

County of Ventura Bargaining Team Elections

Candidate Statements

Clerical/Admin (PC) Unit

You will vote for up to 4 candidates in the Clerical/Admin Unit

Joseph Guerra, Inventory Management Asst II (Sheriffs)

Working for several years trying to get fair career wage, uniform allowance, reclassify job title.

Edwin Jacob, Coder-Certified (HCA)

Last contract I worked & fought hard for our employees! We achieved a good pay increase and a good contract that hasn't been seen for many years also the day after Thanksgiving we acquired that to be a paid holiday! I believe this contract will even be better!! Please vote for me as I will fight for free/less cost health insurance after retirement

Ivon Gutierrez, Office Assistant IV (HCA)

As a nominee, I feel fortunate that I have people that believe in me to be a good candidate. For this reason, I would like the opportunity to be able to fight the good fight and represent our unit appropriately. Remember, we are the heart of our programs, without us there is nothing.

Cecilia Hernandez-Garcia, Accounting Assistant II (HSA)

I have experience in Bargaining and have been an activist with my union my entire work time with Human Services Agency. I enjoy serving my community and making a difference. Currently, I serve in the Ventura County Retirement Association working to protect out pensions. I want to advocate for a strong contract for our members.

Margarita Magallanes, Medical Office Assistant IV

No statement provided

Katherine Mountain, Sheriff's Records Technician II (Sheriffs)

My previous experience as a bargaining member proved positive influence to the team. I feel that my representation of the Sheriff's Office was both necessary and beneficial for all union members. I look forward to serving you all again and fighting for the best contract possible.



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County of Ventura Bargaining Team Elections

Candidate Statements

Professional (PRF) Unit

You will vote for up to 4 candidates in the Professional Unit

Leonard Castillo, HS Client Benefit Spec III (HSA)

I've been with the county for 6 years, I come from a working class family, I'm a father, and I'll work in the best interests of you, my fellow workers, and your families. We are the union and we work better together.

Yesenia Espinoza, Behavioral Health Clinician II

No statement provided

Rudy Hernandez, HS Client Benefit Spec IV (HSA)

No statement provided

Salvador Leanos, Environmental Health Spec IV (RMA)

20 yr county employee & SEIU 721 member with a Master's of Science degree in Environmental & Occupational Health. I work interpreting technical state & local regulations & enforcing state laws. I have been a member of the bargaining committee in the past. I will advocate for FULL medical & dental coverage & salary increases consistent with CPI.

Corey Lee, Senior Physical Therapist (HCA)

During the last negotiation, I noticed a trending discrepancy between the cost of our health care and the county's contribution. Essentially, the employee was paying a greater cost for health benefits and losing take home money in their paycheck, despite raises provided in the MOA. I brought this to the attention of the team bargaining team.

Elizabeth Lomeli, Community Services Coord (HCA)

It is a true honor to have been nominated by my peers and be elected as their voice for this year's bargaining team. Over the past thirteen years while working for the County of Ventura, I have served the Public Health Department and Behavioral Health, supporting some of our most vulnerable members of our community. During this time, my family and I have been affected by the increased cost of health insurance. We have had to deal with the hardships of cost of living and our newest challenge, the 2019-COVID Pandemic. If elected, I will represent my fellow SEIU 721 members and their families who face the same struggles as I do.

Felipa Lopez, HS Client Benefit Spec III (HSA)

I'm a strong leader who listens and engages with all members/workers. I believe in fighting for all our members.

Miguel Marquez, Community Services Coord (HCA)

I accept my candidacy to work and advocate for my coworkers through this process to get a fair deal with wages, policies, educations, and health care.



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Candidate Statements

Professional (PRF) Unit Page 2

You will vote for up to 4 candidates in the Professional Unit

Saul Medina, Behavioral Health Clinician III (HCA)

Hello my fellow union members

I have been employed by County of Ventura since 2001 and been on bargaining team 3 times. I believe in strong contract language to improve safety in the workplace, increase pay and benefits, more cafeteria choices for health plan and secure our pension for future. We have a mass resignations, recruitment and retention problem we need to address at the bargaining negotiation table. I am committed to put in the time and effort to get results just like last 3 bargaining campaign that I been involved WE WON BIG ! Address the 3 "R" Resignation Recruitment and Retention *BETTER VOTE FOR SAUL ...Medina*

Toni O'Neil, HS Client Benefit Spec III (HSA)

No statement provided

Erin Opdahl, Behavioral Health Clinician III (HCA)

No statement provided

Jesus Ramirez, Behavioral Health Clinician II (HCA)

Since the start of the pandemic we have lost a large percentage of our workforce. Work tasks and expectations have become more difficult and not sustainable. If we don't address the issues of pay/benefits, burnout, and high caseloads my fear is that many of our talented and hard working employees will continue to leave. Current county employees will struggle. The clients we serve will not get the quality services they deserve. I want to be an advocate for all employees and our community. I ask for your vote to be present at the decision making table and represent you.

Grace Sepulveda, HS Client Benefit Spec III (HSA)

I have served as a member of the Bargaining Team in the past Three Terms. I am excited to get together with the team and Win a good Contract for all. I will advocate for Salary increases, Prices on Gas and food continue to increase, yet our wages remain unchanged. I will advocate for Bonuses, many of us had to work in hazardous environments due to COVID. We need to fight for our Health Insurance we deserve good health care, without increasing our rates. We need to fight for Health Insurance for our brothers and sisters that have retired, we need to keep retention in our jobs. I will be your Voice at the Table.

Erika Villa, Public Defender Investigator II (Public Defender)

Representing my fellow SEIU 721 members has been my passion since joining Ventura County in 2018. Since then, I served on our bargaining team in 2019, became a steward, served on the Representation Appeal Committee, and a union delegate for the Central Coast Labor Council. I humbly request your support to continue advocating for our families.



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County of Ventura Bargaining Team Elections

Candidate Statements

Technical (PT) Unit

You will vote for up to 4 candidates in the Technical Unit

Diana Aguilera, Medical Assistant II

No statement provided

Ed Alamillo, Resource Mgmt Agy Tech III (RMA)

"For the past 6 contracts I have constantly been able to achieve better employee rights & benefits. Here are some of my highlights:

- Life insurance for all workers
- Certification pay for Geologist & Animal Control Officers
- Reimbursement for Agricultural Inspectors license & safety shoes
- Vector control uniforms
- Pay increases"

Rene Espinoza, Nursing Assistant II

I am very involved with union activity regarding with my co workers in fighting for better pay and equal opportunities

Eric Lozano, Animal Control Officer II (Animal Services)

My name is Eric Lozano and if you choose me to be on the bargaining team I will fight for us all to get a good contract. Inflation is at an all time high and most of us struggle to keep up with the increased price of things we need to survive. I will make address the cost of living increases and address our costs for health insurance. Thank you

Brandon Miller, Public Safety Dispatcher II (VC Fire)

I have been a proud member of SEIU since 2013. I served on the bargaining team in 2019 as the Co-chair alongside an amazing team, I am a steward, and have participated in several departmental new employee orientations. I was given the opportunity to serve all of our members in 2019 and would be honored to be back and fight at that table again.

Raul Robledo, Medical Assistant II (HCA)

No statement provided

Amanda Sifuentes, Mental Hlth Associate (HCA)

Allow me to be your voice at the table. I will advocate for salary increases, cost of living yearly increases. A safety retirement, and improve our health insurance with more coverage. We must unite and win a strong contract for all members.

Jamie Williams, Mental Hlth Associate (HCA)

My name is JamieLynn Williams, and it is an honor to be a candidate for the 2022 Bargaining Team! I have worked with VCBH Adult Outpatient for over 6 years as a Mental Health Associate. I am a team player and an out of the box thinker. Since being a Steward, I have become familiar with many county policies, and have taken and continue to take many trainings offered by SEIU to familiarize myself with and stay current in matters that affect our members such as FMLA, Worker's Comp, Anti-Bullying/Grievance handling and safety to name a few. I am motivated to advocate for my County brothers and sisters for a fair contract that not only meets our departmental needs but allows us to have a voice and that voice to be heard.

Maria Zavala, Mental Hlth Associate (HCA)

As we continue to diligently serve our clients, please do not forget where we were and what we have learned throughout the Covid pandemic. We engage the most challenging populations daily. Staffing has diminished while our caseloads and job demands continue to multiply. We are FRONTLINE workers! We must know our worth! We deserve competitive living wages, opportunities for advancement and the ability to provide our family's most basic needs. As part of SEIU's "Project Storm" I met with HR and fought for the 7% MHA/BHC raise, ensured our needs were heard without question and work as a CAT member. I ask for your support so I may continue to fight for worker's rights.



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Candidate Statements

Social Worker (PSS) Unit

You will vote for up to 1 candidate in the Social Worker Unit

Brian Luskin, HS IHSS Social Worker IV (HSA)

After having served on our last bargaining team in 2019 I understand the unique circumstances of getting 16 unique voices and positions come together as 1 cohesive message. Fighting for competitive wages, combating rising healthcare costs, promoting a stronger work-life balance and protecting our retirement benefits are key for this future contract

David Vahidi, HS Child Welfare Soc Wrkr III (HSA)

As we continue to strengthen families, support self-sufficiency & promote safety, health & well-being in our community. We need to ensure that we have sufficient staffing & adequate resources to meet our objectives. In order to do so, we need to hire & retain additional staff, fill all vacancies & seek resources to fund all mandated services.



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County of Ventura Bargaining Team Elections

Candidate Statements

Supervisory (PSUP) Unit

You will vote for up to 2 candidates in the Supervisory Unit

Thomas Adelman, Principal Respiratory Therapist (HCA)

Hello fellow members, I am a Respiratory Therapist at VCMC for over 20 yrs. I had a great experience on the team negotiating the last Contract. In addition to the main financial package, I will focus on equity by pushing for all members in like settings to be eligible for any and all extra pay perks enjoyed by those around them.

Rebecca Albarran, HS Client Benefit Supervisor (HSA)

I served on the 2019 Bargaining Team which brought one of the strongest contracts we have seen in years. I had the pleasure of working with some of the most committed public servants and the fiercest union leaders on that team. I currently serve on the Regional Council and I am committed to engaging members and following through with action. I have already committed my time and efforts to this contract whether I serve on the team or not. I am currently a C.A.T and would love to have your vote of confidence for this bargaining cycle.

Wendy Castro, Clerical Supervisor II (HCA)

I have gained experience from participating on the bargaining team in the last 3 contracts. I believe it is an important role and I enjoy the process. I want obtain the best contact for our hard working members.



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