
PARTICIPANTS

Mark Baldassare is president and CEO of the Public Policy Institute of California, where he holds the Arjay and Frances Fearing Miller Chair in Public Policy. He is a leading expert on public opinion and survey methodology, and has directed the PPIC Statewide Survey since 1998. He has authored ten books and numerous reports on elections, voter behavior, and political and fiscal reform. He often provides testimony before legislative committees and state commissions, and regularly hosts PPIC's Speaker Series. Previously, he served as PPIC's director of research. Before joining PPIC, he was a professor of urban and regional planning at the University of California, Irvine. He has conducted surveys for the *Los Angeles Times*, the *San Francisco Chronicle*, and the California Business Roundtable. He holds a PhD in sociology from the University of California, Berkeley.

Tani Gorre Cantil-Sakauye is Chief Justice of California. After being appointed by Governor Schwarzenegger and retained by voters in a statewide election, she was sworn into office on January 3, 2011, as the first Asian-Filipina-American and the second woman to serve as chief justice. She chairs the Judicial Council of California—the administrative policymaking body of state courts—and the Commission on Judicial Appointments. Before her appointment to the California Supreme Court, she served for more than twenty years in California appellate and trial courts. She received her JD and BA from the University of California, Davis.

Antonia Hernández is president and CEO of the California Community Foundation. She has expanded the foundation's activities with new initiatives in civic engagement and community development. Previously, she was president and general counsel of the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, a nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting the civil rights of the nation's Latinos. She serves as a board member of several organizations, including the American Automobile Association, the Automobile Club of Southern California, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, Council on Foundations, and Grameen America. She holds a JD and BA from the University of California, Los Angeles.

Alex Padilla is California Secretary of State. He is focused on modernizing the office, increasing voter registration and participation, and strengthening voting rights. Before he was inaugurated in January 2015, he represented the San Fernando Valley region of Los Angeles in the California State Senate. As a senator he chaired the Senate Committee on Energy, Utilities, and Communications, shepherding legislation to combat climate change. He also authored laws to address childhood obesity, the college transfer process, and K–12 funding. He began his career in public service by winning a seat on the Los Angeles City Council, and later served three terms as council president. He is past president of the National Association of Latino Elected Officials (NALEO), and was the first Latino to serve as president of the California League of Cities. He graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology with a degree in mechanical engineering.