



From the President

Elizabeth Hernandez

BD&J, PC



CAALA's Political & Legislative Affairs Committee

WE NEED TEAM MEMBERS ON THIS IMPORTANT COMMITTEE AS WE FIGHT FOR THE CIVIL JUSTICE SYSTEM

The Political & Legislative Affairs Committee engages CAALA members in advancing pro-consumer and civil justice advocacy through legislative and community outreach. In close coordination with the Consumer Attorneys of California (CAOC) and the American Association for Justice (AAJ), the Committee identifies, proposes, and supports legislation that protects the rights of consumers and enhances access to justice, while opposing measures that promote tort reform or undermine the civil justice system. Members build and maintain relationships with legislators, local bar associations, and community organizations to strengthen CAALA's role as a leader in promoting fairness, accountability, and equal access to the courts.

CAALA Legislative Affairs - Grassroots team

The Legislative Affairs Committee exists to bring structure, accountability, and shared purpose to all grassroots activity conducted on behalf of CAALA in conjunction with CAOC and the issues we champion. Modeled on proven organizing frameworks – most notably those used in labor organizing – it creates a coordinated system that strengthens CAALA and CAOC's reach and impact across the state. The committee enables CAALA to track grassroots engagement more accurately, identify gaps or under-resourced regions, and deploy organizers strategically and efficiently when action is needed.

If you are interested in serving as a team member, please reach contact CAALA's staff liaison for the Political & Legislative Affairs Committee, Kwedi Moore – Kwedi@caala.org.

Member descriptions and commitments

Grassroots regional captains

Regional captains will help to organize, strategize, and support the grassroots activities in their given region. In addition to the above, the baseline commitment for regional captains looks like:

- Attending most CAALA Grassroots Committee meetings
- Regular tracking of regional grassroots data and reporting it to the CAALA grassroots manager
- Acting as a mentor and sounding board for grassroots team members
- Flagging any issues to chair and to CAALA grassroots manager
- Strategizing how to best support grassroots growth in region
- Leading by example how grassroots relationships can look, including how an organizer can take "ownership" of their district organizing
- Attending CAOC's Justice Day

Participation as a Grassroots regional captain is estimated at a high average of 3-4 hours per month. Captains should have pre-existing, well-tended relationships with legislators.

Grassroots team members

At the core of the grassroots committee are its grassroots team members: people who have committed to forming relationships with legislators and who can advocate to them on behalf of consumers and the civil justice system. Becoming a grassroots team member involves creating sustained relationships with legislators; this is a long-term commitment, which likely will last beyond the term limits of any given legislator,

as they often will go on to other political positions. The best, most effective grassroots relationships become genuine connections between people that form into respectful friendships. The baseline commitment for grassroots team members looks like:

- An in-person connection with each legislator once per quarter/4x per year
- Attending at least two events that are put on by the legislator or that you have invited the legislator to per year
- A trajectory of personal connection, where the quarterly connections could eventually be less formal, such as coffee or a cookout
- Becoming a point-person for legislative issues, including holding more formal, educational meetings
- Commitment to data hygiene (responding to and reporting activity back to captains)
- Participation in regional and/or statewide grassroots meetings
- Usually attending CAOC's Justice Day

Among other things, the gold standard for a grassroots team member's activity would include actions like bringing new grassroots members into organizing and connecting with regional organizations that can serve as coalition partners.

Participation as a Grassroots team member is estimated at a high average of two hours per month. 

For the list of the legislative districts and legislators we are focusing on, please see the chart on the following page.

We are focusing on the following districts:

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT (AD)	LEGISLATOR (Bold indicates outgoing)
AD 55 – Culver City area	Bryan, Isaac
AD 52 – Echo Park, Highland Park, Silver Lake, East Los Angeles	Caloza, Jessica
AD 39 – Palmdale, Adelanto	Carrillo, Juan
AD 57 – Exposition Park, Florence, downtown and south Los Angeles, West Adams	
AD 49 – Alhambra, South Pasadena, Rosemead, Arcadia	Fong, Mike
AD 46 – Encino, Woodland Hills, Canoga Park, Reseda	Gabriel, Jesse
AD 54 – Central LA, Commerce, Montebello	Gonzalez, Mark
AD 41 -- Pasadena, Monrovia, Altadena, San Antonio Heights, San Dimas	Harabedian, John
AD 42 -- covers a combination of eastern Ventura County and western Los Angeles County	Irwin, Jacqui
AD 69 -- Long Beach, Signal Hill, Carson	Lowenthal, Josh
AD 61 -- Inglewood, Marina del Rey, Hawthorne	McKinnor, Tina
AD 66 -- Manhattan Beach, Torrance, Rancho Palos Verdes	Muratsuchi, Al
AD 64 -- Norwalk, Santa Fe Springs, La Mirada, Downey	Pacheco, Blanca
AD 67 -- Cerritos, Buena Park, Cypress, Fullerton	Quirk-Silva, Sharon
AD 40 -- Santa Clarita, Castaic, Northridge	Schiavo, Pilar
AD 44 -- Burbank, North Hollywood, La Crescenta	Schultz, Nick
AD 68 -- Anaheim, Orange, Santa Ana	Valencia, Avelino* (running for SD 34 held by Umberg)
AD 51 -- Santa Monica, Beverly Hills, Hollywood	Zbur, Rick
AD 38 -- Ventura, Oxnard, Carpinteria, Ojai	Bennett, Steve
AD 56 -- Whittier, Hacienda Heights, Rowland Heights, Pico Rivera	Calderon, Lisa
AD 65 -- Willowbrook, Compton, Carson, Wilmington	Gipson, Mike
AD 43 -- San Fernando, Sylmar, Panorama City	Rodriguez, Celeste
AD 53 -- Ontario, Pomona, Chino	Rodriguez, Michelle
AD 48 -- Glendora, Covina, Azusa, West Covina	Rubio, Blanca
AD 62 -- Lynwood, Paramount, Lakewood, Bellflower	Solache, Jose
SENATE DISTRICT (SD)	LEGISLATOR (Bold means outgoing)
SD 24 -- Agoura Hills, Santa Monica, Malibu, Manhattan Beach, Torrance, Rancho Palos Verdes	Allen, Ben
SD 25 -- Claremont, Pasadena, San Gabriel, Rancho Cucamonga, San Antonio Heights, Upland	Perez, Sasha Renee
SD 35 -- Carson, Compton, Gardena, Hawthorne, Lennox, San Pedro, parts of LA, Lennox	Richardson, Laura
SD 28 -- Culver City, Los Angeles (including Culver City, Mid-City, Playa Vista, Mar Vista, Downtown, South LA), View Park-Windsor Hills, Ladera Heights, and several nearby neighborhoods	Smallwood-Cuevas, Lola
SD 35 -- Carson, Compton, Gardena, Hawthorne, Lennox, San Pedro, parts of LA, Lennox	Stern, Henry
SD 34 -- Santa Ana, Anaheim, Placentia, Fullerton, West Orange	Umberg, Thomas
SD 30 -- Hacienda Heights, Whittier, Parts of Orange, Parts of Los Angeles	Archuleta, Bob
SD 26 -- LA, Korea Town, Echo Park, Westlake, Los Feliz, Vernon, East LA, Montecito Heights, Highland Park	Durazo, Maria Elena
SD 33 -- Lakewood, Long Beach, Signal Hill, Catalina Island	Gonzalez, Lena
SD 20 -- San Fernando, Burbank	Menjivar, Caroline
SD 22 -- Azusa, Baldwin Park, Covina, Chino, Irwindale, Pomona, Montclair, Ontario	Rubio, Susan