



Los Angeles Area
Chamber of Commerce

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NEWS RELEASE

Chamber Reorganizes Internally With Emphasis on Public Policy

The Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce has expanded its Public Policy Division in order to heighten the organization's attention to regional policy issues. The newly enlarged department includes two new Public Policy Managers and a Policy Analyst to compliment the Chamber's existing policy staff.

"I believe the expansion of the policy division positions the Chamber to be the gatekeeper on behalf of its' 1200-plus business members at all levels of government" said Chamber President & CEO Rusty Hammer.

The re-organization also includes the promotion of former Public Policy Manager, **Robyn Ritter Simon** to a newly created position at the Chamber of Vice President of Marketing & Communications. Ritter Simon will oversee external and internal communications for the organization and serve as the Chamber's liaison to the community.

Former state Legislative Aide **Brendan Huffman** joins the Chamber as a lobbyist specializing in City and State government. As a District Director for former Assemblymember Wally Knox, Huffman worked extensively on environmental and economic issues, and serves on the boards of several community organizations including the Los Angeles Citizens' Unit for Participation in Housing and Community Development.

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Chamber Reorganization

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Former Associate Director for Domestic Policy for President George W. Bush, **Marisa Medrano Perez** joins the Chamber's policy team specializing in transportation, health care and education. Prior to her work in the White House, Perez was a Budget Advisor to then-Governor George W. Bush. She accompanied President Bush to Washington D.C. following his victory in November 2001 to work on domestic issues. She also served as a Transportation Policy Analyst for former Los Angeles Mayor Richard J. Riordan.

Louis R. Reyes joins the policy team as a Policy Analyst tracking local, state and federal legislation. Reyes provides analysis on Chamber initiatives and drafts policy legislative briefs for the Chamber's seven policy committees.

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The Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce gratefully acknowledges the support of The Diamond Club members: Bank of America; ChevronTexaco Corporation; Hewlett Packard Company; Los Angeles Times; SBC Pacific Bell; Southern California Edison; The Gas Company, a Sempra Energy utility; and Wells Fargo.