

Assembly California Legislature

Joint Informational Hearing

Assembly Health and Judiciary Committees

The Lanterman-Petris-Short Act: How Can it be Improved?

Wednesday, December 15, 2021 – 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

State Capitol, Room 4202

BIOGRAPHIES

Kim Lewis, *Managing Attorney*, National Health Law Program

Kimberly Lewis is the Managing Attorney of the National Health Law Program's Los Angeles offices. Kim works on state and national health care issues, including Medicaid and health reform implementation, by engaging in policy and administrative advocacy, impact litigation and technical assistance and training to state advocates. Kim has worked to improve access to quality health care for people who are marginalized in California for more than two decades, including 10 years as an advocate in the mental health system. Kim serves as co-counsel on a number of class action lawsuits concerning Medicaid recipients' access to coverage and health services. In particular, she has focused on mental health services under Medicaid's mandate for children, the Early and Periodic, Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment obligation, requiring the provision of home and community-based services and supports. She is also a member of the California Health & Human Services Agency Behavioral Health Task Force. Before joining NHeLP, she was a senior health attorney at the Western Center on Law & Poverty, where she was responsible for statewide advocacy on behalf of direct legal services programs in California serving low-income individuals and families. Kim is a graduate of the University of San Diego School of Law.

Corey Hashida, *Fiscal & Policy Analyst*, Legislative Analyst's Office

Corey Hashida has been a Fiscal and Policy Analyst at the Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO)—the California Legislature's designated nonpartisan fiscal and policy advisor—since August 2019. At the LAO, Mr. Hashida specializes in health care issues, with a particular focus on Medi-Cal (California's state Medicaid program) with emphasis in physician and clinic issues, mental health and substance use disorder programs, and dental care. Mr. Hashida also covers overall behavioral health issues, the Department of State Hospitals, and health care workforce development issues for the LAO. He holds a Master of Public Policy degree from the University of Southern California.

Janelle Ito-Orille, *Division Chief, Licensing and Certification*, Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)

Janelle Ito-Orille has over 13 years of State of California experience, and is currently serving as the Division Chief of the Licensing and Certification Division for the Department of Health Care Services. In this capacity, she is responsible for engaging with various stakeholders on local issues brought forward by constituents; implementing licensing policy and clinical Substance

Use Disorder changes; monitoring budgets and expenditures; and conducting on-site and virtual technical assistance. Prior to this, Janelle served as a Branch Chief for Licensing and Complaints in the Substance Use Disorder Compliance Division. As the Division Chief, Janelle serves as the central point for planning, implementing, and evaluating program policy on all matters related to behavioral health licensing and certification. Janelle earned her Master's Degree in Counseling, Community Specialization, and Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from the California State University, Sacramento.

Marlies Perez, *Division Chief, Community Services Division, DHCS*

Marlies Perez has been a Division Chief with the Department of Health Care Services since May 2013 and at the state level in behavioral health since 2001. Currently, Ms. Perez leads the Community Services Division (CSD) which is charged with policy development, oversight, compliance, and monitoring of the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Programs and Children's Therapeutic Care Programs. Additionally, CSD administers several grants through the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration including; the Substance Abuse Block Grant and the Community Mental Health Services Block Grant. Other programs CSD oversees are behavioral health prevention and family services and Proposition 64 youth Substance Use Disorder prevention funding. Ms. Perez has a Bachelor's Degree in international relations and Master's Degree in organizational management.

Kelechi Ubozoh, *Mental Health Consultant & Co-Editor of We've Been Too Patient*

Kelechi Ubozoh is a Nigerian-American writer, mental health consultant, and facilitator with nearly a decade of experience working in the California mental health system in the areas of research and advocacy, community engagement, suicide prevention, and peer support. Her book with LD Green, *We've Been Too Patient* elevates marginalized voices of lived experience who have endured psychiatric mistreatment and uplifts stories of peer support, radical healing, and trauma-informed care. *We've Been Too Patient* is now featured in curriculum at Boston University, New York University, and Cal State East Bay. Her story of surviving a suicide attempt is also featured in *O*, The Oprah Magazine, CBS This Morning with Gayle King, and The S Word documentary. Last year, she presented at the Yale School's inaugural Mental Health Symposium and dedicated her time to facilitating healing-centered spaces for Black employees to respond to the ongoing racialized violence toward the Black community.

Keris Myrick, *Mental Health Consultant; Executive Committee Member, National Association of Peer Specialists*

Keris Jän Myrick is a Director at the Jed Foundation and Co-Director of The Mental Health Strategic Impact Initiative (S2i) which aims to advance the transformation of mental health by catalyzing cross-sectional reforms, strengthening collaborations, and bridging gaps. She serves on the Board of the National Association of Peer Specialists (N.A.P.S.) and is a Certified Personal Medicine Coach. Ms. Myrick previously held positions as the Chief, Peer and Allied Health Professions for the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health, the Director of the Office of Consumer Affairs for the Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS) of the United States Health and Human Services' Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), President and CEO of Project Return Peer Support Network, a Los Angeles-based, peer-run nonprofit and the Board President of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI). Ms. Myrick is a leading mental health advocate and executive, known for her innovative and

inclusive approach to mental health reform and the public disclosure of her personal story. Ms. Myrick has over 15 years of experience in mental health services innovations, transformation, and peer workforce development. In June 2021, Ms. Myrick was the recipient of Mental Health America's highest honor the Clifford W. Beers Award. Ms. Myrick's personal story was featured in the New York Times series: Lives Restored, which told the personal narratives of several professionals living with mental health issues. Ms. Myrick is an in-demand national trainer and keynote speaker, and authored several peer reviewed journal articles and book chapters. She is known for her collaborative style and innovative "whole person" approach to mental health care and is a podcast host of "Unapologetically Black Unicorns" which centers on lived experience, race equity and mental health change agents. Ms. Myrick has a Master of Science degree in organizational psychology from the California School of Professional Psychology of Alliant International University. Her Master of Business Administration degree is from Case Western University's Weatherhead School of Management.

Elaine Howle, *State Auditor*, California State Auditor (CSA)

For over 20 years, Elaine M. Howle has served as the California State Auditor. Under her leadership, the State Auditor's Office provides objective assessments of state and local government entities. Ms. Howle has nearly 38 years of auditing, management, and leadership experience with the California State Auditor's Office and its predecessor office. A trusted voice, Ms. Howle is frequently called upon to provide testimony in legislative hearings and to brief members on the results of her office's work. She has received various national awards and serves on various committees for national organizations. Ms. Howle is a certified public accountant and a certified government financial manager. She earned a Bachelor's Degree in sports management from the University of Massachusetts and a Master's of Business Administration from California State University, Sacramento.

Bob Harris, *Audit Principal*, CSA

Bob Harris is an Audit Principal with the California State Auditor's Office where he has worked for the past ten years. In that capacity, Bob oversees teams of performance auditors reviewing a wide range of policy areas in state and local government, including health care, education, and criminal justice. He joined the State Auditor's Office in 2010 after graduating from Pepperdine University's School of Public Policy with a Master's degree in Public Policy.

Alex Hawthorne, *Vice President – State Relations and Advocacy*, California Hospital Association

In his role as Vice President of State Relations & Advocacy, Alex represents California's hospitals and health care systems before the state legislative and administrative branches. In addition to his work on behavioral health, his portfolio of issues also includes managed care contracting, hospital governance and operations, and labor relations.

Veronica A. Kelley, *DSW, LCSW, Director*, San Bernardino County Department of Behavioral Health/*Past President*, County Behavioral Health Director's Association

Dr. Veronica A. Kelley, DSW, LCSW, is the Director for the San Bernardino County Department of Behavioral Health where she oversees the daily operations for both Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Services. She is a Council Member to the California Behavioral Health Planning Council, Board Member to the California Mental Health Services Authority and

Associate Member to the American Society of Addiction Medicine. In August of 2019 she was appointed by Governor Newsom to serve as a member of the No Place Like Home Program Advisory Committee. Dr. Kelley is a Professor at Mount St. Mary's University teaching in the undergraduate Social Work/Sociology/Gerontology and Film Department, an Adjunct Faculty in the Master of Social Work Program at Loma Linda University Department of Social Work and Social Ecology, and a Contract Instructor at California State University, San Bernardino, teaching Social Work with Alcohol and Drug Abuse. She earned her Doctor of Social Work from Capella University, her Masters in Social Work from the University of Southern California, and her Bachelor's of Science Degree in Psychology and Child Development from Mount Saint Mary's College in Los Angeles.

Joseph Sison, M.D., *Clinical Professor* at UC Davis School of Medicine -UC Davis Health System/California Psychiatric Physicians Alliance of California

Dr Joseph I. Sison, M.D., D.F.A.P.A. is a Clinical Professor at UC Davis School of Medicine / UC Davis Health System in the department of Psychiatry & Behavioral sciences where he has been clinical faculty since 1994. He is currently involved in helping build the medical staff for the newest free-standing psychiatric hospital in California, Sacramento Behavioral Healthcare Hospital. Prior to this, and for over the past 16 years, he has also been the medical director of a large free-standing private psychiatric hospital in the greater Sacramento area, Heritage Oaks Hospital, operated by Universal Health Services, Inc. Previously, he served as the Sacramento County Children's Mental Health medical director for 13 years.

Frank Ryan, San Jose Fire Department/California Professional Firefighters

Frank Ryan is a firefighter paramedic with the San Jose Fire Department (SJFD). Frank attended Daniel Freeman Paramedic School in Inglewood, California, graduating in 1993. Early in his career, Frank worked as a paramedic in Lynwood, Pomona, and the City of Riverside. In 1996, Frank joined the SJFD. Over a 25 year career, Frank has more than 200,000 hours of field experience. Frank serves as Member Representative with San Jose Fire Fighters Local 230 where he represents Local 230's 675 firefighters on issues relating to EMS system operation, wages, hours and working conditions. The San José Fire Department provides fire protection, rescue, and emergency medical services to the city of San José, California. The San José Fire Department protects the third largest city in California and the tenth largest city in the nation. The department's jurisdiction covers San José incorporated city limits and unincorporated areas of the County of Santa Clara totaling approximately 200 square miles and one million residents. SJFD responds to about 100,000 calls for service annually and about 60% of those calls are for emergency medical response.

Julia Wallace, CHW, LR, *SEIU Local #721*

Julia Wallace is a Community Health Worker with the Department of Mental Health. She has worked with people who live with mental health disabilities for over 15 years including at Community Based Organizations. She is an activist, served on the South Central Neighborhood Council from 2010-2013 and proud member of SEIU Local 721.

Abdul Pridgen, *President*, California Police Chiefs Association

Abdul Pridgen was appointed the Chief of the San Leandro Police Department in 2021 after serving as the Chief of the Seaside Police Department. Previous to Seaside, Pridgen spent 26 years with the police department of Fort Worth, Texas and was the first Black Assistant Chief of the Fort Worth Police Department, rising through the ranks to command all three bureaus (Patrol, Finance & Personnel, Support) of the department responsible for policing the country's 13th largest city. Before becoming a police officer, Abdul was as a Sailor in the armed forces, serving in Desert Storm. He was honorably discharged after his six-year active duty commitment and retired from the U.S. Navy Reserve as a Chief Petty Officer. Abdul holds a Master of Arts in Public Administration and a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice. He is a graduate of the Southern Police Institute, FBI National Academy, FBI National Executive Institute, and Harvard Kennedy School, where he received an Executive Certificate in Public Leadership.

Joseph Quinn, *Supervising Probate Judge*, San Francisco Superior Court

Joseph M. Quinn is a judge of the San Francisco Superior Court, appointed to the bench in 2015 and elected to a full term the following year. Judge Quinn has served in three of the four divisions of the court: presiding over felony pre-trial proceedings, misdemeanor and felony trials, civil law and motion, civil trials and probate proceedings. He has also served on the court's Appellate Division, reviewing judgments from traffic, misdemeanor and limited-jurisdiction civil proceedings. Judge Quinn now serves as the supervising judge of the Probate and Mental Health Division. He is actively involved in court management, serving on several committees including the committees on rules and elimination of bias. In 2020, Judge Quinn was elected to the court's executive committee. This year, Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye appointed him to a three-year term as a member of the Judicial Council of California's Probate and Mental Health Advisory Committee.

Immediately prior to joining the bench, he was a litigation partner at Hanson Bridgett, LLP and, before that, with Meyers Nave, LLP. At both firms, he chaired the appellate practice group. While in practice, Judge Quinn was a certified appellate specialist. Earlier in his career, he served as a trial attorney with the Federal Defenders of San Diego, Inc., a principal trial attorney with the San Francisco City Attorney's office, and as a senior litigation associate at Howard Rice Nemerovski Canady Falk & Rabkin P.C. (now Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer, LLP).

Judge Quinn has been an adjunct professor at St. Mary's College and Golden Gate University School of Law. He is a former chair of the State Bar Appellate Law Advisory Commission and former member of the State Bar Board of Legal Specialization. He is a fellow of Litigation Counsel of America, a trial lawyer honorary society dedicated to diversity in the profession. He served on Governor Jerry Brown's Bay Area Judicial Selection Advisory Committee and now serves on Governor Gavin Newsom's Bay Area Judicial Selection Advisory Committee. He is a director at Levitt and Quinn Family Law Center, a legal services organization in Los Angeles co-founded by his grandmother.

Judge Quinn received his B.A. from UCLA and his J.D. from the University of California, Berkeley School of Law. He served as a law clerk to Judge Eugene F. Lynch of the United States District Court for the Northern District of California.

Judge Quinn is married to Hon. Jim Humes, Administrative Presiding Judge of the California Court of Appeal, First Appellate District. They live in San Francisco.

Scarlet Hughes, *Executive Director*, California State Association of Public Administrators, Public Guardians and Public Conservators

Scarlet Hughes was appointed the Executive Director of the California State Association of Public Administrators, Public Guardians, and Public Conservators on September 6, 2016. She retired on September 3, 2016 as the San Joaquin County Public Guardian/Conservator after 13 years, where she was responsible for the day-to-day operations of the LPS and Probate conservatorship programs and the county's Representative Payee program.

Prior to her move to San Joaquin County, Scarlet worked in the Sacramento County Public Administrator/Public Guardian/Public Conservator's office for 17 years, as a Deputy Public Guardian/Public Conservator, Supervising Deputy Public Guardian/Public Conservator and eventually as a Manager.

Scarlet received a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology in 1981 and a Masters of Social Work in May 1995, from California State University, Sacramento.

Scarlet served on the Executive Board of the California State Association of Public Administrators, Public Guardians, and Public Conservators (CAPAPGPC) from 2000 – 2003 and again from 2007 – 2014 holding all board positions including Program Chair of the annual conference and President

Tiffanie Leon-Synnott, *Supervising Public Defender*, Sacramento County Public Defender
Tiffanie Leon-Synnott is an attorney with the Office of the Sacramento County Public Defender. Ms. Leon-Synnott has been a Public Defender for over 20 years and specializes in adults and youth facing the intersection of criminal justice/mental health/homelessness. Ms. Leon-Synnott has managed, staffed, and/or supervised conservatorship cases since 2007. Currently, she supervises several units including, mental health diversion, pretrial support, unhoused initiatives, juvenile trauma court, record modification, juvenile division, and the mental health/conservatorship unit. Ms. Leon-Synnott is committed to a holistic defense approach that combines zealous advocacy while addressing underlying needs of clients.

Kiran Savage-Sangwan, *Executive Director*, California Pan-Ethnic Health Network
Kiran Savage-Sangwan is the Executive Director of the California Pan-Ethnic Health Network (CPEHN). CPEHN is a statewide multicultural health advocacy organization, focused on eliminating persistent health inequities and addressing structural racism in health care. Prior to becoming Executive Director in 2019, Kiran served as CPEHN Deputy Director and Health Integration Policy Director. Kiran has a background in immigrant and mental health organizing and advocacy. She also previously served as the Chairperson of the Sacramento Community Police Review Commission. Kiran graduated from New York University with a B.A. and a Master of Public Administration.

Teresa Pasquini, National Alliance on Mental Illness – California

Teresa Pasquini is a California mom on a mission for reforming local, state and national mental health systems. As a nine-year member of the Contra Costa County Mental Health Commission, she was an outspoken champion for the most vulnerable and often forgotten SMI population. She

is a founding member of the Behavioral Healthcare Partnership (BHCP) at Contra Costa Regional Medical Center (CCRMC,) a safety net hospital. As Chair of the BHCP for 5 years, she served as a member of the Executive Leadership Team of CCRMC. She has provided testimony in multiple forums including the Institute of Healthcare Improvement, the National Quality Forum, and an event on Capitol Hill advocating for The Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act. The Bay Area Newsgroup recognized Teresa for her local mental health advocacy during 2017s Women’s History Month. She is a long time member of NAMI Contra Costa. As a family member of a son and brother living heroically with serious mental illness, her 45-year personal experience drives her current passion for “Housing That Heals,” the name of a white paper released in May 2020. She currently serves on the Board of the newly formed Hope Street Coalition.

Jennifer Friedenbach, *Executive Director*, Coalition on Homelessness

Jennifer is currently the Executive Director of the Coalition on Homelessness, San Francisco. She has worked for the Coalition for 25 years, as Executive Director, as organizing director, substance abuse and mental health work group coordinator and fundraiser. Prior to coming to San Francisco, Jennifer was Director of the Hunger and Homeless Action Coalition of San Mateo County. Ms. Friedenbach has a long history of community organizing, and has worked on a range of poverty-related issues including welfare rights, housing, homeless prevention, health care, disability, and human and civil rights. During her tenure, she has achieved significant victories alongside homeless people and community members including crafting, Prop C Our City Our Home, a tax on corporations that pays for homeless housing and will double San Francisco’s efforts to address homelessness, the creation of a local housing subsidy serving hundreds of homeless families, the major expansion of prevention efforts resulting in the halting of displacement of more than a 1,000 households, expansion of substance abuse treatment resulting in decreased overdoses and shorter waits, spearheaded numerous legislative reforms protecting the rights of homeless people, and garnered public investments in programs that have saved countless lives.

Jen Flory, *Policy Advocate*, Western Center on Law & Poverty

Jen Flory is a Policy Advocate specializing in access to health care for low-income Californians. Jen’s passion for health care advocacy stems not just from a desire for social justice, but also from personal experience. As a young adult, she was unable to purchase health insurance, went without needed health care, and attended law school, in part, so she could get health coverage. She also witnessed other family members struggle to pay of large medical debts or put off care until illness was untreatable.

In addition to her work at Western Center, Jen served as the Supervising Attorney for Neighborhood Legal Services of LA County’s Health Consumer Center and the Director of the Cancer Legal Resource Center at Disability Rights Legal Center. She has also worked as an immigration attorney. Jen has experience litigating cases, drafting legislation and regulatory comments, writing consumer and advocate materials, and training advocates and community members. She holds a law degree from USC Gould School of Law.

Farrah McDaid Ting, *Senior Legislative Representative*, California State Association of Counties

Farrah McDaid Ting has worked in public policy for 20 years and specializes in California health and behavioral health programs and funding at the county level as a senior legislative representative for the California State Association of Counties (CSAC).

She is an expert in county funding and administration of health and behavioral health programs, including both 1991 and 2011 Realignments, the Affordable Care Act, Specialty Mental Health Services, Drug and Alcohol Programs, and Drug Medi-Cal.

She began her career in public policy as a journalist, serving as an Assistant Editor at the nonpartisan California Journal, before joining the California State Association of Counties in 2001.

Public policy and the complexity of county issues lured her into the advocacy side of CSAC, where she now combines her writing and speaking skills with robust advocacy and a solution-oriented outlook on behalf of California's 58 counties.

Farrah earned a Bachelor's degree in Government/Journalism and graduated cum laude from California State University, Sacramento and earned an Associate's Degree from Sierra College.

Jon Sherin, M.D., *Director*, Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health

Dr. Jonathan Sherin is a longtime wellbeing advocate who has worked tirelessly throughout his career on behalf of vulnerable populations. In his current role as Director of the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LAC-DMH), he oversees the largest public mental health system in the United States with an annual budget approaching \$3 billion.

Prior to joining LAC-DMH, Dr. Sherin served for over a decade at the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) where he held a variety of posts, most recently as chief of mental health for the Miami VA Healthcare System. He has also held a variety of academic posts, formerly as vice-chairman for the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at University of Miami, and currently as volunteer clinical professor at both UCLA and USC.

In addition to his leadership in the health and human services sector, Dr. Sherin has made significant contributions to the field of neuroscience, which include seminal sleep research studies, published in *Science* magazine, and a conceptual model of the psychotic process for which he received the prestigious Kempf Award from the American Psychiatric Association.

Dr. Sherin completed his undergraduate work at Brown University, his graduate studies at the University of Chicago and Harvard Medical School, and his residency in psychiatry at UCLA.

Scott Zeller, M.D., *Vice President for Acute Psychiatry*, Vituity Health

Dr. Zeller is Vice President for Acute Psychiatry at the multispecialty multistate medical group Vituity, a professor at two medical schools, and Past-President of both the American Association for Emergency Psychiatry and the National Coalition on Psychiatric Emergencies. He was formerly Chief, Psychiatric Emergency Services, for the Alameda Health System in Oakland, CA. He has authored multiple textbooks, book chapters and peer-reviewed articles, lectures internationally as a keynote speaker, and is known as both the co-inventor of On-Demand Emergency Telepsychiatry and the creator of the EmPATH Unit concept for hospital-based

emergency psychiatric care. He led Project BETA (Best Practices in the Evaluation and Treatment of Agitation), which has revolutionized the therapeutic approach to Agitation into patient-centric, compassionate care, and has been implemented on six continents. He was awarded the 2015 USA Doctor of the Year by the National Council for Behavioral Health, the 2019 California Hospital Association's Ritz E. Heerman Memorial Award for his outstanding contribution to the improvement of medical care in California, and in 2020 was named one of the "ten most influential people in healthcare design" by *Healthcare Design Magazine*.

Robert Dinerstein, *Professor of Law and Director of Disability Rights Law Clinic*, American University Washington College of Law

Robert Dinerstein is professor of law and director of the Disability Rights Law Clinic at American University Washington College of Law (AUWCL), where he has taught since 1983. His previous positions include serving as the law school's acting dean (2020-2021), associate dean for academic affairs from (1997-2004), associate dean for experiential education (2012-2018), and director of the clinical program (1988-96 and 2008-2018). He specializes in the fields of clinical education and disability law, especially mental disabilities law (including issues of consent/choice, capacity and supported decision-making and other alternatives to guardianship), the Americans with Disabilities Act, the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, legal representation of clients with mental disabilities, and disability and international human rights.

Dinerstein was appointed by President Clinton in 1994 to serve on the President's Committee on Mental Retardation (now called the President's Committee on People with Intellectual Disabilities), on which he served until 2001. From 2018-2021, he was a commissioner on the American Bar Association (ABA) Commission on Disability Rights, and from 2021-present serves as the ABA Section on Civil Rights and Social Justice's liaison to the Commission. Internationally, he has consulted for the World Health Organization (Ghana and Malawi) and the Open Society Foundations (Ghana and Zambia) regarding the revision of mental health laws and was a signatory to the Montreal Declaration on Intellectual Disabilities, adopted in Montreal, Canada in October 2004. He also has consulted with the Open Society Foundations regarding disability rights clinics and disability rights curricula in Latin America and Southern Africa. Domestically, he has consulted for the Ford Foundation, Public Welfare Foundation and the US Department of Health and Human Services and the US Department of Education on issues related to legal services, disability law and poverty law. He is the principal investigator for the Disability and Human Rights Fellows program, which receives support from the Open Society Foundations.

Prior to joining AUWCL, Dinerstein worked as an attorney in the U.S. Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division, Special Litigation Section, where he handled federal court cases on the rights of people in institutions for people with psychosocial disabilities, people with intellectual disabilities and juveniles. In addition to the Disability Rights Law Clinic, which he founded (and which handles special education, supported decision making, advance mental health directives, Titles I-III of the ADA, and other cases), he teaches a seminar on law and disability and has taught interviewing and counseling, legal ethics, the supervised externship seminar, and the criminal justice clinic (which he directed from 1989-1996).

Toby Ewing, *Executive Director*, Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission

Toby Ewing, Ph.D is the Executive Director of the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission, which is working to transform California's community mental health system.

Toby has served the Commission for more than five years, following roles in governance reform at the California State Senate, California Forward and the Little Hoover Commission. He previously served as the Director of the California Research Bureau and the California Cost Control Commission.

Under Toby's leadership, the Commission has launched a data transparency platform to provide accessible, valid, and reliable information on mental health funding, services, and outcomes, initiated an Innovation Incubator to support improved mental health services, authored Every Young Heart and Mind: Schools as Centers of Wellness, a report on transforming public schools to provide mental health support for students, California's Suicide Prevention Plan, Striving for Zero, and is supporting the development of voluntary workplace mental health standards, and is promoting innovative approaches to prevention and early intervention efforts in mental health in California.

Toby did his undergraduate studies at Grinnell College, received a Ph.D. in Sociology from Syracuse University, and served as a Fulbright Scholar in Central America.

Michelle Doty Cabrera, *Executive Director*, County Behavioral Health Director's Association (CHBDA)

Michelle Doty Cabrera is the Executive Director of CBHDA, a statewide association representing the behavioral health directors from each of California's 58 counties, in addition to the City of Berkeley and the Tri-City Mental Health Center (Cities of Pomona, Claremont and La Verne). In this capacity, Ms. Cabrera served as a member of Governor Newsom's Council of Regional Homeless Advisors. Prior to joining CBHDA, she served as the Healthcare Director for the California State Council of the Services Employees International Union (SEIU California), where she advocated on behalf of healthcare workers and consumers, including SEIU California's county behavioral health workforce. She was a Senior Consultant for the Assembly Human Services Committee, specializing in child welfare policy. In addition, Ms. Cabrera supported state health policymakers as a Program Officer for the California Healthcare Foundation's Sacramento office. Ms. Cabrera served as a member on the National Quality Forum's Standing Committee on Disparities and as a member on the California Pan-Ethnic Health Network Board of Directors. She has a B.S. in Foreign Service from Georgetown University.

Randall Hagar, *Legislative Advocate and Policy Advisor*, Psychiatric Physicians Alliance of California

Randall Hagar is currently Policy Consultant and Legislative Advocate for the Psychiatric Physicians Alliance of California. Formerly 1st Vice President of the Board of Directors and Chair of the California Alliance for Mental Illness' Legislative Committee (now NAMI California), in that capacity he helped to draft AB 1800 (Thomson, 2000) – an attempt to institute a number of LPS reforms, as well as AB 1421 (Thomson, 2001) the Laura's Law

statute. As a steering committee member for the LPS Reform Task Force I he helped to shape a number of recommendations published in its report, *A New Vision for Mental Health Treatment Laws* (1998). He was a co-convenor for the LPS Reform Task Force II and editor for its report, *Separate and NOT Equal – the Case for Updating California’s Mental Health Treatment Law* (2012).

Ken Johnson, Chief, Lodi Fire Department/California Professional Firefighters

Chief Ken Johnson began his Fire Service Career in 1992 as an explorer with the Glendale Fire Department. While training to become a firefighter Chief Johnson worked for a private ambulance provider as a transport Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) in a 911 system. Chief Johnson transitioned to the Stockton Fire Department in 1998. Chief Johnson promoted through the ranks serving as a Firefighter/Paramedic on an Engine Company and as a Paramedic on a transport ambulance, Engineer, Captain, and Battalion Chief. Chief Johnson was appointed as a Division Chief in 2014 and oversaw Fire Training, Accredited Fire Academy, Emergency Medical Service (ALS), the Stockton Regional Emergency Communication Center (911), and the Fire Prevention Bureau. Chief Johnson served the community of Stockton for over twenty-three years prior to being appointed the Fire Chief for the City of Lodi in June of 2021.

Darrell Steinberg, Mayor, City of Sacramento / Founder, Steinberg Institute

Mayor and former State Senate President Pro Tem Darrell, Steinberg is a powerful and effective advocate for mental health care policy in California. He has a long history of championing policy issues affecting brain health, and has gained the respect and trust of providers, decision-makers, business leaders and advocacy organizations across the state and nation.

Darrell has worked to bring awareness and solutions for what he calls “the under-attended issue of our time.” As a member of the state Assembly, he authored the 2004 Mental Health Services Act, landmark legislation that now generates \$2.4 billion annually for “whatever-it takes” services for individuals with the most severe brain illnesses, as well as innovative programs and research focused on early detection, intervention, and prevention of psychosis and serious mood disorders.

His commitment to improving mental health care has resulted in services that provide integrated care to the homeless. In 2013, as a state senator, Darrell authored SB 82, propelling a major statewide expansion of crisis residential and stabilization beds and mobile crisis capacity. In 2015, continuing his press for change, he established a first-of-its-kind statewide organization, the Steinberg Institute, dedicated to raising the profile of quality mental health care as a critical public policy and civil rights issue. In February 2019, Governor Gavin Newsom appointed Darrell to co-lead a new statewide Commission on Homelessness and Supportive Housing.

Andrew Imparato, Executive Director, Disability Rights California

Andrew J. “Andy” Imparato began work in February of 2020 as the Executive Director of Disability Rights California (DRC) after a high impact 26-year career in Washington, DC in disability advocacy and policy. DRC is the federally funded legal services agency that serves Californians with all types of disabilities across the age spectrum. Since joining DRC, Imparato has led advocacy efforts to protect the California disability community from health and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, helped shape Governor Newsom’s Master Plan for Aging as part of his Administration’s Stakeholder Advisory Committee, and has worked to

position California as a national leader on competitive integrated employment for people with disabilities. In February, he was appointed by President Biden to be one of 12 public members of a federal COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force.

While in DC, Imparato served as the Disability Policy Director for Chairman Tom Harkin on the US Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions; as President and CEO of the American Association of People with Disabilities; as Executive Director of the Association of University Centers on Disabilities; as General Counsel and Director of Policy at the National Council on Disability, and as an attorney advisor to Commissioner Paul Steven Miller at the US Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. He was a key leader in the coalition that came together to support the ADA Amendments Act in 2008 and helped negotiate the disability provisions in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act of 2014.

Imparato represented the disability rights community on the Executive Committee of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights from 2003-2010 and is a member of the National Advisory Committee for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Health Policy Research Scholars. He chaired the planning committee for 4 international summits on disability employment between 2016 and 2020, organized by Senator Harkin's Institute at Drake University; is on the Centene National Disability Advisory Committee (Centene is a Fortune 100 Medicaid Managed Care Company based in St. Louis), and is on the Board of Directors of the Kennedy Krieger Institute in Baltimore, Maryland.

Imparato grew up in Southern California, received a B.A. in Humanities from Yale College in 1987, and is a 1990 graduate of Stanford Law School. Imparato is known for mentoring diverse emerging leaders with disabilities and likes to cultivate activism on social media. His perspective is informed by his lived experience with bipolar disorder. He has received a number of honors and awards, including the Ten Outstanding Young Americans Award from the US Junior Chamber of Commerce; the Henry Viscardi Achievement Award from the Viscardi Center in New York; the Corey Rowley National Advocacy Award from the National Council on Independent Living; and the Secretary's Highest Achievement Award from Secretary of Health and Human Services Mike Leavitt. He has received appointments to the Maryland Statewide Independent Living Council from Maryland Governors Ehrlich and O'Malley and to the California State Council on Developmental Disabilities from Governor Newsom. He was also appointed by US Senator Tom Daschle to the bipartisan Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Advisory Panel, where he helped develop new models for disability benefits that did not create barriers to employment.

Susan Shaw Goodman, *Attorney at Law*, Retired

Susan Goodman, a long-time mental health advocate, does not represent a particular organization but speaks on behalf of those suffering with a serious mental illness (SMI) and their caregivers.

After starting a career as a teacher (foreign relations and French), Susan retired from teaching to pursue a career practicing law as a Deputy District Attorney (DA) in Los Angeles. She moved north and worked as the chief Deputy DA in Yolo County. She was always struck by the fact that the defendant's mental health never seemed to be a focal point despite obvious evidence. From Yolo she went to the Sacramento DA's office and was soon recruited by the Assembly Public Safety Committee where she became Chief Counsel.

A few years after adopting two children, Susan retired from the practice of law professionally, turning her passion and efforts to local politics, eventually being elected to the Folsom Cordova School Board. Susan has been past president of NAMI-Sacramento and has been a recent team leader in the fight for adoption of Laura's Law in Sacramento. She lives at home with her adult son who suffers from schizophrenia, and she has experienced first-hand the challenges of caring for an adult child with mental illness. Once her son was willing to accept treatment, about 6 years ago, she and he have been personally using the LPS system.