

CSAC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BRIEFING MATERIALS

Thursday, Dec. 4, 2025

2pm-4:30pm



San Jose McEnery Convention Center | Grand Ballroom B/C

Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/97939501273?pwd=H8ubKSS5CrKAkXQn5oKzfzujrq9alt.1>

Meeting ID: 979 3950 1273

Passcode: 574445

California State
Association of Counties



CALIFORNIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thursday, December 4, 2025

2:00pm – 4:30pm

San Jose McEnery Convention Center | Grand Ballroom B/C

Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/97939501273?pwd=H8ubKSS5CrKAkXQn5oKzfzujrg9alt.1>

Conference Line: (669) 900-6833 | Meeting ID: 979 3950 1273 | Passcode: 574445

AGENDA

Presiding: Supervisor Jeff Griffiths, President

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4

2:00 PM

PROCEDURAL ITEMS

1. Pledge of Allegiance

Page 1

2. Roll Call

Pages 2-3

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

3. CEO's Report

Page 4

➤ *Graham Knaus | Chief Executive Officer*

4. Presentation from California State Treasurer

➤ *Fiona Ma | CPA*

ACTION ITEMS

5. Approval of Minutes from September 11, 2025

Page 5-7

➤ *Jeff Griffiths | President*

6. Consideration of Building Financing Package

Page 8

➤ *Chastity Benson | Chief Operating Officer*

See attachment

➤ *Rob Pierce | Chief Operating Officer, CSAC FC*

7. Consideration of Updated CSAC Policies and Procedures Manual including addition of Investment Policy

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See attachment

➤ *Graham Knaus | Chief Executive Officer*

➤ *Chastity Benson | Chief Operating Officer*

8. Caucus Report Outs & Election of 2026 Executive Committee

Page 10-13

See handout

➤ *Graham Knaus | Chief Executive Officer*

➤ *Supervisor Jeff Griffiths | President, Rural Caucus Chair*

➤ *Supervisor Susan Ellenberg | 1st Vice President, Urban Caucus Chair*

➤ *Supervisor Luis Alejo | 2nd Vice President, Suburban Caucus Chair*

9. Resolution Authorizing Conduct of CSAC Business

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➤ *Graham Knaus | Chief Executive Officer*

10. Adoption of Policy Priorities

See handout

➤ *Kimberly Rodriguez | Chief Legislative Advocate*

Administration of Justice

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➤ *Supervisor Bruno Sabatier | Chair*

➤ *Ryan Morimune | Senior Legislative Advocate*

Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources

- *Supervisor Jessica Pyska | Chair*
- *Jordan Wells | Legislative Advocate*
- *Charles Delgado | Legislative Advocate*

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Government Finance & Administration

- *Supervisor Mani Grewal | Chair*
- *Eric Lawyer | Senior Legislative Advocate*
- *Emma Jungwirth | Senior Legislative Advocate*

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Health & Human Services

- *Supervisor Holly Mitchell | Chair*
- *Justin Garrett | Senior Legislative Advocate*
- *Brendan McCarthy | Senior Legislative Advocate*

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Housing, Land Use & Transportation

- *Supervisor Gary Bradford | Chair*
- *Mark Neuburger | Legislative Advocate*

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INFORMATION & DISCUSSION ITEMS

11. Federal Priority Issues Update

- *Joe Krahn | Paragon Government Relations*

12. Conflict of Interest Policy Form

- *Jennifer Henning | Litigation Counsel*

Page 22-23

13. Operations & Member Engagement Report

- *Chastity Benson | Chief Operating Officer*

Page 24-26

14. CSAC Finance Corporation Report

- *Supervisor Oscar Villegas | President, CSAC FC*
- *Alan Fernandes | Chief Executive Officer, CSAC FC*
- *Rob Pierce | Chief Operating Officer, CSAC FC*
- *Jim Manker | Director of Business Development, CSAC FC*
- *Corporate Partner Presentation: Amazon*

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15. California Counties Foundation Report

- *Supervisor Susan Ellenberg | President, CA Counties Foundation*
- *Paul Danczyk | Chief Operating Officer, CA Counties Foundation*

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16. California Association of County Executives Report

- *Jason Britt | President, Tulare County CAO*

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INFORMATION ITEMS WITHOUT PRESENTATION

- *2025 Litigation Coordination Program Annual Report*
- *Institute for Local Government (ILG) Report*
- *2026 CSAC Calendar of Events*

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Page 56-59

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4:30 PM

ADJOURN



United States of America
Pledge of Allegiance



California State Association of Counties®

CALIFORNIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

Board of Directors

2024-2025

SECTION

U=Urban

S=Suburban

R=Rural

President:

First Vice President:

Second Vice President:

Immediate Past President:

Jeff Griffiths, Inyo

Susan Ellenberg, Santa Clara

Luis Alejo, Monterey

Bruce Gibson, San Luis Obispo

Members of the CSAC Executive Committee are highlighted for your reference

SECTION	COUNTY	DIRECTOR
U	Alameda County	David Haubert
R	Alpine County	Terry Woodrow
R	Amador County	Jeff Brown
S	Butte County	Tod Kimmelshue
R	Calaveras County	Benjamin Stopper
R	Colusa County	Kent Boes
U	Contra Costa County	John Gioia
R	Del Norte County	Chris Howard
R	El Dorado County	Greg Ferrero
U	Fresno County	Buddy Mendes
R	Glenn County	Grant Carmon
R	Humboldt County	Michelle Bushnell
S	Imperial County	Jesus Eduardo Escobar
R	Inyo County	Trina Orrill
S	Kern County	Leticia Perez
R	Kings County	Rusty Robinson
R	Lake County	Bruno Sabatier
R	Lassen County	Gary Bridges
U	Los Angeles County	Kathryn Barger
R	Madera County	Jordan Wamhoff
S	Marin County	Mary Sackett
R	Mariposa County	Rosemarie Smallcombe
R	Mendocino County	Maureen "Mo" Mulheren
S	Merced County	Scott Silveira
R	Modoc County	Ned Coe
R	Mono County	John Peters
S	Monterey County	Luis Alejo
S	Napa County	Anne Cottrell
R	Nevada County	Heidi Hall

U	Orange County	Doug Chaffee
S	Placer County	Bonnie Gore
R	Plumas County	Tom McGowan
U	Riverside County	V. Manuel Perez
U	Sacramento County	Rich Desmond
R	San Benito County	Angela Curro
U	San Bernardino County	Jesse Armendarez
U	San Diego County	Monica Montgomery Steppe
U	San Francisco City & County	Rafael Mandelman
U	San Joaquin County	Robert Rickman
S	San Luis Obispo County	Bruce Gibson
U	San Mateo County	Noelia Corzo
S	Santa Barbara County	Bob Nelson
U	Santa Clara County	Susan Ellenberg
S	Santa Cruz County	Manu Koenig
R	Shasta County	Kevin Crye
R	Sierra County	Lee Adams
R	Siskiyou County	Ed Valenzuela
S	Solano County	Wanda Williams
S	Sonoma County	James Gore
S	Stanislaus County	Mani Grewal
R	Sutter County	Dan Flores
R	Tehama County	Vacant
R	Trinity County	Ric Leutwyler
S	Tulare County	Amy Shuklian
R	Tuolumne County	Ryan Campbell
U	Ventura County	Kelly Long
S	Yolo County	Lucas Frerichs
R	Yuba County	John Messick

TREASURER

Belia Ramos, Napa County

ADVISORS

Brian E. Washington, Marin County Counsel, County Counsels' Association Past President
 Jason Britt, Tulare County CAO, California Association of County Executives, President



OFFICERS

President

Jeff Griffiths
Inyo County

1st Vice President

Susan Ellenberg
Santa Clara County

2nd Vice President

Luis Alejo
Monterey County

Past President

Bruce Gibson
San Luis Obispo County



CEO

Graham Knaus

December 4, 2025

TO: CSAC Board of Directors

FROM: Graham Knaus, Chief Executive Officer

SUBJECT: CEO's Report

This item provides an opportunity to discuss the state of the Association and core priorities as well as refine the strategic approach to advocacy and communications through Board of Directors input.

CALIFORNIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Thursday, September 11, 2025
10:00am – 2:30pm

[Tsakopoulos Library Galleria](#) | 828 I Street, Sacramento

Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/96532300219?pwd=gcnaxb2MZRLNDIaweQXS5WHyXZs2Ml.1>

Conference Line: (669) 900-6833 | Meeting ID: 965 3230 0219 | Passcode: 648451

MINUTES

1. Roll Call

OFFICERS

Jeff Griffiths | President
Susan Ellenberg | 1st Vice President
Luis Alejo | 2nd Vice President
Bruce Gibson | Immediate Past President

ADVISORS

Brian E. Washington | Marin County Counsel, CoCo
Past President (*absent*)
Jason Britt | Tulare County CAO, CACE President

CSAC STAFF

Graham Knaus | Chief Executive Officer
Chastity Benson | Chief Operating Officer
Justin Garrett | Interim Chief Policy Officer &
Senior Legislative Advocate

EX OFFICIO MEMBER

Belia Ramos | Treasurer, Napa County

Alameda	–	David Haubert
Alpine	–	Terry Woodrow
Amador	–	Jeff Brown
Butte	–	Tod Kimmelshue
Calaveras	–	Benjamin Stopper (<i>absent</i>)
Colusa	–	Kent Boes
Contra Costa	–	John Gioia
Del Norte	–	Chris Howard (<i>absent</i>)
El Dorado	–	Greg Ferrero
Fresno	–	Buddy Mendes (<i>absent</i>)
Glenn	–	Grant Carmon
Humboldt	–	Michelle Bushnell
Imperial	–	Jesus Eduardo Escobar (<i>absent</i>)
Inyo	–	Trina Orrill
Kern	–	Leticia Perez (<i>absent</i>)
Kings	–	Rusty Robinson
Lake	–	Bruno Sabatier (<i>absent</i>)
Lassen	–	Gary Bridges (<i>absent</i>)
Los Angeles	–	Kathryn Barger (<i>absent</i>)
Madera	–	Jordan Wamhoff
Marin	–	Mary Sackett
Mariposa	–	Rosemarie Smallcombe
Mendocino	–	John Haschack
Merced	–	Scott Silveira
Modoc	–	Ned Coe
Mono	–	Jennifer Kreitz (<i>alternate</i>)
Monterey	–	Luis Alejo
Napa	–	Anne Cottrell
Nevada	–	Heidi Hall

Orange	–	Doug Chaffee
Placer	–	Bonnie Gore
Plumas	–	Tom McGowan (<i>absent</i>)
Riverside	–	V. Manuel Perez
Sacramento	–	Rich Desmond
San Benito	–	Angela Curro
San Bernardino	–	Jesse Armendarez
San Diego	–	Monica Montgomery Steppe
San Francisco	–	Rafael Mandelman
San Joaquin	–	Robert Rickman (<i>absent</i>)
San Luis Obispo	–	Bruce Gibson
San Mateo	–	Noelia Corzo
Santa Barbara	–	Bob Nelson (<i>absent</i>)
Santa Clara	–	Susan Ellenberg
Santa Cruz	–	Manu Koenig
Shasta	–	Kevin Crye
Sierra	–	Lee Adams
Siskiyou	–	Ed Valenzuela
Solano	–	Cassandra James (<i>alternate</i>)
Sonoma	–	Rebecca Hermosillo (<i>alternate</i>)
Stanislaus	–	Mani Grewal (<i>absent</i>)
Sutter	–	Mike Zieglermeyer (<i>alternate</i>)
Tehama	–	Pati Nolen (<i>absent</i>)
Trinity	–	Ric Leutwyler
Tulare	–	Amy Shuklian
Tuolumne	–	Ryan Campbell
Ventura	–	Kelly Long (<i>absent</i>)
Yolo	–	Lucas Frerichs
Yuba	–	John Messick

2. Approval of Minutes from April 25, 2025

A motion to approve the Minutes from April 25, 2025, was made by Supervisor Scott Silveira and seconded by Supervisor Trina Orrill. The motion carried unanimously.

3. CEO's Report

Graham Knaus, CEO, provided an update on the Association.

4. Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC)

Tani Cantil-Sakauye, President and Chief Executive Officer of PPIC, provided a report on the Institute's work, and highlighted key policy areas of study, including renewable energy, water, higher education, and aging.

5. Lincoln Institute of Land Policy

George "Mac" McCarthy, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, provided an update on the work of the Institute, focusing on corporate property ownership in California and across the United States, its effects on communities, and the policy and regulatory responses states have adopted in response.

6. CSAC Building Renovation Project

Chastity Benson, Chief Operating Officer, provided an update on the CSAC Building Renovation Project which included a timeline of the project history, the creation of the CSAC Building Advisory Council and the establishment of the California Counties Capitol Building and Museum 501(c)(3).

Jessica Paredes, Interior Designer with HGA, presented the building floor plans and renderings.

Mike Mallory, Principle at coAct 24, discussed the upcoming phases of the project, demolition and construction, and presented a breakdown of the project budget.

Rob Pierce, CSAC Finance Corporation Chief Operating Officer, presented financing options and next steps.

7. Authorize CSAC Executive Committee to review and approve Contractor Agreement and Long Lead Item Purchases

A motion to Authorize the CSAC Executive Committee to review and approve the Contractor Agreement and Long Lead Item Purchases, was made by Supervisor Rich Desmond and seconded by Supervisor Scott Silveira. The motion carried unanimously.

8. Working Group Updates

Child Care Working Group

Supervisor Susan Ellenberg, Child Care Working Group Co-Vice Chair, provided a report on the group's efforts to develop a clear understanding of California's child care system, examining how unmet needs impact counties, both directly and indirectly, with the ultimate goal of identifying where counties might play a role in addressing these challenges.

Supervisor Kent Boes, Child Care Working Group Co-Vice Chair, provided an update on the many speakers that have presented to the working group and referenced several upcoming meetings.

Tribal Platform Working Group

Supervisor Bonnie Gore, Chair of the Tribal Platform Working Group, presented a report on the group's efforts to assess how and whether tribal issues should be incorporated into the CSAC Platform.

9. Legislative Update

The following Legislative Advocates and/or Analysts provided updates on key issues within their respective policy areas:

Administration of Justice

- *Ryan Morimune | Senior Legislative Advocate*
- *Michaela Stone | Legislative Analyst*

Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources

- *Jordan Wells | Legislative Advocate*
- *Caitlin Loventhal | Legislative Analyst*

Government Finance and Administration

- *Emma Jungwirth | Senior Legislative Advocate*
- *Eric Lawyer | Senior Legislative Advocate*
- *Julissa Ceja Cardenas | Legislative Analyst*

Health and Human Services

- *Justin Garrett | Interim Chief Policy Officer and Senior Legislative Advocate*
- *Danielle Bradley | Legislative Analyst*

Housing, Land Use and Transportation

- *Mark Neuburger | Legislative Advocate*

10. California Association of County Executives (CACE) Report

Jason Britt, CACE President and Tulare County CEO, provided an update on several issues including how counties are managing HR-1, rising liability insurance costs, and the high turnover of county executives.

11. Minute Mics: Board of Directors Roundtable

This item was removed from the agenda at the direction of President Jeff Griffiths.

The meeting was adjourned. The next Board of Directors meeting will be held on Thursday, December 4, in Santa Clara County.

Consideration of Building Financing Package

See Attachment



OFFICERS

President

Jeff Griffiths
Inyo County

1st Vice President

Susan Ellenberg
Santa Clara County

2nd Vice President

Luis Alejo
Monterey County

Past President

Bruce Gibson
San Luis Obispo County



CEO

Graham Knaus

December 4, 2025

TO: CSAC Board of Directors

FROM: Graham Knaus, Chief Executive Officer

RE: **CSAC Policies & Procedures Manual Update**

Action Item

Adopt the updated CSAC Policies & Procedures Manual, which incorporates key revisions including updated caucus rules, a new investment policy, and the Board Approved dues structure that had not been previously reflected in the manual.

Purpose of the CSAC Policies & Procedures Manual

The CSAC Policies & Procedures Manual serves as the governance document for the California State Association of Counties (CSAC). It outlines the Association's vision, mission and professional standards; leadership structure; membership categories; rules for elections; policy development and committee operations; and, administrative, financial and operational policies.

The manual is designed to ensure consistency, transparency, and accountability across CSAC's decision making processes. It provides county leaders, affiliate organizations, and staff with a clear and comprehensive guide for how CSAC operates, how policies are set, and how the organization maintains alignment with its mission and values.

Overview of Changes

The updated CSAC Policies & Procedures Manual reflects a comprehensive review of the document to modernize, clarify and better align the Association's governance and operational framework. Important updates include:

- Updated Caucus Rules
 - Updated procedures for caucus representation due to caucus membership changes for the Rural and Suburban Caucuses in 2024.
- Clarification of the Dues Structure
 - Incorporates the previously Board-approved 3% annual dues increase.
- New Investment Policy (*see pages 25-34 of the attached updated Policies & Procedures Manual*)
 - Establishes clear guidelines for the investment and oversight of CSAC's operations and reserve funds.
 - Strengthens fiscal stewardship and ensures consistent, responsible investment practices.
 - Aligns investment authority and decision-making with organizational priorities.

Fiscal Impact

No direct fiscal impact beyond standard administrative implementation activities.



Rural Caucus Meeting – CSAC 2025 Annual Meeting

Wednesday, December 3, 2025 | 4:15 - 5:15 p.m.

CSAC Annual Meeting | Santa Clara County

McEnery Convention Center, Room LL 20A

Conference line for remote participation: (916) 517-4214

CSAC President Jeff Griffiths

Inyo County Supervisor and CSAC Rural Caucus Chair

AGENDA

- I. Welcome and Introductions**
Supervisor Jeff Griffiths, Rural Caucus Chair
- II. ACTION ITEM: Election of CSAC 2nd Vice President**
- III. ACTION ITEM: Election of CSAC Executive Committee Member**
- IV. ACTION ITEM: Election of CSAC Executive Committee Alternate**
- V. Roundtable Discussion**
- VI. Adjourn**

For any questions about the caucus meeting, please call or text Justin Garrett at (916) 698-5751.



Urban Caucus Meeting – CSAC 2025 Annual Meeting

Wednesday, December 3, 2025 | 4:15 - 5:15 p.m.

CSAC Annual Meeting | Santa Clara County

McEnery Convention Center, Room LL 20C

Conference line for remote participation: (916) 517-4314

CSAC 1st Vice President Susan Ellenberg

Santa Clara County Supervisor and Urban Caucus Chair

AGENDA

I. Welcome and Introductions

CSAC 1st Vice President Susan Ellenberg

II. ACTION ITEM: Election of Urban Caucus Representative as CSAC President

III. ACTION ITEM: Election of Urban Caucus Representatives to CSAC Executive Committee

The CSAC Urban Caucus maintains six seats and one alternate member on the CSAC Executive Committee. Los Angeles County holds one of those designated seats as a standing member of the CSAC Executive Committee. Thus, the CSAC Urban Caucus is tasked with electing five Executive Committee members plus one alternate member.

1. Nomination of candidate(s)
2. Candidate statements
3. Balloting – *CSAC Urban Caucus members will undertake a confidential vote on the nominees. The top five vote recipients will be named as CSAC Urban Caucus representatives on the CSAC Executive Committee; the nominee receiving the sixth most votes will be named as the Urban Caucus alternate.*

IV. County Roundtable

V. Adjourn

For any questions about the caucus meeting, please call or text Ryan Morimune at (916) 879-2431.



Suburban Caucus Meeting – CSAC 2025 Annual Meeting

Wednesday, December 3, 2025 | 4:15 - 5:15 p.m.

CSAC Annual Meeting | Santa Clara County

McEnery Convention Center, Room LL 20B

Conference line for remote participation: (916) 517-4217

CSAC 2nd Vice President Luis Alejo

Monterey County Supervisor and Suburban Caucus Chair

AGENDA

I. Welcome and Introductions

CSAC 2nd Vice President Luis Alejo

II. ACTION ITEM: Election of Suburban Caucus Representative as CSAC First Vice President

III. ACTION ITEM: Nomination of Suburban Caucus Executive Committee Member (Group 2)

IV. ACTION ITEM: Nomination of Suburban Caucus Executive Committee Member (Group 3)*

V. ACTION ITEM: Nomination of Suburban Caucus Executive Committee Alternate

VI. Roundtable Discussion – Key Issues in Your County

VII. Adjourn

*Santa Cruz County has submitted a nomination for a new CSAC Board Member. Should the CSAC Executive Committee ratify this change, then the Suburban Caucus will need to elect a new representative to fill the remaining two years of the Group 3 term.

Election of 2026 CSAC Executive Committee

See Handout



RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

County Supervisors Association of California doing business as the California State Association of Counties

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) employs an chief executive officer and other staff to perform its day-to-day business; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires the business of the association to be transacted in an efficient and appropriate manner; and

WHEREAS, from time to time the Chief Executive Officer and Secretary of the Corporation must sign or approve documents on behalf of the Board;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of CSAC hereby authorizes the Chief Executive Officer and Secretary of the Corporation, and his designees on staff, to execute and approve bank and other documents as authorized by the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that this resolution shall remain in effect until the 2026 annual meeting of CSAC, when a similar resolution will be executed by the newly constituted Board of Directors.

Duly adopted this 4th day of December, 2025.

Jeff Griffiths, CSAC President

Adoption of Policy Priorities

See Handout



Administration of Justice (AOJ) Policy Committee

131st CSAC Annual Meeting

Tuesday, December 2, 2025 | 3:00-4:30 PM

San Jose McEnery Convention Center, LL 20B

150 W San Carlos Street, San Jose, CA 95113

AGENDA

Supervisor Bruno Sabatier, Lake County, Chair

Supervisor Mary Sackett, Marin County, Co-Vice Chair

Supervisor Grant Carmon, Glenn County, Co-Vice Chair

3:00-3:05 PM

Welcome

Supervisor Bruno Sabatier, Lake County, Chair

Supervisor Mary Sackett, Marin County, Co-Vice Chair

Supervisor Grant Carmon, Glenn County, Co-Vice Chair

3:05-3:30 PM

Jail Medical

Dr. Lisa Santora, MPH, Public Health Officer, Marin County

Scott Harrington, Captain, Detention Services Bureau, Marin County Sheriff's Office

Scott De Moss, County Administrative Officer, Glenn County

3:30-3:50 PM

California Opioid Settlements

Scott De Moss, County Administrative Officer, Glenn County

Elise Jones, Director, Lake County Behavioral Health Services

Wendy Mondfrans, Chief Probation Officer, Lake County

3:50-4:05 PM

Proposition 36 Implementation Update

Wendy Mondfrans, Chief Probation Officer, Lake County

Francine Byrne, Director, Criminal Justice Services, Judicial Council of California

4:05-4:15 PM

Questions

4:15-4:30 PM

Administration of Justice 2026 Advocacy Priorities

Ryan Morimune, CSAC Senior Legislative Advocate



Scan the QR code to access conference materials



® Agriculture, Environment, & Natural Resources (AENR) Policy Committee
Meeting – Part 1, Agriculture and Water
CSAC 131st Annual Meeting
Tuesday, December 2, 2025 · 10:00 AM – 11:15 AM
San Jose Convention Center, Lower Level 20A
Santa Clara County, California

Supervisor Jessica Pyska, Lake County, Chair
Supervisor Buddy Mendes, Fresno County, Vice Chair
Supervisor Tod Kimmelshue, Butte County, Vice Chair

- 10:00 AM** **I. Welcome and Introductions**
Supervisor Jessica Pyska, Lake County, Chair
- 10:05 AM** **II. Update from California Department of Water Resources (DWR)**
Introduction: *Supervisor Jessica Pyska, Lake County, Chair*
Nancy Vogel, Special Advisor to the Director, DWR
- 10:25 AM** **III. Update from California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA)**
Introduction: *Supervisor Buddy Mendes, Fresno County, Vice Chair*
Christine Birdsong, Undersecretary, CDFA
- 10:45 AM** **IV. Update from Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC)**
Introduction: *Supervisor Tod Kimmelshue, Butte County, Vice Chair*
Letitia Grenier, Director, Water Policy Center, PPIC
- 11:05 AM** **V. Closing Comments and Adjournment**



Access the full committee packet by scanning this QR Code



® Agriculture, Environment, & Natural Resources (AENR) Policy Committee
Meeting – Part 2, Wildfire
CSAC 131st Annual Meeting
Wednesday, December 3, 2025 · 8:45 – 10:00 AM
San Jose Convention Center, Lower Level 20A
Santa Clara County, California

Supervisor Jessica Pyska, Lake County, Chair
Supervisor Buddy Mendes, Fresno County, Vice Chair
Supervisor Tod Kimmelshue, Butte County, Vice Chair

- 8:45 AM** **I. Welcome and Introductions**
Supervisor Jessica Pyska, Lake County, Chair
- 8:50 AM** **II. 2026 Task Force Action Plan**
Introduction: *Supervisor Jessica Pyska, Lake County, Chair*
Patrick Wright, Director, California Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force
- 9:00 AM** **III. From Response to Resilience: Confronting California's Wildfire Reality**
Introduction: *Supervisor Tod Kimmelshue, Butte County, Vice Chair*
Moderator: *Patrick Wright, Director, Task Force*
Jason Kuiken, U.S. Forest Service, Task Force Co-Chair
Bobby Macaulay, Madera County Supervisor, Task Force Member
Anne Cottrell, Napa County Supervisor, Task Force Member
Alan Talhelm, Assistant Deputy Director of Climate and Energy, CalFIRE
- 9:35 AM** **IV. Using Data and Modeling to Drive Decision Making**
Introduction: *Supervisor Buddy Mendes, Fresno County, Vice Chair*
Joe Flannery, Head of Partnership Success, Vibrant Planet
- 9:50 AM** **V. 2026 Priorities (ACTION ITEM)**
Jordan Wells, AENR Legislative Advocate, CSAC
Caitlin Loventhal, AENR Legislative Analyst, CSAC
Attachments: AENR Year in Review, AENR 2026 Legislative Priorities
- 9:55 AM** **VI. Closing Comments and Adjournment**

Informational Item: 2025 Year in Review



Full meeting materials linked here



Government Finance & Administration (GFA) Policy Committee Meeting
CSAC 131st Annual Meeting
Wednesday, December 3, 2025 • 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
San Jose McEnery Convention Center • Room LL20B
150 W San Carlos St, San Jose, California • Santa Clara County

Supervisor Mani Grewal, Stanislaus County, Chair
Supervisor Angela Curro, San Benito County, Vice Chair
Supervisor Anne Cottrell, Napa County, Vice Chair

Agenda

- 2:00 p.m. I. Welcome and Introductions**
Supervisor Mani Grewal, Stanislaus County, Chair
Supervisor Angela Curro, San Benito County, Vice Chair
Supervisor Anne Cottrell, Napa County, Vice Chair
- 2:05 p.m. II. County Veterans Service Officers: Veterans' Local Lifeline**
Senator Bob Archuleta, Chair, Senate Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs
Assemblywoman Pilar Schiavo, Chair, Assembly Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs
David West II, Veterans Services Officer, Nevada County & President, California Association of County Veterans Service Officers
Jim Zenner, Director, Military & Veterans Affairs, Los Angeles County & Legislative Chair, California Association of County Veterans Service Officers
- 2:45 p.m. III. Big Brother or Better Governing? The debate over public data in 2025**
Evan White, Executive Director, California Policy Lab
Charles Loudon, Legislative Director, Assemblymember Chris Ward
Greta S. Hansen, Chief Operating Officer, Santa Clara County
- 3:15 p.m. IV. Unlocking Local Dollars: Creative Revenue Solutions for Counties**
Bobby Young, Director of Client Services, HdL Companies
Karen Lange, Partner, Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange, & Legislative Advocate, California Association of County Treasurers and Tax Collectors
- 3:50 p.m. V. 2026 GFA Legislative Advocacy Priorities – ACTION ITEM**
CSAC GFA Team
- 3:55 p.m. VI. 2025 GFA Legislative Year in Review – INFORMATIONAL ITEM**
CSAC GFA Team
- 4:00 p.m. VII. Closing Comments and Adjournment**

Scan the QR code for digital copies of the agenda materials:





**Health and Human Services Policy Committee Meeting
CSAC 131st Annual Meeting
Thursday, December 4, 9:45 AM – 11:45 AM
San Jose McEnery Convention Center, LL 20A
150 W San Carlos Street, San Jose, CA 95113**

**Supervisor Holly Mitchell, Los Angeles County, Chair
Supervisor Lynda Salcido, Mono County, Vice Chair
Supervisor Rosemarie Smallcombe, Mariposa County, Vice Chair**

Note: This policy committee meeting is an in-person meeting only and is being held as part of the CSAC 2025 Annual Conference.

Agenda

- 9:45 a.m. I. Welcome and Introductions**
*Supervisor Holly Mitchell, Los Angeles County, Chair
Supervisor Lynda Salcido, Mono County, Vice Chair
Supervisor Rosemarie Smallcombe, Mariposa County, Vice Chair*
- 9:45 a.m. II. Navigating H.R. 1 Impacts and the Future of Medi-Cal**
Michelle Baass, Director, California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)
- 10:15 a.m. III. County Indigent Care: Past, Present, and Future**
*Kari Brownstein, Executive Director, County Medical Services Program (CMSP)
Timothy Lutz, Director of Health Services, Sacramento County
Haleigh Mager-Mardeusz, Director of Policy, California Association of Public Hospitals & Health Systems (CAPH)*
- 11:00 a.m. IV. Child Care Working Group Report**
*Supervisor Chuck Washington, Riverside County, Child Care Working Group Chair
Supervisor Kent Boes, Colusa County, Child Care Working Group Vice Chair
Supervisor Susan Ellenberg, Santa Clara County, Child Care Working Group Vice Chair*
- 11:20 a.m. V. Homelessness: Preparing for HHAP Round 7**
Roxanne Wilson, Monterey County, County Homeless Services Director
- 11:40 a.m. VI. 2026 HHS Advocacy Priorities – ACTION ITEM**
CSAC HHS Team
- 11:45 a.m. VII. Closing Comments and Adjournment**
- Informational Item: 2025 Legislative Year in Review**



Full meeting materials linked here



[®] **Housing, Land Use, and Transportation Policy Committee Meeting**
CSAC Annual Meeting
Thursday, December 4, 2025 9:30 am – 11:00 am
In-person: San Jose McEnery Convention Center
Meeting Room: LL20C
Santa Clara County, California

Supervisor Gary Bradford, Yuba County, Chair
Supervisor David Haubert, Alameda County, Vice Chair
Supervisor Wanda Williams, Solano County, Vice Chair

- 9:30 am I. Welcome and Introductions**
Supervisor Gary Bradford, Yuba County, Chair
- 9:35 am II. Assembly Efforts to Solve Declining Gas Tax Revenue**
Introduction: *Supervisor Wanda Williams, Solano County, Vice Chair*
The Chair of the Assembly Transportation committee provides an update on the efforts the Assembly Transportation committee has undertaken to address the declining gas tax revenues that fund the local transportation system.
Assemblymember Lori Wilson, Chair, Assembly Committee on Transportation
- 10:05 am III. Senate Views on the California Housing Needs**
Introduction: *Supervisor David Haubert, Alameda County, Vice Chair*
The Chair of the Senate Housing committee shares her views and goals for housing policy in the state.
Senator Aisha Wahab, Chair, Senate Housing Committee
- 10:35 am IV. County Building Officials of California**
Introduction: *Supervisor Gary Bradford, Yuba County, Chair*
A presentation by the County Building Officials Association of California on the work that Building Officials perform on behalf of counties and the challenges they face.
Neville Pereira, Board of Directors, County Building Officials Association of California
- 10:50 am V. 2026 Housing, Land Use and Transportation Federal & State Priorities- ACTION ITEM**
Mark Neuburger, Legislative Advocate, CSAC
Attachment 1: 2025 HLT Year in Review (Informational)
Attachment 2: 2026 HLT Priorities (Action Item)
Attachment 3: Federal Surface Transportation Reauthorization Priorities (Action Item)
- 10:55 am VI. Closing Comments and Adjournment**
Supervisor Gary Bradford, Yuba County, Chair



California State Association of Counties
Conflict of Interest Policy

Article I
Purpose

The California State Association of Counties (“CSAC”) is a California nonprofit mutual benefit corporation. Members of the Board of Directors (“Board Members”) of CSAC are subject to certain legal obligations in the performance of the duties of their position. For this reason, CSAC is establishing this Conflict of Interest Policy for its Board Members.

CSAC Board Members are required to exercise good faith in all transactions involving their duties, and they are subject to certain obligations not to use their position, or knowledge gained through their position, for their personal benefit. In their dealings with CSAC, Board Members should be mindful of potential conflict of interests.

Article II
Standard of Care

In determining potential conflicts of interest, the following standard of care shall be applicable:

- A. Board Members shall perform their duties in good faith, in a manner they believe to be in the best interest of CSAC, with such care, including reasonable inquiry, as an ordinary prudent person in a like position would use under the circumstances.
- B. Board Members are required in their capacity as members of a Board of Supervisors to receive training on ethics and conflicts of interest that satisfies the requirements of AB 1234. Board Members shall perform their duties in a manner consistent with the principles addressed in this training.
- C. Board Members are entitled to rely on the information, opinions, reports or statements (including financial statements and other financial data) prepared or presented by officers or employees of CSAC, independent accountants, and other experts who provide professional services to CSAC, provided that Board Members believe such individuals are reliable and competent, and that the matters on which they present are within their professional or expert competence. Board Members may also rely on the information, opinions, reports or statements of any committee of the Board of Directors with respect to matters within that committee’s designated authority if Board Members believe the committee merits their confidence. Board Members are entitled to rely on the information, opinions, reports or statements of any person, firm, or committee if, after reasonable inquiry when the need therefore is indicated by the circumstances, they have no knowledge that would cause such reliance to be unwarranted.

Article III
Conflicts and Disclosure

- A. Board Members are necessarily involved in the affairs of other institutions and organizations. Effective boards and organizations will include individuals who have relationships and affiliations that may raise questions about perceived conflicts of interest. Although many such potential conflicts are and will be deemed inconsequential, every Board Member has the responsibility to ensure the entire Board of Directors is made aware of situations that involve personal, familial, or business relationships that could create a real or perceived conflict of

interest. Every Board Member is also a member of a Board of Supervisors for a County in the State of California, and their counties pay dues to support CSAC. Decisions by Board Members related to setting dues for CSAC membership is deemed not to be a conflict of interest. Board Members are required annually to be familiar with the terms of this policy, and to acknowledge by his or her signature that he or she is acting in accordance with the letter and spirit of this policy.

- B. Board Members are required to make a full disclosure to the Board of Directors of all material facts regarding any possible conflict of interest, to describe the transaction, and to disclose the details of their interest. CSAC shall, as appropriate, seek the opinion of legal counsel and such other authorities as may be required, before entering into any such transaction. Before approving a transaction in which a Board Member may have a conflict of interest, the Board of Directors will attempt, in good faith and after reasonable investigation under the circumstances, to determine that:

- (1) CSAC is entering into the transaction for its own benefit;
- (2) The transaction is fair and reasonable as to CSAC at the time CSAC entered into the transaction;
- (3) The Board of Directors has knowledge of the material facts concerning the transaction and the director's or officer's interest in the transaction; and
- (4) CSAC cannot obtain a more advantageous arrangement with reasonable effort under the circumstances.

The Board of Directors must then approve the transaction by a vote of a majority of the Board of Directors then in office, without counting the vote of any director who may have a conflict of interest due to the transaction under consideration.

CALIFORNIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

I hereby certify that I have carefully read and hereby acknowledge receipt of a copy of this Conflict of Interest policy. In signing this Disclosure Statement, I have considered not only the literal expression of the policy, but also what I believe to be the spirit of the policy as well. To the best of my knowledge, information and belief, I hereby certify that, except as stated in the exception below, neither I nor any of my relatives by blood or marriage has any direct or indirect interest that conflicts with the interests of CSAC.

The exceptions are as follows (if more space is required, please attached additional page[s]; if no exceptions, please leave space blank):

If any situation should arise in the future that, as discussed in the policy, may involve me or my relatives by blood or marriage in a conflict of interest, I will promptly disclose the circumstances to the Board of Directors of CSAC.

Name: _____ Signature: _____

County: _____ Date: _____



OFFICERS

President
Jeff Griffiths
Inyo County

1st Vice President
Susan Ellenberg
Santa Clara County

2nd Vice President
Luis Alejo
Monterey County

Past President
Bruce Gibson
San Luis Obispo County


CEO
Graham Knaus

December 4, 2025

TO: CSAC Board of Directors

FROM: Chastity Benson, Chief Operating Officer

SUBJECT: Operations and Member Engagement Report

Accounting

We are pleased to announce that our annual audit has been successfully completed, resulting in an **unmodified opinion**—the highest level of assurance an auditor can provide. This outcome reflects the accuracy of our financial records, the strength of our internal controls, and the collective commitment of our team to maintaining transparency and accountability. A special kudos to the accounting team for meeting all deadlines while managing their daily responsibilities.

Looking ahead, we will soon begin the **FY 2026–27 budget timeline**. The budget process will move through several key stages, including initial planning, drafting, internal review, and final approval. Once the budget is completed, it will be presented to the Executive Committee and Board of Directors for adoption.

From start to finish, this planning-to-approval phase is expected to take approximately two months, allowing us to complete the full process by the end of February. This timeline ensures we have sufficient time to prepare for the Executive Committee meeting and deliver a well-organized and thoroughly reviewed budget.

CSAC Interim Housing Update

We've reached a major milestone in CSAC's largest facilities project to date. The full vacating of our five-story headquarters was completed in two phases, and staff are now operating out of an interim location across two separate suites at 980 9th Street; Suite 380, which houses our print shop and a small number of staff, and Suite 1100 on the 11th floor, where most of our team is based.

This transition has required extensive coordination and project management. Not only in executing the move, but also in establishing operations in a new environment. As part of this effort, we successfully set up the complete network infrastructure in the interim space, retaining all wired and wireless connectivity as well as audio visual functionality that existed in our 1100 K Street location. We've worked in close partnership with property management to navigate a wide range of new amenities, processes, and logistical challenges. The adjustment is ongoing, and staff's flexibility and commitment throughout this process truly reflected the collaborative CSAC spirit.

Meanwhile, our original building is undergoing continued review and analysis for seismic testing and final structural assessments to support the renovation and the planned addition of a 6th floor. We continue to work closely with architects, engineers, project managers, and contractors to shape a modern, functional space that will re-energize staff when we return. We appreciate the continued dedication and collaboration from everyone involved in this transformative effort.

Public Affairs and Member Engagement

During October's Executive Committee Retreat, we led discussions about updates to the Public Affairs and Member Engagement Strategy following up on the EC's direction to staff at the 2023 Retreat.

In Public Affairs, we've crafted and begun to implement a strategy that above all else is a shift in mindset. Instead of reacting to the news, we're working to shape it. Two years later, here's what we're doing differently:

- Our writing and speaking style is now direct and assertive. There's no need to read between the lines when we put out a press release or do an interview. We say what we mean and we mean what we say.
- We're communicating the way regular people do. There's absolutely a time to dive into policy — but not when we're telling the County Story to the public and the press.
- We're meeting the media where they're at. We reach out to reporters proactively with story pitches, and when news breaks, we respond rapidly to ensure counties are not overlooked.
- We're leveraging your voices. At every opportunity, we're turning to our members to make the case for counties... because no one's more effective than you.

Member Engagement unveiled a plan to directly address the top takeaways from a recent member survey, which showed our members seek more connections with us and want to get more involved. We're taking a data-driven approach to connect with members and counties. For example, we'll tailor our engagement approach differently to a county that hasn't been attending our conferences or participating in our policy committees. We're also working to connect our members with policy makers and influencers.

In the coming year, we will work to strengthen our owned and shared media content (website, newsletters, social platforms), and to build out our infrastructure so CSAC, our members and county staff can leverage each other to achieve our shared goals.

New Supervisors Institute Training Curriculum

New Supervisors Institute Training is held every two years. This seminar-based program is designed to equip newly elected County Supervisors with essential leadership skills and knowledge to effectively navigate their roles in county governance. New Supervisors Institute Training was last overhauled in 2008.

We will be reviewing the curriculum and forming a county working group. Along with a facilitator, the working group will focus on ways for curriculum to create additional networking and mentorship opportunities, expand Supervisor's knowledge and procedural base, foster opportunities for leadership and to clarify program materials. This working group will consist of (at minimum) 3 County Supervisors, 3 CAO/CEOs, 1 County Counsel, 1 County Personnel Director, 1 County Clerk of the Board, and CSAC Staff. It's expected for the curriculum to be completed by June 2026.

Site Visits and Regional Meetings

Thank you for the warm welcome and hospitality CSAC received during our Regional Meetings and Site Visits to: Alpine, Butte, Contra Costa, Del Norte, El Dorado, Humboldt, Imperial, Inyo, Mendocino, Mono, Monterey, Placer, Sacramento, San Benito, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Sierra, Siskiyou, Solano, Sonoma, Stanislaus, Trinity, and Ventura Counties, during 2025. Our Site Visits provided a glimpse into the many ways our counties serve their communities and provided CSAC with the opportunity to spotlight that hard work. Regional Meetings provided a place for counties to meet, conduct business and discuss their most pressing issues. We look forward to what 2026 has in store.

Challenge Awards

CSAC and members of the Capitol Community will celebrate the innovative and creative spirit of California's counties side by side at this year's Challenge Awards Dinner. Held on February 11, 2026 this is our time to recognize our Challenge Awards Winners who have developed new, effective and cost-saving ways to provide programs and services-- spotlighting best practices and acknowledging the hard work of county staff in implementing innovative solutions to serve their communities.

2026 Dates to Remember

This year's Legislative Conference will be held in Sacramento from May 20-22, 2026. With this conference falling a week after the governor's "May Revision" budget proposal, Supervisors will have the opportunity to help shape the final state budget through lobbying visits.

CSAC's 132nd Annual Meeting will be held in San Diego County, from November 30 - December 4, 2026. Save the date to join our County Family to collaborate, connect and shape the policies that impact our communities.



December 4, 2025

To: CSAC Board of Directors

From: Oscar Villegas, President
Alan Fernandes, Chief Executive Officer
Rob Pierce, Chief Operating Officer
Jim Manker, Director of Business Development
Chase Broffman, Business Development Manager

RE: CSAC Finance Corporation Report

CSAC Finance Corporation Board of Directors

The CSAC Finance Corporation (CSAC FC) Board of Directors held its Annual Fall Meeting on Thursday November 13, 2025. The meeting entailed approval of the annual independent audit, approval of financials, program updates, and a CSAC building renovation update including the proposed financing plan. Staff is pleased that the CSAC FC Board approved and affirmed the financing plan to be presented to the CSAC Board.

In addition, the CSAC FC Board approved the appointment of Rob Pierce as the CSAC FC Chief Executive Officer effective January 1, 2026. The entire Board and Staff would like to acknowledge and thank Alan Fernandes for over a decade of stellar service to CSAC FC, CSAC, and the counties of California. His leadership has resulted in numerous successes and the development of a very robust and capable staff. Alan has grown CSAC FC's reserves exponentially, created and established countless successful programs and partnerships, the highest CSAC contribution levels in the history of CSAC FC, and most importantly, he placed CSAC FC on a road to continued successes. Alan has left a legacy and lasting impression on the CSAC FC community and although he will be missed, he will certainly be successful in his new chapter, developing and running his own government affairs law firm in private practice. Thank you for all you have done for CSAC, CSAC FC, and the counties of California Alan!

Lastly, the Board reviewed its board membership and terms. The CSAC FC Board of Directors is comprised of 11 directors, each director meeting prescribed criteria designed to ensure that the CSAC FC leadership represents a multi-disciplinary cross section of California government and business. Members of the CSAC FC Board are appointed by the CSAC Executive Committee, for three-year terms, to help ensure a close correlation between the business relationships and services provided to CSAC, California counties, and their constituents. The CSAC FC Board will have three board seats that term at the close of this calendar year. The pertinent seats are an Urban County Supervisor, a county administrator, and one public member.

The current CSAC FC Board, listed below including term dates, has been exemplary in supporting the CSAC FC mission and fulfilling its promise and priorities (the applicable vacant seats are highlighted):

Oscar Villegas (President), Suburban County Supervisor, Yolo County (December 2026)
Graham Knaus (Vice President), Chief Executive Officer CSAC (Term – N/A)
Ryan Alsop (Treasurer), Napa County Administrative Officer (December 2025)

Kathryn Barger, Urban County Supervisor, Los Angeles County (December 2025)

Ed Valenzuela, Rural County Supervisor, Siskiyou County (December 2027)

Miguel Marquez, Public Member – City Manager, City of Pasadena (December 2027)

Matthew Jennings, Treasurer/Tax-Collector, Riverside County (Term – December 2026)

Vernon Billy, Public Member – CEO California School Boards Association (December 2027)

Susan Muranishi, Alameda County Administrative Officer (December 2026)

William (Billy) Rutland, Public Member – Sacramento County (December 2025)

Edward Hill, Chief Operating Officer Fresno County (December 2027)

This topic will be an action item at the December CSAC FC Board call to make a formal recommendation to the CSAC Executive Committee for consideration at its January meeting. If you would like any additional information, please contact Rob Pierce (rob@csacfc.org).

Easy Smart Pay

Easy Smart Pay (ESP) is a joint venture between the CSAC Finance Corporation, the National Association of Counties, the California School Boards Association, and private investors. Launched in the 2018–19 tax year, ESP's mission is to streamline the process of paying government, starting with property taxes.

Growth in both enrollments and payment volume has remained strong, supported by continued county adoption and increased taxpayer awareness.

- As of November 2025, ESP serves **39 California counties**, covering a majority of the state's property tax base.
- ESP now serves **thousands of California taxpayers** each year.
- ESP is on track to process **property tax payments in the hundreds of millions of dollars annually**, reflecting the program's growing role in the property tax ecosystem.

ESP remains a **no hard-cost program for counties** and offers **the lowest credit and debit card transaction rates in the state** for taxpayers. Counties simply provide tax roll data and add a link to ESP on their website.

If you are interested in participating or learning more, our team would welcome an introduction to your county's treasurer-tax collector. An updated visual map of participating counties is attached.

For more information, please visit www.easysmartpay.net or contact:

- **Alan Fernandes** – alan@easysmartpay.net
- **Chase Broffman** – chase@easysmartpay.net

Enterprise Mobility Partnership

At the close of the 24/25 fiscal year, CSAC FC announced a new Business Partnership with Enterprise Mobility. CSAC FC and Enterprise Staff have worked diligently since that time and since our update the entire team is thrilled that this program has resulted in significant gains and has exceeded initial goals and targeted outcomes. The momentum of success with this partnership will stand as a model for our partnerships moving forward and if this trend continues the partnership has the real potential to be one of CSAC FC's most successful programs in relatively short order while providing counties with the lowest rental car rates possible including free additional perks as well as perks to county employees who can enjoy these same rates for personal rentals.

Staff of both entities are currently developing an option to partner with various other associations as a means for further successes for CSAC FC, Enterprise, applicable associations, and their members. Staff is hopeful that current conversations with one association in general will come to fruition this fiscal year.

For more information about this exciting partnership or to find out how your county can benefit from this program please call (916-612-3020) or email Rob Pierce (rob@csacfc.org).

Nationwide Partnership

Both CSAC FC and Nationwide Staff continue to lean into this partnership as we mutually plan and develop ongoing successes. Staff is thrilled to announce that recently, Monterey County awarded its deferred compensation plan to Nationwide after an intensive Request for Proposal process. This was a multifaceted and deliberate process and one that will ultimately benefit Monterey County and its employees. If you would like additional information on how Nationwide can benefit your county and its employees, please call (916-612-3020) or email Rob Pierce (rob@csacfc.org).

Public Square Real Estate, Inc.

CSAC FC is enthused to announce the selection and contract with Public Square Real Estate, Inc. (PSRE) by Glenn County.

PSRE is an exciting partnership formed between Cushman and Wakefield (C&W) and CSAC Finance Corporation (CSAC FC) aimed at providing holistic and comprehensive professional real estate needs to California's counties. The unique nature of this partnership ensures that counties have access to the highest level of real estate services with a unique focus on counties and their needs. While C&W provides unmatched resources and expertise in real estate services, CSAC FC is dedicated to the business of improving public services for counties and their constituents in part by creating and managing innovative public services and products. After nearly two years of due diligence and deliberation, PSRE was formed with these guiding principles and only after input, guidance and authorization of the CSAC FC Board of Directors.

As PSRE was developed to provide essential and comprehensive real estate services to California counties, it was done so with a clear focus to ensure that counties have a service option that puts them first by an organization with individuals that understand counties and the public interest.

If you would like additional information about PSRE, please call (916-612-3020) or email Rob Pierce (rob@csacfc.org).

Corporate Associates Program

The Corporate Associates program is entering its sixth month of the fiscal year with 71 partners across the three levels. Added to the Platinum level this year are the following: **Amazon Business** (Tessa Sullivan) and **ModCorr** (Buddy Johns/Tim Hancock) and **Sellers Dorsey** (Sarah Brooks). At the Gold Level, **Cal Water Services** (Shannon McGovern) has joined. And at the Silver level, we welcomed, **American Fidelity** (Shawn Kelley), **Energy Systems Group** (Ashu Jain), **Genetech** (Joaquín Castañeda), **Indivior** (Pauline Whelan), **Kooth** (Bridget Cecelia), **Optera** (Kayleen Willits), **T-Mobile** (Joanna Soffer), and **6D PMCM** (Teri Cruz).

The Corporate Associates National consulting program has continued to take shape under the leadership of Robbie Bendorf. Staff is currently assisting five state associations: New Mexico,

Tennessee, Michigan, Nevada, and Montana. There is potential interest by other associations that we will continue to explore.

Lastly, we are proud that approximately 100 of our partners attended the CSAC Annual Meeting, an obvious validation of the significance of CSAC, CSAC FC, and the annual meeting. Thank you again for your willingness to engage with our partners in meaningful discussions and opportunities.

The most updated partner roster is attached.

For more information regarding the CSAC FC Corporate Associates Program please visit our website at: (www.csacfc.org), call (916-548-3280) or email Jim Manker (jim@csacfc.org).



Easy Smart Pay

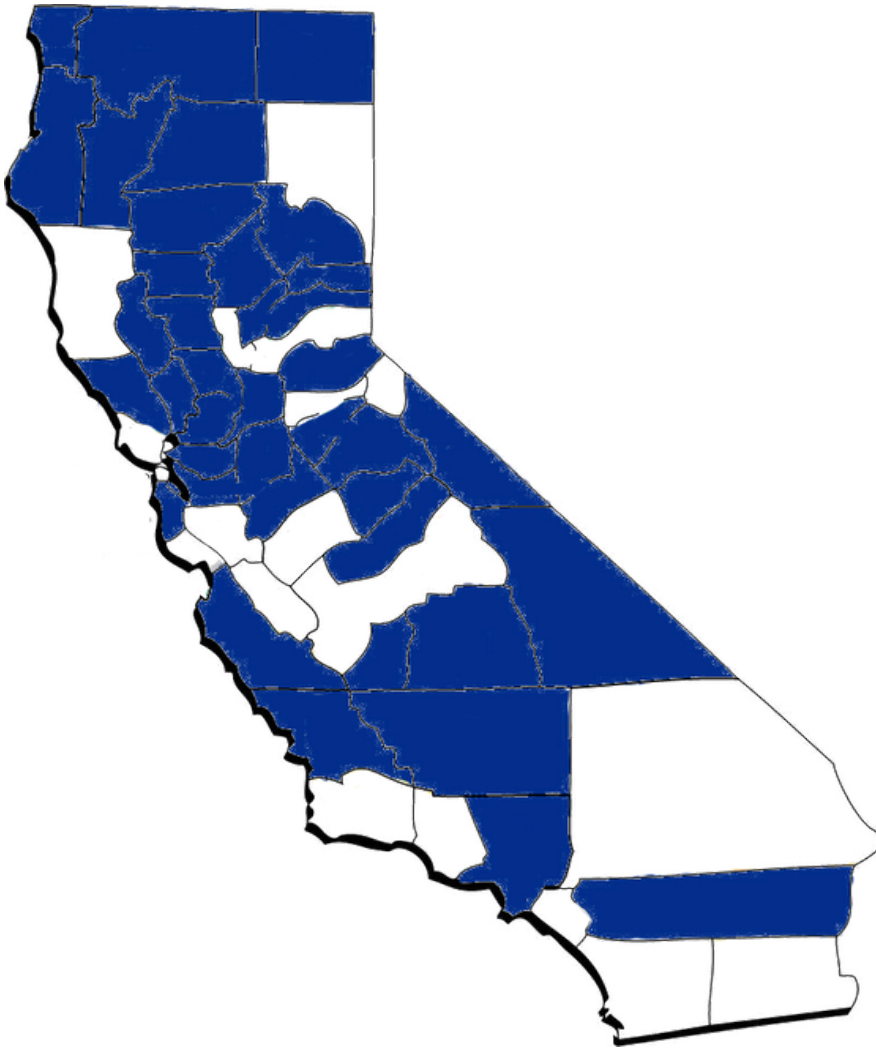
EASY SMART PAY

1017 L Street #451

Sacramento, CA 95814

County Partners Tax Year 25/26

Proudly serving **39** California Counties:



Alameda	Napa
Butte	Nevada
Calaveras	Plumas
Colusa	Riverside
Contra Costa	Sacramento
Del Norte	San Joaquin
El Dorado	San Luis Obispo
Glenn	San Mateo
Humboldt	Shasta
Inyo	Sierra
Kern	Siskiyou
Kings	Solano
Lake	Sonoma
Los Angeles	Stanislaus
Madera	Tehama
Mariposa	Trinity
Modoc	Tulare
Mono	Tuolumne
Monterey	Yolo
	Yuba

Streamlining the process of paying government



PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

CALIFORNIA
Counties

PLATINUM Partners (as of 11.1.2025)

1. Amazon Business

Tessa Sullivan, Sr. Account Executive,
Government
55 Pier 4 Blvd. Boston, MA 02210
(617) 655-8814
sulltess@amazon.com
www.business.amazon.com

2. Amity Foundation

Doug Bond, CEO
3655 S. Grand Ave, Suite 290
Los Angeles, CA 90007
(213) 400-4243
dbond@amityfdn.org
dacuna@amityfdn.org
www.amityfdn.org

3. Anthem Blue Cross

Rob Charles, Government Relations Director
1121 L Street, Suite 500
Sacramento, CA 95814
(530) 930-5351
Rob.Charles@elevancehealth.com
bit.ly/4oDwfE0

4. Aramark

Michelle Bang, Growth Chief of Staff
2400 Market Street,
Philadelphia, PA 19103
(630) 271-2930
bang-michelle@aramark.com
www.aramark.com

5. Baron & Budd

John Fiske, Shareholder
11440 W. Bernardo Court
San Diego, CA 92127
(858) 251-7424
jfiske@baronbudd.com
www.baronandbudd.com

6. Blue Shield

Andrew Kiefer, VP, State Government Affairs
1215 K St. Suite 2010
Sacramento, CA 95815
(916) 552-2960
Andrew.keifer@blueshieldca.com
www.blueshieldca.com

7. California Statewide Communities Development Authority

Felicia Williams, Executive Director
1700 North Broadway, Suite 405
Walnut Creek, CA 94596
(800) 531-7476
fwilliams@cscda.org
www.cscda.org

8. CalTRUST

Laura Labanieh, CEO
1100 K Street, Suite 101
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 745-6701
laura@caltrust.org
www.caltrust.org

9. Deloitte

Vanessa Vacca, Managing Director
1919 N. Lynn Street
Arlington, VA 22209
(949) 375-2579
vavacca@deloitte.com
www.deloitte.com

10. Liberty Vote

Steve Bennett, Regional Sales Manager
26561 Amhurst Court
Loma Linda, CA 92354
(909) 362-1715
steven.bennett@libertyvote.com
www.libertyvote.com

11. DRC Emergency Services

Kristy Fuentes, Vice President Business Development
111 Veterans Memorial Blvd. Suite 1420,
Metairie, LA. 70005
(504) 220-7682
kfuentes@drcusa.com
www.drcusa.com

12. Election Systems and Software

Mac Beeson, VP Corporate Sales
11208 John Galt Blvd.
Omaha, NE 68137
(919) 943-9446
mac.beeson@essvote.com
www.essvote.com

13. Enterprise Mobility

Lisa Holmes, State of CA Contract Manager
150 N. Sunrise Ave
Roseville, CA 95661
(916) 240-1169
Lisa.m.holmes@ehi.com
www.enterprise.com

14. GX Broadband

Ben Korman, Founder
P.O. Box 1869
Morro Bay, CA 93443
(805) 748-6824
ben@gxbroadband.com
www.gxbroadband.com

15. HGA

Dacia Eastin, Associate Vice President,
Business Development
1200 R Street #100,
Sacramento, CA 95811
(916) 715-0455
DEastin@hga.com
www.hga.com

16. IBM

Mike Rockenstein, Business Development
Leader, California
425 Market St. 21st floor
San Francisco, CA 94105
(916) 607-1973
Mike.rockenstein@ibm.com
www.ibm.com

17. Johnson Controls Performance Infrastructure

Wil Minerich, AE
5757 N. Green Bay Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53201
(206) 245-0778
william.churchward.minerich@jci.com
<https://www.johnsoncontrols.com/>

18. ModCorr

Buddy Johns, President
6702 Broadway St.,
Galveston, TX 77554
(832) 829-4262
bjohns@modcorr.com
www.modcorr.com

19. Mosaic Solutions and Advocacy

Matt Cate, Founding Partner
808 R Street Suite 102
Sacramento, CA 95811
(916) 862-4245
mcate@mosaicsol.com
www.mosaicsol.com

20. Nationwide

Rob Bilo, VP of Business Development
492 Robert J Mathews Parkway, Suite 100
El Dorado Hills, CA 95762
(86) 677-5008
bilor@nationwide.com
www.nrsforu.com

21. NextEra Energy

Maggie Vettel, Government Affairs
1 California Street, Suite 1600
San Francisco, CA 94111
(949) 239-4516
maggie.vettel@nexteraenergy.com
www.nexteraenergy.com

22. Pacific Gas & Electric Company

John Costa, Local Public Affairs
1415 L Street, Suite 280
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 584-1885
JB1F@pge.com
www.pge.com

23. Peraton

Julie Waddell, Account Executive
15231 Avenue of Science
San Diego CA 92128
(916) 708-2355
julie.waddell@mail.peraton.com
www.peraton.com

24. PRISM

Rick Brush, Chief Member Services Officer
75 Iron Point Circle, Suite 200
Folsom, California 95630
(916) 850-7378
rbrush@prismrisk.gov
www.prismrisk.gov

25. Prologis

Cornelius Burke, Director of Gov. Affairs
Pier 1, Bay 1 San Francisco, CA 94111
(916) 764-6981
cburke@prologis.com
www.prologis.com

26. Sellers Dorsey

Sarah Brooks, Senior Director
1415 L St., Ste. 1240
Sacramento, CA 95814
(510) 459-6310
sbrooks@sellersdorsey.com
www.sellersdorsey.com

27. SiteLogIQ

Michelle Parker, Business Development
Manager
1651 Response Rd, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95815
(559) 240-4098
michelle.parker@sitelogiq.com
www.sitelogiq.com

28. SLS

Janna Contorno, Division Director
Post Office Box 17017
Galveston, TX 77552
(409) 877-1824
jcontorno@sls-health.com
www.sls-health.com

29. Southland Industries

Desiree Haus, Business Development Manager
1231 Western Ave.,
Garden Grove, CA 92841
(559) 593-3902
dhaus@southlandind.com
www.southlandind.com

30. Vanir Construction Management, Inc.

Onallee Elsberry-Crabtree, Senior Director of
Business Development
4540 Duckhorn Drive, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95834
(916) 208-0065
Onallee.elsberry-crabtree@vanir.com
www.vanir.com

31. Wellpath

Jessica Mazlum, VP Partner Development
WEST
3340 Perimeter Hill Dr.
Nashville, TN 37211
(916) 634-6463
jmazlum@wellpath.us
www.wellpathcare.com

32. Western States Petroleum Association

Jodie Muller, President
1415 L St., Suite 600
Sacramento, CA 95816
(916) 498-7752
jodie@wspe.org
www.wspe.org



PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

CALIFORNIA
Counties

GOLD Partners

1. Alaska Airlines

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Organizational Chart



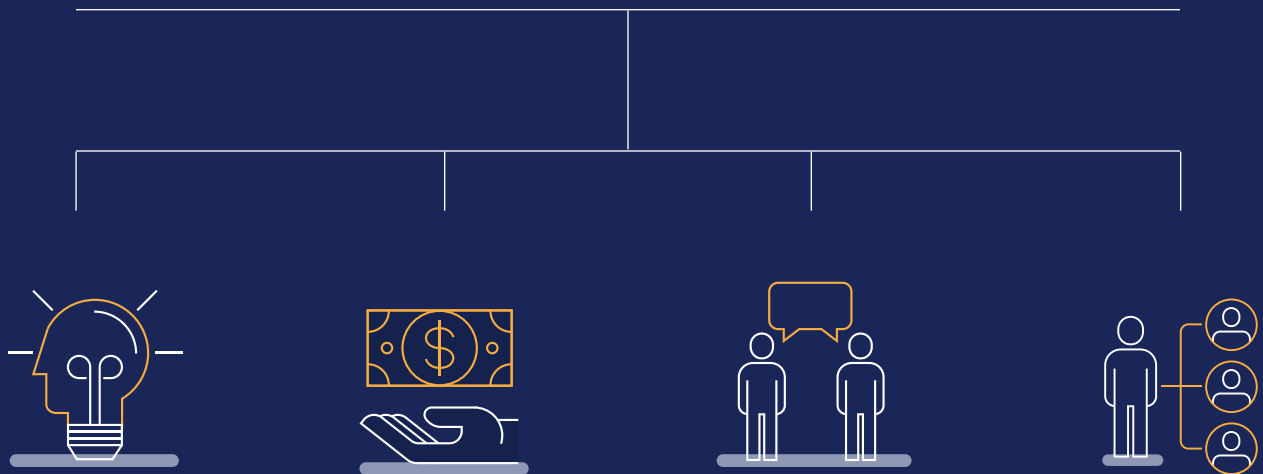


Mission Statement:

To provide a broad array of finance, investment, insurance and purchasing services to benefit California counties and related public agencies.

Commitment & Priorities

“Dedicated to the Business of Improving Public Services for Counties and Their Constituents”



Create and Manage
Innovative Public Services
and Products

Provide Financial
Support to CSAC

Collaborate With
Complementary National
& State Organizations

Maintain Strong
Relationships With
our Service Providers

1100 K Street, Suite 101 * Sacramento, CA 95814 www.csacfc.org



Date: December 4, 2025

To: CSAC Board of Directors
Cc: Foundation Board Members

From: Supervisor Susan Ellenberg, Foundation Board President
Paul Danczyk, Chief Operating Officer

Subject: Report – California Counties Foundation

The California Counties Foundation (Foundation) continues to expand work across the State, reaching all counties through courses at the William “Bill” Chiat Institute for Excellence in County Government (CSAC Institute) and services offered by CSAC Grants Initiative (CGI).

The Foundation expanded its executive services, county campuses, executive leadership programs; and launched a new website.

1. Foundation Website

The Foundation proudly launched a new website at csacfoundation.org, staying consistent with CSAC. The site effectively meets members' needs with improved ease and access. After testing and a soft launch, the site was made public on August 8th.

2. CSAC Institute

The CSAC Institute supports county professional development efforts through high-impact and high-quality executive-level courses. Credentials can either be self-driven or through county and association partnerships.

2025 county partners include: **Humboldt**/Del Norte/Trinity, **Butte**/Colusa/Glenn, **Sutter**/Yuba, **Inyo**/Mono, **Stanislaus**, **Fresno**/Madera/Kings/Tulare, **Monterey**, **Ventura**, **Los Angeles**, and **Orange**/Riverside. (Counties in bold were/are hosts.)

2025 association partnerships include: California Association of County Executives (CACE), California Counties Human Resources (CCHR), and California Counties Information Services Directors Association (CCISDA).



Specialized programs include:Los Angeles County: Executive Leadership Development Program

The Executive Leadership Development Program (ELDP) is a partnership with the Los Angeles County Department of Human Resources (DHR) to provide leaders in Los Angeles with essential skills to transition into higher roles. Two cohorts of 25 began a 15-week program on September 3, 2025.

Cohort participants span across the 38 departments to encourage cross collaboration as they complete group projects, engage in executive coaching, and participate in fourteen courses focused on ten leadership competencies. On December 10, 2025, 46 participants will earn the Los Angeles County Executive Credential at an onsite ceremony.

CCISDA 2025 – 2026 Cohort, Renewed Partnership

Since 2016, the Institute has partnered with the California County Information Services Directors Association (CCISDA) to offer the Technology Executive Credential. 40 participants earned their technology credential and were recognized at CCISDA's 2025 annual fall conference. The Institute and CCISDA entered into a renewed partnership through its 2026 cohort, launched on October 23rd.

HR Directors Institute 2025–2026

The Institute partnered with California Counties Human Resources (CCHR) for the Human Resources Executive Institute 2024–2025 program. Consistent with other Institute credentials, the program was designed with 50+ hours of instruction, inclusive of a four-day residency and elective courses. Participants included 26 HR directors and senior leadership from 17 counties. Graduates were recognized on August 28th during CCHR's conference in San Diego. The Institute and CCHR renewed partnership through its 2026 cohort. The residency will be in Sacramento, May 4 – 8, 2026.

Realignment Training

The Institute offers realignment training twice a year. Spring Realignment was delivered on April 3-4, 2025, in San Bernardino County. Fall Realignment took place on October 2-3, 2025, in Sacramento at the Tsakopoulos Library Galleria.

CAO Executive Institute

The CAO Executive Institute was first launched in 2013 to support CEO/CAO success by fostering professional growth and creating pathways into executive leadership roles. This year's program builds on the formerly titled "So You Want to Be a CAO?" curriculum, enhanced with insights gathered from one-on-one interviews and focus groups. The 2025–2026 Institute includes five modules. The first residency will take place December 10–12 in Sacramento.

Master Classes in Public Service Leadership

The Institute launched four virtual courses exploring public service topics that enhance leadership practices. The Institute partnered with nationally recognized faculty who have a deep understanding of the challenges faced within local government. Topics included cultivating employee resilience, understanding the impact of optimism and gratitude, crafting adaptable solutions in a dynamic environment, and tackling complex problems with evidence-based interventions. The first course was on August 14th and the program concluded on November 14, 2025.

Recent Graduations

Executive Credential Program

42 County of Monterey executives and senior administrators were presented with their CSAC Executive Credential certificates at the County of Monterey's Board of Supervisors meeting on Tuesday, October 14, 2025. Supervisor Wendy Root Askew, Supervisor Kate Daniels, and CAO Sonia De La Rosa, all CSAC Institute Alumni, spoke regarding their positive experiences with the CSAC Institute and the lasting benefits. Supervisor Luis A. Alejo, who serves as Second Vice President on the CSAC Executive Committee and Vice President on the California Counties Foundation Board, gave remarks on the opportunities that the CSAC Institute provides.



Pictured: Monterey County Supervisors: Wendy Root Askew, Glenn Church, Chris Lopez, Kate Daniels, and Luis A. Alejo, CAO Sonia De La Rosa with CCF COO Paul Danczyk and Monterey County graduates.

Technology Executive Graduates

The Institute recently recognized the latest cohort of graduates from the Technology Executive program. At the recent CCISDA Fall Conference, graduates presented their capstone projects, followed by a graduation ceremony. Projects addressed critical county challenges — from artificial intelligence and open-source adoption to modernizing hiring practices and procurement strategies. We applaud their achievement and continued commitment to innovation in public service.



Pictured: Technology Executive Institute graduates with CCF COO Paul Danczyk.

Human Resources Executive Credential Program

On August 28th, CSAC Institute recognized graduates of the inaugural Human Resources Executive Institute 2025 cohort. A total of 26 participants from 17 counties earned the credential. The program is in partnership with California Counties Human Resources (CCHR). The recognition took place at CCHR's Fall conference in San Diego.



Pictured: Human Resources Executive Institute graduates with CCF COO Paul Danczyk.

Institute Onsite Campuses

The Institute continues its efforts to design both onsite campuses and virtual offerings. Campus designs range in intensive approaches through offering ten courses between five- and ten-month time periods.

Programs currently underway include:

1. Monterey County (Cohort 3)
2. Fresno, Kings, Tulare, and Madera counties (hosted by Fresno County)
3. Inyo and Mono counties (hosted by Inyo County)
4. Stanislaus County
5. Glenn, Butte, and Colusa counties (hosted by Butte County)
6. Sutter and Yuba counties

Programs in development include:

7. Shasta, Siskiyou, Tehama, and Trinity Counties (Hosted by Shasta County)
8. San Bernadino County

3. Executive Services

The Foundation offers executive services to support elected officials and senior executives, tailored towards county needs and requests. Services include executive coaching, retreats, seminars, and keynote presenters. Recent initiatives include:

- Stanislaus County: August 18th, leadership summit.
- Trinity County: August - September 2025, board chair multi-rater assessment.
- El Dorado County: August – September 2025, board workshop.
- Legislative Staff Management Institute: August - October 2025, executive coaching.
- City of Ventura: October 16th, executive coaching.
- Glenn County: August 25 – October 10, 2025, executive coaching.

4. CSAC Grants Initiative

The California Grants Initiative (CGI) - a partnership between the CSAC Foundation and The Ferguson Group - continues to support counties as they navigate an uncertain and shifting federal funding environment. Following the federal funding freeze enacted earlier this year by executive order, CGI has remained focused on high-touch, premium services that help counties strategically prepare for competitive opportunities, advance priority projects, and maintain funding momentum during the transition period.

CGI is pleased to report strong and continued engagement across the state:

- New Premium Client: Del Norte County (contract executed August 2025)
- Active Premium Clients: Inyo, Mono, Sacramento (countywide), and Sonoma Counties
- Recent or Prior Premium Service Counties: Humboldt, Imperial, Nevada, San Luis Obispo, and Ventura Counties

Looking Ahead – 2026 Direction

As counties face increased budget constraints and uncertainty around both federal timelines and state-level funding capacity, CGI is proceeding cautiously. The timing and structure of several major federal programs remain unclear, and many counties are reevaluating their ability to pursue external funding at previous levels.

Given these conditions, CGI's priority for 2026 is to stay closely connected to counties, understand how their needs are shifting, and adapt our service model accordingly. Rather than expanding new offerings prematurely, CGI will focus on maintaining essential support; particularly project readiness, strategic guidance, and targeted research, so that counties are positioned to act when funding opportunities eventually stabilize or reopen.



California Association of County Executives

Providing Executive Leadership in California's Counties

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December 4, 2025

TO: CSAC Board of Directors

FROM: Jason Britt, Tulare County CAO and CACE President

RE: Winter Update from the California Association of County Executives (CACE)

As always, I appreciate the opportunity to participate in the meetings of the CSAC Executive Committee and Board of Directors. This memo provides an update from the county administrators and executives statewide on the association's recent activities and future events.

CACE just wrapped up our annual conference in Sonoma County. The meeting featured opportunities for peer-to-peer learning, sharing best practices, and hearing from a variety of speakers on practical, policy-focused matters, as well as leadership and professional development topics. We were grateful to learn from a panel of the executive directors of the County Health Executives Association of California (CHEAC), the County Welfare Directors Association (CWDA), the County Medical Services Program (CMSP), and the California Association of Public Hospitals and Health Systems (CAPH) regarding the impacts of HR 1 on county health and human services programs. We also heard from Graham Knaus and Matt Chase, CEOs of CSAC and NACo, respectively, about the federal landscape and implications of various federal policy decisions. CACE is extremely grateful for the partnerships with CSAC and affiliate associations.

As we close out 2025, I would be remiss not to mention we have significant challenges ahead of us. County administrators continue to grapple with the challenges ahead as state and local government begin to implement the federal government's budget decisions; counties are sharing information, gathering data, and working to develop strategies to not only assess impacts in the near- and long-term, but potential solutions to meet the needs of our residents. We recognize the ongoing need to educate state and local officials as well as the public about what these changes will mean to county operations and the state's health systems, in addition to engaging the state and federal government to mitigate negative impacts. County administrators continue to lead with purpose and commitment to minimizing the impacts to the vulnerable populations in our community.

In addition, our work continues in the following areas:

- Exploring options for ensuring continued provision of jail medical services and for improving counties' engagement in SB 90 mandate process;
- Engaging on matters related to claims against counties that create fiscal liabilities to ensure that effective and practical tools are available to manage county budgets;
- Supporting CACE members through information sharing, networking, and mentoring; and
- Discussing potential opportunities to innovate and collaborate on service provision to our various constituencies.

It has been an honor to serve with you as the President of CACE in 2025, and I look forward to continued engagement with my peers and support of the incoming CACE president in 2026.

2025 OFFICERS

President | Jason Britt, Tulare County
Vice-President | Scott De Moss, Glenn County
Secretary/Treasurer | Dr. Sevet Johnson, Ventura County
Immediate Past President | Jeff Van Wagenen, Riverside County



**CSAC/COUNTY COUNSELS' ASSOCIATION
LITIGATION COORDINATION PROGRAM**

38 YEARS OF SERVICE TO COUNTIES

**CSAC Litigation Coordination Program
2025 Annual Report**

The Litigation Coordination Program is sponsored by the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) and is administered by the County Counsels' Association of California. The Program is directed by a Litigation Overview Committee, consisting of county counsels representing all areas of the state, in conjunction with a Litigation Coordinator with offices adjacent to CSAC in Sacramento. This report is prepared for presentation to the CSAC Board of Directors at the CSAC Annual Meeting held in Santa Clara County on December 4, 2025. It describes the activities of the Program for 2024, its 37th year of service to counties. Amicus case summaries are provided to CSAC Board members at their regular Board meetings.

***COUNTY COUNSELS' ASSOCIATION
LITIGATION OVERVIEW COMMITTEE***

Chair: Tony LoPresti, Santa Clara

Vice-Chair: Tiffany North, Ventura

Adrienne Byers, Los Angeles

Bernadette Curry, Solano

Sarah Edwards, Calaveras

Katherine Elliott, Nevada

Jennifer Flores, Tulare

David Livingston, El Dorado

Charles McKee, Alpine

Rachel Van Mullem, Santa Barbara

William Vanasek, Sutter

Brian E. Washington, Marin

Victoria Wong, San Francisco

Donna Ziegler, Alameda

Jennifer B. Henning, CSAC General Counsel and
Executive Director, County Counsels' Association

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Litigation Overview Committee wishes to acknowledge the help of numerous County Counsels and their deputies throughout the state who have contributed their efforts to the Litigation Program. Distinguished members of the private bar have also graciously prepared, on a pro bono basis, amicus letters and briefs on CSAC's behalf. All court filings are available on CSAC's website at: <http://www.counties.org/csac-litigation-coordination-program>. **A complete list of the attorneys who drafted the amicus briefs for the cases described in this Report is at Page 6.**

In addition to that list, there are many others who contributed time performing research, reviewing draft briefs, and preparing letters to the court. The Committee also acknowledges the League of California Cities' Legal Advocacy Committee and staff, particularly **Sheri Chapman** and **Emily Taylor** at the League of California Cities, and **Arthur Wylene** at the Rural County Representatives of California for their cooperation in cases in which cities and counties share a common interest. The support of CSAC's leadership and staff in referring and consulting on cases is also greatly appreciated.

I. SUMMARY OF LITIGATION PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

A. PROGRAM CASES

ACTIVITY	<u>Closed Cases</u> Nov. 2024-Oct. 2025	<u>Open Cases</u> As of Nov. 2025	TOTALS
Coordinated	1	0	1
CSAC <i>Amicus</i>	36	38	74
Monitor & Alert	5	10	15
2024 TOTALS	42	48	90
INFORMATION ONLY: (Cases Noted in Monthly Updates to County Counsels)			213

B. COUNTIES RECEIVING AMICUS SUPPORT IN 2024-2025 OPEN AND CLOSED LITIGATION COORDINATION PROGRAM CASES

CSAC is honored to have supported the following member counties in one or more cases through its Litigation Coordination Program by filing amicus letters or full amicus briefs in cases that closed this year or are currently pending:

Butte County
Contra Costa County
El Dorado County
Fresno County
Kern County
Los Angeles County
Merced County
Napa County
Nevada County
Placer County
Riverside County
Siskiyou County
San Diego County
San Francisco City and County
San Luis Obispo County
Santa Barbara County
Santa Clara County
Santa Cruz County
Tulare County
Ventura County

C. DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES

The Litigation Overview Committee considers all requests for CSAC amicus participation. A total of 56 amicus requests were considered by the LOC since the last Annual Report. Each case requires extensive review and analysis by Committee members. The Committee also provides guidance to CSAC on legal issues of significance that are not in active litigation. For the Board's information, a description of the Litigation Coordination Program's activities is provided below. Please note that this report was assembled in early-November 2025, and by the time this report is provided to the Board of Directors at the CSAC Annual Meeting, additional developments will most certainly have occurred. County Counsels are informed of such developments as they occur. Readers of this report are encouraged to contact their County Counsel for more information.

Cost Effective Service:

Counties, along with all local public entities, are facing extraordinary challenges to their ability to fund the services they provide. The Litigation Coordination Program is one way that counties may work together to save costs. The information provided to county counsels through this program and through the County Counsels' Association's other activities makes it possible for counties to have accurate, up-to-date information at a reasonable cost.

Coordinated Cases:

The Litigation Coordination Program grew out of the efforts in the late 1980's to defend tax cases in which all or most counties were named defendants in their individual trial courts. The defense of statewide cases is stronger, and costs are much lower, when counties work together, sharing information and effort, and providing a united front. Court resources are used more efficiently as well. Few cases qualify for coordination, but those that do frequently constitute a significant share of the Program's effort.

Support Provided:

Some cases involve multiple counties but are not formally coordinated through the Litigation Coordination Program. In these cases, the Program can assist by providing support to the counties through such means as organizing conference calls about the cases, facilitating the exchange of motions and responsive pleadings, and coordinating court appearances. The support provided by the Program in this type of multi-county is incredibly effective, and saves all counties involved time and money in defending the actions. As this report is being prepared, the Litigation Program is providing support for a coordinated tax matter pending in San Francisco Superior Court.

CSAC *Amicus* (“Friend of the Court”) Cases:

Cases that have been referred to the Litigation Overview Committee (“LOC”) for amicus support come from a variety of sources including county counsels, private counsel, and agencies and organizations working in public law. Those cases in which counties have a clear and unified interest are recommended by the LOC to CSAC for amicus participation. Amicus letters and briefs are generated within the program by staff or members of county counsels’ offices, or are written by volunteer private counsel. In addition, there are opportunities to join in filings submitted by other groups with similar interests such as the League of California Cities. Because counties are involved in such a wide range of activities, litigation involving counties necessarily covers almost every conceivable area of the law. The program has won the recognition of the appellate courts as the voice of counties by maintaining a consistent high quality of effort and appearing only in cases of genuine importance to counties statewide.

Monitor and/or Alert:

Cases in which counties do not have similar interests or which, for a variety of reasons, the LOC has determined do not merit full program support are monitored. Information on such cases is distributed through “Litigation Alerts” and “Litigation Updates” sent to all county counsels. The program provides technical support to counties wishing to participate as amicus where CSAC is not involved.

Cases Noted:

Each year courts decide hundreds of cases affecting public entities. It is important that county counsels keep up to date on the latest decisions. The program prepares monthly “Litigation Updates” to help to identify new decisions and track the progress of cases. Cases are often brought into the program for monitoring or amicus support through this identification process. These updates are also provided to the CSAC legislative staff, and the Litigation Coordinator will highlight for staff the cases that may have an impact on CSAC’s legislative efforts.

**The Litigation Coordination Program gratefully acknowledges
the following attorneys for their contributions in preparing the
amicus briefs filed on behalf of CSAC this year:**

<i>Car Carachure v. City of Azusa</i> Benjamin Fay Jarvis Fay LLP Oakland	<i>City of San Jose v. Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association</i> Justin Cooper and Devin Brennan Orrick San Francisco
<i>Coalition for Pacificans for an Updated Plan v. City and Council of the City of Pacifica</i> Pamela Graham and Andrew Jared Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley PC Los Angeles	<i>Committee for Tiburon v. Town of Tiburon</i> Matt Francois Rutan & Tucker, LLP San Francisco
<i>Conservatorship of EA</i> William Sias Los Angeles County Counsel's Office Los Angeles	<i>County of Santa Clara v. Public Employment Relations Board (case 1)</i> Amy Ackerman and Ryan McGinley-Stempel Renne Public Law Group San Francisco
<i>County of Santa Clara v. Public Employment Relations Board (case 2)</i> Jennifer Bacon Henning California State Association of Counties Sacramento	<i>Di Lauro v. City of Burbank</i> Holly Whatley Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley PC Los Angeles
<i>Disney Platform Distribution Inc. v. City of Santa Barbara</i> Holly Whatley Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley PC Los Angeles	<i>Gilliland v. City of Pleasanton</i> Derek Cole Cole Huber, LLP Roseville
<i>Gluck v. City and County of San Francisco</i> Michael Colantuono Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley PC Grass Valley	<i>Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association v. City of Long Beach</i> Kevin Siegel Burke, Williams & Sorensen, LLP San Francisco

<i>Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association v. Coachella Valley Water District</i> Sean G. Herman Hansen Bridgett, LLP San Francisco	<i>LACERA v. County of Los Angeles</i> Jennifer Bacon Henning California State Association of Counties Sacramento
<i>Long v. City of Exeter</i> Lee Roistacher Dean Gazzo Roistacher LLP Solana Beach	<i>Nyarecha v. County of Los Angeles</i> T. Peter Pierce Richards, Watson & Gershon San Francisco
<i>Ocean S. v. County of Los Angeles</i> Susan Greenberg Santa Clara County Counsel's Office San Jose	<i>Pachote v. Nelson</i> Katie A. Richardson San Diego County Counsel's Office San Diego
<i>Pacific Bell Tel. Co. v. County of Merced Pacific Bell Tel. Co. v. County of Napa Pacific Bell Tel. Co. v. County of Riverside Pacific Bell Tel. Co. v. County of Ventura</i> Michael Slattery Renne Public Law Group San Francisco	<i>Peridot Tree v. City of Sacramento</i> Arthur Wylene Rural Counties Representatives of California Sacramento
<i>Rogers v. City of Redlands</i> Lutfi Kharuf Best Best Krieger LLP San Diego	<i>Sacramento Television Stations Inc. v. Superior Court (City of Roseville)</i> Donald Larkin Burke, Williams & Sorenson, LLP San Jose
<i>San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District v. Setton Pistachio of Terra Bella</i> Jennifer Bacon Henning California State Association of Counties Sacramento	<i>San Luis Obispo Coastkeeper v. County of San Luis Obispo</i> Jeremy Jungreis Rutan & Tucker, LLP Irvine
<i>Tesoro Refining & Marketing Co. v. City of Carson</i> Arthur Wylene and Taylor Kayatta Rural Counties Representatives of California Sacramento	<i>Tindall v. County of Nevada</i> John Castro and Greg Charles Santa Clara County Counsel's Office San Jose

<i>Weselo</i> <i>v. County of Santa Cruz</i> Gary A. Patton Attorney at Law Santa Cruz	<i>Whitehead v. City of Oakland</i> Joel Ellinwood California State Association of Counties Sacramento
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Update on Activities

December 2025

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair

Brett Channing

Assistant City Manager, City of Corona

Vice Chair/Secretary

Lydia Romero

City Manager, Lemon Grove

Immediate Past Chair

Teresa Acosta

Councilmember, Carlsbad

Michele Beal Bagneris

City Attorney/City Prosecutor
Pasadena

Daniel Chatigny

County Executive Officer
County of Placer
CACE Representative

Carolyn Coleman

CEO & Executive Director
League of California Cities

Ruben Duran

Partner, Best Best & Krieger LLP

Yxstian Gutierrez

Supervisor, Riverside County

James Keene

Retired City Manager &
Former CSAC Executive Director

Graham Knaus

Executive Director
California State Association of Counties

Justin Lovell

Director of Administrative Services
West County Wastewater District
MMANC Representative

Pat Martel

Retired City Manager
Cal-ICMA Representative

Antonio Martinez

Director
Contra Costa Water District

Neil McCormick

Chief Executive Officer
California Special Districts Association

Judith Mitchell

Former City Councilmember
City of Rolling Hills Estates

Lorenzo Rios

Chief Executive Officer
Clovis Veterans Memorial District

Johnathan Royas

Deputy City Manager
City of Santa Paula
MMASC Representative

Cindy Silva

Councilmember
City of Walnut Creek

Hilary Straus

General Manager
Citrus Heights Water District

Eddie Valero

Supervisor
Tulare County

ILG: Committed to Supporting California Counties

ILG remains focused on supporting California counties with a wide range of issues they may be facing. From customized trainings to collaborative partnerships to strategic counsel, we apply our 70-year history of local government to meeting the complex needs of CSAC members.

We're constantly evolving our programs, education, training, and support to meet the changing landscape of local government.

Key Highlights

ILG continues to provide technical support, training, and capacity-building to counties across the state in our four pillar areas:

1. Leadership and Governance
2. Public Engagement
3. Sustainable and Resilient Communities, and
4. Workforce Development and Civics Education

Key highlights of our recent work include:

- Honoring **Yolo County** with a Platinum Beacon Spotlight Award for Community GHG reductions.
- Partnering with **Colusa, Imperial, Tuolumne, Modoc, Humboldt, Contra Costa, Alameda, San Luis Obispo, Tulare, Sacramento, and Santa Clara Counties** to provide support in identifying projects and apply for grants related to climate and public health.
- Training staff from **Yuba and Imperial** on meeting facilitation and design.
- Partnering with **Orange County's** Registrar of Voters to conduct community engagement to update their Election Administration Plan.

ILG Adds Expertise in Public Engagement and Sustainability

Grace Person, Senior Program Manager

In October, ILG welcomed Grace Person to the team! Grace will support both our Public Engagement pillar and our Sustainable & Resilient Communities pillar. Grace is a collaborative engagement practitioner with over 10 years of experience helping California communities and agencies with community engagement and public policy facilitation. Prior to joining ILG, Grace worked for CivicWell, the Consensus and Collaboration Program at



Sacramento State, the Vermont League of Cities and Towns, and the Vermont State Legislature. She has facilitated collaboratives, provided technical assistance to underserved and under-resourced communities to access state agency funding opportunities, and helped local municipalities conduct planning processes. Her work has included projects focused on water policy, emergency response planning, disabilities communities' access and functional needs, and organizational strategic planning.

Building County Partnerships

Partnering to Promote Public Health

Through our contract with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), ILG is working with 11 Local Health Jurisdictions (County Public Health Departments) to provide support in identifying projects and apply for grants related to climate and public health. ILG is supporting in project ideation, development, engagement, and grant-writing to support goals in improving air quality, increasing resilience to extreme heat, improving active transportation, and preparing for sea level rise. We are working closely with Colusa, Imperial, Tuolumne, Modoc, Humboldt, Contra Costa, Alameda, San Luis Obispo, Tulare, Sacramento, and Santa Clara counties.

Expanding Career Pathways into California's Counties Through our work with the California Workforce Development Board, the Irvine Foundation, SETA, and the California Community College Chancellor's Office, ILG has been able to engage with numerous counties around workforce development opportunities, including Alameda County, Sacramento County, and Yolo County. In our recent webinar about succession planning, we were able to leverage the insights from a county practitioner Lisa Yapching, HR Division Manager of Compensation and Talent Strategies with the County of San Mateo.

Recent & Upcoming Webinars

Recent Webinars

- [The New Economic Development Is Green...and it comes with \\$\\$\\$
Access the materials here.](#)
- [Boosting Local Budgets: Leveraging Sales Tax and Lesser-known Revenue Streams](#)
- [From Vacancy to Vision: Proactive Succession Planning for Local Government](#)
- [Building Fire-Adapted Communities: A Roadmap for California Leaders](#)
- [Lunch & Learn – Unlocking Housing Solutions: How CEQA Reform Is Reshaping California Development](#)
- [A Look Ahead: How a New Redistricting Map Would Affect Your Agency](#)
- [Measure Twice, Cut Once: Creating the Right Wildfire Risk Reduction Plan for Your Community](#)
- [Controlling Your Own Destiny: a Local Leader's Toolbox for Reducing Wildfire Risk](#)
- [Managing Across Generations: Building Stronger Local Government Teams](#)

Upcoming Webinars & Trainings

We are currently working to schedule webinars on community engagement, open meeting law updates, and ballot measure dos and don'ts in the coming months.

Help Us Build Our Training Schedule & Resource Library

We're building out our training calendar and priority projects for 2026. If you have ideas or suggestions for publication updates, webinars, or workshops, please reach out to ILG's Communications Manager Jon Barilone at jbarilone@ca-ilg.org.

New Brand and Website Coming Soon!

Team ILG is currently working on a new website and brand refresh that will be unveiled in early 2026 in alignment with our 70th anniversary. Stay tuned for our new look, and special announcements to celebrate this milestone!

ILG Board Meetings

ILG's Board of Directors met in September and November to embark on a strategic planning conversation. These conversations will continue over the coming months. The final Board meeting of the year will take place Monday, December 15.

To learn more about our programs and resources:

- Visit our website at www.ca-ilg.org
- Connect with us through our monthly [newsletter](#)
- Connect with us on social media through [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#), and [YouTube](#)

California State Association of Counties

2026 Calendar of Events

Updates are highlighted below

JANUARY

- 1 New Year's Day
- 19 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- 22 CSAC Executive Committee Meeting | Sacramento County

FEBRUARY

- 4-6 Executive Committee Leadership Forum | San Diego County (Torrey Pines)
- 11 Challenge Awards Dinner | Sacramento County
- 12 CSAC Board of Directors Meeting | Sacramento County
- 16 Presidents Day
- 21-24 NACo Legislative Conferences | Washington D.C.

MARCH

- 11-12 CSAC Executive Committee Meeting | LA County
- 31 Cesar Chavez Day

APRIL

- 8-9 CSAC Board of Directors Retreat | San Diego County

MAY

- 3-5 CSAC Finance Corp. Spring Meeting | Maui County, Hawaii
- 5-8 Western Interstate Region (WIR) Conference | Maui County, Hawaii
- 20-22 CSAC Legislative Conference | Sacramento County
- 21 CSAC Board of Directors Meeting | Sacramento County
- 25 Memorial Day

JUNE

- 19 Juneteenth

JULY

- 3 Independence Day (observed)
- 17-20 NACo Annual Conference | Orleans Parish, New Orleans, LA

AUGUST

- 20 CSAC Executive Committee Meeting | Sacramento County

SEPTEMBER

- 7 Labor Day
- 17 CSAC Board of Directors Meeting | Sacramento County

OCTOBER

- 7-9 Executive Committee Retreat | TBD
- 12 Indigenous Peoples Day
- TBD CSAC Finance Corp. Fall Meeting

NOVEMBER

- 11 Veterans Day
- 26 Thanksgiving Day

DECEMBER

- 11/30-12/4 CSAC 132nd Annual Meeting | San Diego County
- 3 CSAC Board of Directors Meeting | San Diego County
- 16-18 Officers Retreat | TBD
- 25 Christmas Day