



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 12, 2016



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APALA National President Johanna Hester Elected to CA Labor Federation Executive Council

Washington, DC – Today, the California Labor Federation held their Executive Council meeting in Oakland and elected APALA National President Johanna Hester to the Executive Council. She becomes the only Asian American woman to serve on this governing body.

“Johanna’s longtime commitment to workers everywhere will be a great asset to the council,” stated Art Pulaski, California Labor Federation Executive Secretary-Treasurer. “Her energy and experience will undoubtedly strengthen the commitment of unions to advocate for social, racial and economic justice for all working people.”

The California Labor Federation is dedicated to promoting and defending the interests of working people and their families in California and represents over 2 million union members across a variety of industries, including manufacturing, retail, healthcare and construction.

“Johanna is a formidable trailblazer for AAPI union leaders and for women alike. We’re thrilled to see Johanna stepping into this new role on the Executive Council,” added Josie Camacho, Alameda Labor Council Executive Secretary-Treasurer and APALA national executive board member. “Her leadership will continue to increase the visibility of the role women, immigrants and people of color have long held in labor history.”

“I am honored to serve on the council. I have been organizing, building and representing workers for nearly three decades, and one thing holds true even today: workers are still missing a voice at work. I won’t stop fighting to lift up the voices of hardworking people,” declared newly elected California Labor Federation Executive Council Member and APALA National President Johanna Hester. “I hope my election to the council will bring forth more leaders who are women, immigrants and people of color to our collective labor movement. The movement cannot – and will not – move forward without our leaders who reflect the communities we come from.”

Hester has become a champion for home care providers and outspoken advocate for the immigrant and civil rights of workers. She currently serves as Special Assistant to Executive Director at the United Domestic Workers (UDW), an International Vice President of AFSCME and the National President of the Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance (APALA).

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The **Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance** (APALA), AFL-CIO was founded in 1992 as the first and only national organization for Asian Pacific American union members to advance worker, immigrant and civil rights. For more information, visit www.apalanet.org and follow [@APALANational](https://twitter.com/APALANational)

