENBERG

Commissioner Julia Rosenberg is a retired Personnel Director. Her enthusiasm for advocating on behalf of older adults led her to become a Senior Assembly Member, Los Angeles County Commissioner, and Legislative Director of the Women's Club of California. Commissioner Julia Rosenberg joined LACCOA in June 2012.



MARY ALICE SEDILLO

Commissioner Mary Alice Sedillo is a retired Real Estate Broker. She currently serves as Chair for the Long Beach Senior Citizens Advisory Commission and Treasurer of the Gray Panthers. Her memberships include California Alliance for Retired Americans, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, San Pedro Chamber of Commerce, and Congress of California Seniors. She joined LACCOA in November 2016.



HELEN ROMERO-SHAW, FISCAL OFFICER

Commissioner Helen Romero-Shaw currently works as a Public Affairs Manager. She is a member of United Latino, Rosemead Chamber Board of Directors, Alhambra Chamber Board of Directors, and East Los Angeles College Foundation Board of Directors. She was awarded the Breaking Glass Ceiling Award by the Latina Golfers Association and the Women of Distinction Award given by Business Life Magazine. She joined LACCOA in June 2015.



ARVIS SPRIGGS

Commissioner Arvis Spriggs is a retired Operational Network Technician. She dedicates her time serving the older adults in Inglewood, California, rotating between four senior centers. Commissioner Spriggs is also a member of the City of Inglewood Senior Advisory Committee and Senior Project Advisory Council. In 2007 she received the Older American Recognition Day Award in recognition of her outstanding volunteer service. She joined LACCOA in January 2016.



PATRICIA STANYO

Commissioner Patricia Stanyo is a retired teacher. She served as Chairman for United Teachers of Los Angeles (UTLA) Harbor Area and Long Beach Gray Panthers. She also served as Vice President for the California Alliance of Retired Americans. She is a member of the Los Angeles County Democratic Party Committee and the California Democratic Party Executive Board. Commissioner Patricia Stanyo joined LACCOA in March 2015.



ANNA SWETT

Commissioner Anna Swett is a retired Paralegal and Legal Secretary. For 34 years, she volunteered as a Peer Advocate with the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health. She received recognition for her volunteer service from Los Angeles County Supervisor Michael Antonovich, 5th Supervisorial District, Senator Barbara Boxer, Mayor James Hahn, and Congresswoman Yvonne Burke. Commissioner Anna Swett joined LACCOA in September 2014.



LAVADA THEUS

Commissioner Lavada Theus is a retired school administrator. Her desire to assist in making the lives of older adults easier led her to volunteer with the California Senior Legislature, where she currently serves as Chairperson. She is also Co-chair of the 2nd Supervisorial District Senior Services Committee for Empowerment Congress. Commissioner Lavada Theus joined LACCOA in January 2017.



ELVIA TORRES

Commissioner Elvia Torres is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist. Her organizational memberships include California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists, Oversight Board Member for the City of La Puente, and Board Member of the California Association of Alcohol and Drug Programs Executives. In 2015, she was recognized as Woman of the Year by Assemblyman Roger Hernandez. Commissioner Elvia Torres joined LACCOA in March 2015.



CHARLES TREVIÑO

Commissioner Charles Treviño is a retired Public Affairs Representative, teacher for the Los Angeles Unified School District, Director for the Metropolitan Water District, and former Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission for the City of South Pasadena. He received multiple awards of recognition from the California State Legislature, State Board of Equalization, Los Angeles Board of Education, and the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors. He joined LACCOA in August 2014.



TANYA WITT

Commissioner Tanya Witt, a retired vocalist, is the Manager of Residential Services at the Los Angeles LGBT Senior Services Center. She is Director of the One Voice Senior Chorale, member of the American Society on Aging, the Community Emergency Response Team for the City of Long Beach, and Committee Member for the 360 Women's Health Fair. Commissioner Tanya Witt joined LACCOA in April 2016.



RICHARD WOLFE

Commissioner Richard Wolfe is a retiree of the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services/Health Facilities. He holds a PhD in Health Care Administration. Commissioner Wolfe was recognized for his service from the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and the City of Los Angeles Department of Aging. Commissioner Richard Wolfe joined LACCOA in July 2014.



LINDA YAMAUCHI, PAST PRESIDENT

Commissioner Linda Yamauchi is a retired Manager of Consumer Affairs, Southern California Edison Company. She is on the Executive Board of the Little Tokyo Service and Center of Asian Pacific American Women. President Yamauchi was the recipient of the LINK award from LACCOA, Asian Pacific American Leadership Institute Fellow, Greater Los Angeles YWCA Outstanding Woman, and County of Los Angeles Commission on Status of Women. She joined LACCOA in May 2012.



CANDACE YEE

Commissioner Candace Yee is a retired Special Education Home School Teacher. She was nominated Teacher of the Year for the Los Angeles Unified School District in 1984 and ABC Adult School Student of the Year in Tai Chi in 2014. She spent many years volunteering in classrooms and libraries throughout Los Angeles County. Commissioner Candace Yee joined LACCOA in August 2015.