

ACSS QUARTERLY

★ SPECIAL EDITION ★

Q1 2025

Winds of Change

*ACSS welcomes a new President,
Board of Directors and Statewide Officers*

ACCSS held its 14th triennial Delegate Assembly in Sacramento on October 10th through 13th. Delegates, who were elected by the members earlier this year, reviewed Association business, voted on policy changes, and elected a new Board of Directors as well as Statewide Officers.

The new Board of Directors will serve a three-year term from 2024 - 2027. The Board of Directors plays an important role in the Association by overseeing ACSS programs, implementing policies and strategizing the best actions to benefit the members of the Association. New Chapter Officers were also sworn in at Delegate Assembly and will serve a three-year term. Chapter Officers serve as stewards of each Chapter and actively manage chapter business and coordinate member activities within their Chapters.

On October 13, the newly-elected Board of Directors met for the first time. At that meeting, the Board elected new ACSS Statewide Officers. The Statewide Officers operate at the highest level of the Association and are involved in executive-level decision-making processes. The new Statewide Officers were sworn into office by ACSS President Emeritus Frank Ruffino.

The new Statewide Officers are:


President – Nina Thomas

Executive Vice President – Millie Barajas-Waters

VP of Governmental Affairs – Christina Shupe

VP of Membership Development – Michael Bonner

Secretary/Treasurer – Tim Skillman

We welcome the new Chapter Officers, Board of Directors and Statewide Officers as fresh energy to move the Association in a positive direction and as an integral part of ACSS Leadership. 



ACSS President Emeritus Todd D'Braunstein hands the gavel to the new ACSS President, Nina Thomas.

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Your new Board Members & Chapter Officers

Chapter 502

1,149 members - Northern CA

President: Alice Kindarara, *Covered CA*

Vice President: Bill Feigles, *CalTrans*

Secretary/Treasurer: Stephen Stromberg, *CalTrans*

Board Members:

Bobby Dutta, *High Speed Rail*

Vincent Santucci, *Dept. General Services*

Chapter 503

5,237 members - Sacramento/Yolo

President: James Teahan, *Governor's Office of Business & Economic Development*

Vice President: Janice Nishimoto, *CDCR*

Secretary/Treasurer: *Vacant*

Board Members:

Emmanuel Amanfor, *CDCR*

Millie Barajas-Waters, *Dept. of Technology*

Michael Bonner, *PUC*

Amal Kattan-Handal, *PUC*

Ben Shelton, *CalTrans*

Christina Shupe, *Water Resources Board*

Tim Skillman, *CalPERS*

Chapter 504

722 members - North Bay Area and Coast

President: Santiago Serrato, *DSH*

Vice President: Revy Libatique, *CDCR*

Secretary/Treasurer: Monic Grueso, *DSH*

Board Member: Kelsay Shackelford, *Dept. Cannabis Control*

Chapter 505

616 members - Bay Area

President: Jie Wang, *CDPH*

Vice President: Barry Love, *CalTrans*

Secretary/Treasurer: *Vacant*

Board Member: Tina Allen, *High Speed Rail*

Chapter 507

305 members - Central Coast

President: Nicole Stewart, *CHP*

Vice President: Thomas Jacob, *Victims Comp & Gov't Claims Board*

Secretary/Treasurer: Teletha Taylor, *CHP*

Board Member: Elim Carpenter, *CDCR*

Chapter 508

547 members - Northern San Joaquin Valley

President: Kedric Nalls, *CDCR*

Vice President: MeShan Rachal, *EDD*

Secretary/Treasurer: LaChelle Adams, *EDD*

Board Member: Lynn White, *CDCR*

Chapter 509

1,140 members - Southern San Joaquin Valley

President: Marlena Scherer, *CDCR*

Vice President: Carla Pimentel, *CDCR*

Secretary/Treasurer: *Vacant*

Board Members:

Abdou Iyagarou, *Covered CA*

Nina Thomas, *CDCR*

Chapter 511

1,039 members - Los Angeles

President: Dionne Faulk, *Dept. Toxic Substances Control*

Vice President: Deborah Lambert, *EDD*

Secretary/Treasurer: Tahnda Bailey, *CalTrans*

Board Member: Susan DeJesus, *CDTFA*

Chapter 512

347 members - Santa Maria Valley, Ventura

President: Elaine Marshall, *DOJ*

Vice President: *Vacant*

Secretary/Treasurer: *Vacant*

Board Member: Lynn Medart, *CDPH*

Chapter 513

698 members - San Diego, Orange Co.

President: Maheshinder Kaler, *CDTFA*

Vice President: Maria Shimohara, *Dept. Financial Protection & Innovation*

Secretary/Treasurer: Jose Gonzalez, *CDPH*

Board Member: Glenn Ilustrisimo, *DHCS*

Chapter 514

896 members - San Bernardino, Riverside

President: Sjoekje Sasbone, *DSH*

Vice President: Raymond Nguyen, *DSH*

Secretary/Treasurer: Robert Brodie, *DSH*

Board Member: Todd D'Braunstein, *DSH*

(If you would like to fill one of these vacancies, please email acss@ACSS.org.)



ACSS Board of Directors. Top row from left to right: Glenn Ilustrisimo, Todd D'Braunstein, Susan DeJesus, Michael Bonner, Christina Shupe, Lynn White, Vincent Santucci, Abdou Iyagarou. Bottom row from left to right: Ben Shelton, Tim Skillman, Millie Barajas-Waters, Lynn Medart, Tina Allen, Bobby Dutta, Nina Thomas, Amal Kattan-Handal.

Letter from the President

I would like to express my gratitude to all of the members of ACSS and especially those who participated in Delegate Assembly. I am proud of the Delegate's participation in adopting changes to the Association's policies and appointing a new Board of Directors. The new Board of Directors consists of 19 members, 5 of whom were first time Delegate Assembly attendees!

I am honored to be elected by the Board of Directors as ACSS's President. I want to thank our outgoing president, Todd D'Braunstein for his continued dedication to seeing ACSS grow numerically and in political strength. I fully intend to take him and his predecessor, Frank Ruffino, up on their offers to provide support and guidance as I adapt to my new role.

We look forward to carrying the enthusiasm and comradery experienced at Delegate Assembly into our continued efforts to effectively implement our Strategic Plan Goals to benefit the members: increase membership, build member engagement, sustain legislative and advocacy successes, and strengthen the organization.

We take seriously the charge to appropriately represent all 12,000+ members of our Association. In order to accomplish this, the Board of Directors is committed to ensuring two-way communication, transparency and accountability. We aim to continue ACSS's outstanding representation and political programs while expanding opportunities for member input and meaningful engagement.

I look forward to listening to you and serving you well over the next three years.



Nina Thomas
ACSS President



ACSS Statewide Officers, left to right: Michael Bonner, Millie Barajas-Waters, Nina Thomas, Christina Shupe, Tim Skillman

Lobby Day is Coming Up!

Do you want to get more involved with Political Action?

Lobby Day is happening this year on **March 18 & 19, 2025**. Lobby Day is an invitation-only event where select ACSS Members march into the State Capitol Buildings and educate legislators about the issues that affect the careers of excluded employees. This is what ACSS is all about! It is a unique opportunity where you get to sit face-to-face with your Assemblymen and Senators and discuss important issues.

If you would like to be part of this experience, contact your Chapter President or Board Member. Members will be selected to attend Lobby Day in January 2025. (www.ACSS.org/Chapters)

ACSS LOBBY DAY



For more information on Lobby Day, visit www.ACSS.org/LobbyDay.

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April 5, 2025



ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA STATE SUPERVISORS

3000 Advantage Way, Suite 210
Sacramento, CA 95834

FIRST CLASS
PERMIT

First Name Last Name

Address 1

Address 2

City, State ZIP

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Scholarships from the CSEA Foundation

The CSEA Foundation is a non-profit, charitable corporation created to fund Scholarships and Disaster Grants to CSEA affiliate members, dependents, spouses and grandchildren (ACSS, CSR, CSUEU, SEIU Local 1000 and UAW Local 2350).

The CSEA Foundation believes that education bears enormous potential to initiating change in students as they play a significant role in shaping the world's future. We believe that every act, even a small one, can help turn the world into a better place.

To apply, visit www.CSEAFoundation.org.

Applications are due by **April 5, 2025!**



To learn more about the CSEA Foundation, visit www.cseafoundation.org

CONTACT US

3000 Advantage Way
Suite 210
Sacramento, CA 95834

(800) 624-2137 | (916) 326-4257

www.ACSS.org

acss@ACSS.org

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