

Official Notification – 2025 Slate of Board of Directors

October 2, 2024

Dear Member of the West Ventura County Business Alliance:

Pursuant to WVCBA Bylaws Article IV, Section 5 - Selection and Elections of Directors, this serves as notification to members regarding the names of the persons nominated as candidates for Directors and the right to petition.



Below are the candidates and a short bio of each. The following are three (3)-year terms.

	<p>Elizabeth Arias, Port of Hueneme</p> <p>Elizabeth Arias is Business Development Manager for the Port of Hueneme. She supports local and international partner activities to facilitate the smooth flow of cargo shipped through the Port and is committed to uplifting the local community. Elizabeth has a bachelor's in business administration and marketing from California State Long Beach and an MBA in international business from California Lutheran University.</p>
	<p>Lindsey Carnett, Marketing Maven</p> <p>Lindsey Carnett is CEO and President of Marketing Maven, an award-winning, full-service marketing and public relations agency in Camarillo. She was appointed to WVCBA's Board of Directors in September 2023 and was pivotal to the success of the inaugural Women's Business Conference in March 2024. Lindsey has a bachelor's from California Lutheran University in Spanish and communications with an emphasis in public relations and advertising, and is a proud tribal citizen of the Cherokee Nation.</p>
	<p>Armando Casillas, Montecito Bank & Trust</p> <p>Armando Casillas is Vice President / Branch Manager of Montecito Bank & Trust's Camarillo and Oxnard branches and has worked in the financial services industry for more than 20 years. Armando received his bachelor's in organizational management from University of La Verne. He has served on the WVCBA Board since September 2023 and is a graduate of Ventura County Leadership Academy, Inspire Leadership Development Program, and the Oxnard Leadership Program.</p>
	<p>Jennifer Duarte, Collection at RiverPark</p> <p>Jennifer Duarte is the Director, Property Management for the Collection at RiverPark with CenterCal Properties. She moved to Oxnard two years ago from the Bay Area. Jennifer has more than 25 years of experience in shopping center property management and has served on the boards of multiple chambers of commerce and economic development organizations. She is originally from Vancouver, Canada.</p>
	<p>Heather Huffman, Dignity Health St. John's Hospitals</p> <p>Heather serves as Vice President of Philanthropy for St. John's Hospitals in Oxnard and Camarillo. She has 25 years of experience in philanthropy, including 22 years at St. John's overseeing all philanthropic endeavors and community outreach. Heather's extensive experience, local connections, and deep ties to the community align seamlessly with the work being accomplished at WVCBA. Heather has two adult children living in Texas and three grandchildren.</p>
	<p>Elisabeth V. Paniagua, Southern California Gas Company</p> <p>Elisabeth V. Paniagua is Public Affairs Manager for SoCalGas covering Ventura County, Westlake Village, and Agoura Hills. She has a bachelor's in political science and a minor in Spanish literature from UCSB, and a master's in public administration and policy from California Lutheran University. She is a lifelong Ventura County resident and lives in Oxnard with her husband, Andres, and their four children, Katherine, Mateo, Benjamin, and Alexandra.</p>
	<p>David Wellik, Citizens Business Bank</p> <p>David Wellik has been a commercial lender in Ventura County for more than 15 years. Since 2015, he has been Center Manager of Citizens Business Bank's Oxnard branch. He has a bachelor's from Westmont College, an MBA from Cal State Northridge, and is a 2023 graduate of the prestigious Pacific Coast Banking School. He has been on the WVCBA Board since January 2022, serving as Vice Chair, Treasurer, and Chair-Elect, and is on the Political Action Committee.</p>
	<p>Peter T. Zierhut, Haas Automation, Inc.</p> <p>Peter Zierhut is a senior-level manager at Haas Automation, Inc, a leading manufacturer of high technology industrial machinery. He is responsible for government relations, community relations, and is Haas' company spokesman. He is a Board Member for Economic Development Collaborative of Ventura County, Workforce Development Board of Ventura County, and Workshops for Warriors (a veteran training center in San Diego), and is Founding Member of the Ventura County Industry Council. He currently resides in Camarillo and is married, with four children and three grandchildren.</p>

Nominations by Petition. Nominations by Petitions may be accepted in accordance with the West Ventura County Business Alliance bylaws (Article IV, Section 5). "Additional names of candidates for directors can be nominated by petition bearing the genuine signatures of at least twenty-five (25) qualified members of the WVCBA. Such petition shall be filed with the Nominating Committee within ten (10) days after notice has been given of the names of those nominated. The determination of the Nominating Committee as to the legality of the petition(s) shall be final." Petitions should be delivered to: West Ventura County Business Alliance, 1901 Solar Drive, Suite 105, Oxnard CA 93036. If no petition is filed within the designated period, the nominations shall be closed and the nominated slate of candidates shall be declared elected by the Board of Directors at their regular October Board meeting.