



NEWS RELEASE

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NALEO Announces Election of New President and Leadership

Election took place following the organization's annual conference in Miami, which convened more than 1,000 Latino leaders from across the country

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) today announced the election of its new president, California Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara, officers and board members. The president and board leadership were elected to serve for the 2019-2020 term at the organization's board of directors meeting on June 23, 2019 in Miami following the group's 36th Annual Conference.

Other board officers elected during the organization's board of directors meeting include: Coconino County (Ariz.) Supervisor Elizabeth "Liz" Archuleta as Vice President; Miami-Dade County (Fla.) School Board Member Lubby Navarro as Treasurer; and Gadsden (Ariz.) Elementary School District Board Member Tadeo de la Hoya as Secretary.

Raised in California by immigrant parents from Mexico, Commissioner Lara is the first openly gay NALEO President in the organization's history and the first LGBTQ elected statewide leader in California's history.

"As Latino leaders, we are fully aware of the diversity of the American experience and the shared immigrant heritage that defines our nation despite our differences," said newly elected NALEO President and California Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara. "I am humbled and honored to lead NALEO during such a historic time for our country, as we develop the next generation of leaders who will put the values of public service ahead of all else."

"I thank my predecessor, President Pauline Medrano, for her tireless efforts on behalf of the organization and look forward to working with the board and the rest of our membership as we prepare the Latino community to get counted in Census 2020 so we can uplift and empower our Latino families in our democratic process."

"It has been an honor to serve NALEO members and Latino leaders from across the country during my tenure as president," said outgoing NALEO President and Dallas County Treasurer Pauline Medrano. "As a NALEO Board Member, I look forward to continuing to work with the board of directors to empower the Latino community, strengthen our democracy and help our nation's Latino elected officials govern on behalf of the millions of constituents they represent."

Coconino County (Ariz.) Supervisor Elizabeth "Liz" Archuleta, Los Angeles (Calif.) Mayor Eric Garcetti, Colorado State Senate President Leroy Garcia, Metropolitan Community College (Neb.) Governor Roger Garcia, Dallas County (Texas) Treasurer Pauline Medrano and City of Rancho Cucamonga (Calif.) Commissioner Peter Villegas were also unanimously re-elected to serve a second three-year term on the NALEO Board of Directors.

Santa Ana City (Calif.) Councilmember Vicente Sarmiento also fulfilled a three-year term on the NALEO Board of Directors. His seat will be filled by Ohio Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs Executive Director Lilleana Cavanaugh, who will serve a three-year term.

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About NALEO

The National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials is the leadership organization of the nation's more than 6,600 Latino elected and appointed officials.