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California State Senate

SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON CALIFORNIA-MEXICO COOPERATION

SENATOR BEN HUESO CHAIRMAN

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JOINT HEARING WITH THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON PANDEMIC EMERGENCY RESPONSE

“The Impact of COVID-19 in California’s Border Region”

California State Capitol
Senate Chambers
10am



Liliana Ferrer

Is the Consul General of Mexico in Sacramento, California; has been a career member of the Mexican Foreign Service since 1992. From October 2013 to May 2017, she was Deputy Chief of Mission at the Embassy of Mexico in Paris. Prior to assuming this role, she was Section Chief of Political and Border Affairs at the Mexican Embassy in Washington D.C. from 2011 to 2014, where she also served as a Congressional Affairs Officer (liaison to the House of Representatives) from 2007 to 2011 and Deputy Chief of Mission from 2005 to 2007.

Prior to this position at the Embassy in DC, she spent a year at Harvard University as a member of the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs doing research on lobbying in the United States. In Mexico City, she has served as: Spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Special Adviser to the Assistant Secretary for Economic Affairs and International Cooperation; and as Director of Bilateral Relations of the United States. She has also been commissioned at the Consulates of Mexico in San Diego and Los Angeles as Consul for Economic, Political and Community Affairs, and in Guatemala City as Deputy Consul General of Mexico.

She holds a BA in International Relations from the University of California, Davis, and a Masters in International Affairs from the Pacific from the University of California, San Diego, where she received a pre-doctorate scholarship at the Center for US / Mexican Studies. As the daughter of a diplomat, she has worked for the Association of National Olympic Committees (1987-1989) before joining the foreign service, she has lived and / or worked in various parts of the world.

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Eric Lamourex

Eric Lamourex is the Assistant Director for Response. Prior to his current position he has held several positions within the agency, including acting Deputy Director of Finance and Administration, Inland Regional Administration and Chief of Media Relations.

Susan Fanelli

Susan Fanelli is chief deputy director of policy and programs at the California Department of Public Health, where she has been since 2015 and has served in several positions in the Emergency Preparedness Office from 2003 to 2015, including deputy director, acting deputy director and assistant deputy director. Fanelli served in several positions at the California Department of Health Services from 2002 to 2006, including staff services manager in the Program Support Section, associate governmental program analyst in the Office of Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act Compliance and staff services analyst.

Janette Angulo

Janette Angulo, MPA – Imperial County Public Health Director

Mrs. Angulo has worked with the Imperial County Public Health Department (ICPHD) for close to 18 years. She was appointed to the director position in January of 2020. Prior to that, she served as the Community Health Deputy Director, overseeing the Health Promotion, Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health, and Emergency Management Services Sections of the department. Mrs. Angulo was actively engaged in prior emergency response efforts, including the H1N1 and 2010 Easter Earthquake incidents that hit Imperial County. She actively served in the United States Marine Corps between 1995-1999, and in the Reserve Corps for 5 years thereafter. Mrs. Angulo earned her postgraduate degree from San Diego State University's Graduate School of Public Administration.

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Mayor Mary Casillas Sala

Mayor Salas began her public service on the Chula Vista Civil Service Commission in 1991 and was then appointed to the City's Planning Commission in 1993, where she served until elected to the Chula Vista City Council in 1996. In 2000, she was reelected to office. In 2004, she served as a Director of the Sweetwater Authority/South Bay Irrigation District. Was elected to the California State Assembly where she chaired the Committee on Veteran's Affairs in 2006. She also served on the Jobs, Economic Development and Economy Committee, the Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee and the Health Committee. Her love of community spurred her to once again seek election to the City Council. She was elected to the City Council in 2012 and in 2014, she made history as the first elected Latina mayor in Chula Vista and the County of San Diego.

During her tenure as Mayor, Chula Vista has received national and international recognition for our efforts to reduce greenhouse gases and prevent climate change, our smart cities initiatives, and our actions to ensure sustainable development. The City obtained ownership of the Chula Vista Elite Athlete Training Center from the U.S. Olympic Committee. Mayor Casillas Salas led the campaign to adopt Measure P to rebuild our aging infrastructure and advanced the development of the Bayfront in partnership with Port of San Diego with a signed "Letter of Intent" with RIDA Development. Mayor Casillas Salas is looking to the future and is committed to a better quality of life for the people of Chula Vista through excellent public safety, effective stewardship of public funds, and careful planning that leads to superior sustainability of community resources.

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Steve Padilla

Elected to the City Council on November 8, 2016 to represent District 3 in the City of Chula Vista's first district-only elections. On June of 2017, he was appointed to the California Coastal Commission by Speaker of the California State Assembly Anthony Rendon. Steve currently serves as Chair of the Commission. He also serves as Vice Chair of the board of San Diego Community Power, a Community Choice Aggregation program formed by the cities of Chula Vista, Encinitas, Imperial Beach, La Mesa, and San Diego to provide cleaner, affordable electricity for the San Diego region.

In Chula Vista he served as a member of the Board of Ethics and Safety Commission. He was elected for the first time to the City Council in 1994 and served two terms. In 2002, Steve was elected the City's 38th Mayor and served from 2002 – 2006.

During his tenure as Mayor, Steve served on the Executive Committee, Board of Directors, and as Chairman of the Public Safety Committee of the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG), on the regional board of the California League of Cities, and as a member of the U.S. Conference of Mayors. He served as a member of the California Coastal Commission as an appointee of the Speaker of the California State Assembly from 2005 – 2007. After leaving office he was appointed by the City Council to the Board of Port Commissioners at the Unified Port of San Diego representing Chula Vista from 2009 -2011. In 2008 he was invited to be a member of the Independent Task Force on U.S. Immigration Policy for the Council on Foreign Relations.

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Chris Van Gorder

As President and CEO of Scripps Health since 2000, Chris Van Gorder has been instrumental in positioning Scripps among the nation's foremost health care institutions. Van Gorder received his master's degree in public administration/health services administration at the University of Southern California, completed the Wharton System CEO Program at the University of Pennsylvania and earned his bachelor's degree from California State University, Los Angeles. In 2006, California's governor appointed Van Gorder to the California Commission on Emergency Medical Services (EMSA), where he served two terms. He also is a past chairman (2010) of the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE). Van Gorder was part of medical history following Hurricane Katrina in 2005, when U.S. Surgeon General Richard Carmona, M.D., asked a Scripps medical unit to staff a clinic for hurricane survivors in the Houston Convention Center. Van Gorder is a past recipient of the ACHE Gold Medal Award – ACHE's highest honor – for his contributions to health care services and community Health.

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Larry Lewis

CEO of Pioneers Memorial Healthcare District in Brawley, California for the past eight years, received his MBA from the University of Colorado- Denver, and a B.S. in Accounting from Arizona State University. Lewis is the Chairman of the Hospital Association of San Diego and Imperial Counties; Commission member and Past-Chair of the Imperial County Health Authority Commission; Board Member of the California Hospital Association Board of Directors and Executive Committee of the Board; Board Member of the California Association of Hospitals and Health System (CAHHS). He is also Past-President of the Brawley Rotary Club; Board Chair of BETAAlliance Insurance Services (BAIS), a risk retention group that writes healthcare professional liability insurance in the state of California, and the BETA Healthcare Group board of directors (BETA Council).

Dr. Adolphe Edward

The CEO of El Centro Regional Medical Center. Is incredibly involved in the ongoing situation regarding COVID in Imperial County. He has also held senior leadership roles at hospitals across the U.S. and abroad, focusing on attracting new patients and growing specialty services. These positions include Chief Medical Operations for Honeywell, where he oversaw medical operations at multiple locations in Turkey, Oman and United Arab Emirates, as well as a dual role as chief operating officer and chief quality officer for Dell's health sciences division/SEHA in Abu Dhabi, where he was responsible for 9 hospitals and over 60 clinics in the UAE health system. Prior to that, Dr. Edward held many executive leadership positions in health care for the U.S. Air Force for over 22 years.

He holds a doctorate in healthcare administration and leadership from the Medical University of South Carolina, a master's of strategy and international relations from Air University (U.S. Air Force), an MS in healthcare administration from Trinity University, an MBA from Florida Metropolitan University, and a BS in biological studies from Wichita State University. He also earned several certifications related to leadership and management.

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Dr. Jess Mandel

A physician “frontline provider” in the intensive care during the COVID-19 pandemic, Dr. Mandel also oversaw critical care surge planning for UCSD Health. In addition, he developed and led efforts to assist the Tijuana, Mexico medical community in dealing with their surge of COVID-19 patients, including establishment of daily in-person collaborations with Hospital General de Tijuana (the safety net hospital and largest COVID-19 care provider in that region of Mexico) as well as donations of lifesaving medical equipment. More recently, he also has been leading efforts to assist Mexicali General Hospital in Mexicali, Mexico with their COVID-19 surge.

Dr. Jess Mandel serves as the Kenneth M. Moser Professor of Medicine and the Chief of the Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care, and Sleep Medicine at UC San Diego. A native of the Chicago area, Dr. Mandel received his Bachelor of Arts in History from Brown University in 1986 and earned his Doctorate in Medicine from Baylor College of Medicine in 1991

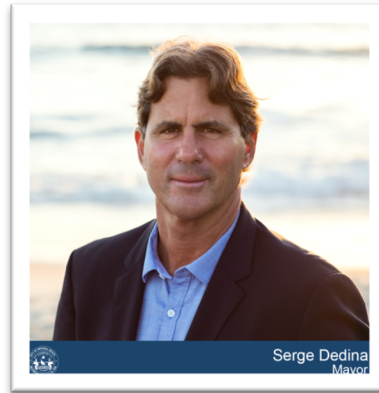
After joining the faculty of Harvard Medical School, Dr. Mandel served as Director of the Internal Medicine Training Program at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and established the hospital’s Pulmonary Hypertension Center. In 2001, he joined the faculty of the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine, where he served as Assistant Dean in the Office of Student Affairs and Curriculum, and as Co-Director of the University of Iowa Pulmonary Hypertension Program. He also directed courses in physiology and in medical humanities. In 2006, he was appointed Associate Dean of the University of California, San Diego School of Medicine with responsibility for undergraduate medical education. In 2017 he became Vice-Chair for Education in the Department of Medicine and Chief of the Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care, and Sleep Medicine at UC San Diego.

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Serge Dedina

Serge is the Mayor of the City of Imperial Beach. He is also co-founder and Executive Director of WILD Coast. Serge received the Surf Industry's Environmental Award, San Diego Zoological Society's Conservation Medal as well as the California Coastal Commission's "Coastal Hero" Award in recognition of his conservation achievements. He was named a UCSD John Muir Fellow in 2013 and was honored as a 2016 Peter Benchley "Hero of the Sea." Before co-founding WILD Coast back in 2000, Serge was the founding Director of The Nature Conservancy's Baja California - Sea of Cortez Program where he helped to initiate successful efforts to protect Loreto Bay National Park, Espiritu Santo Island Reserve and Cabo Pulmo National Park. He grew up in Imperial Beach, California, and spent his childhood helping to preserve the Tijuana Estuary as a National Wildlife Refuge and has worked on water quality issues in the San Diego - Tijuana region since 1980. Serge is an avid surfer, swimmer and former State of California Ocean Lifeguard. He is the author of *Saving the Gray Whale*, a book based on the three years he lived in the gray whale lagoons of Baja California; *Wild Sea: Eco-Wars and Surf Stories from the Coast of the Californias*; and, *Surfing the Border*. Serge has a Ph.D. Geography, University of Texas at Austin; M.S. Geography, University of Wisconsin-Madison; B.A. Political Science, University of California, San Diego.

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Kate Clark

Currently is the senior director of immigration services and lead immigration attorney at Jewish Family Service San Diego (JFS), one of San Diego's oldest and most impactful nonprofits. In these roles, she advocates on behalf of San Diego's refugees and asylees and assists the immigrant community at-large in applying for various immigration benefits.

Clark is also a founding member and sits on the steering committee of the San Diego Rapid Response Network (SDRRN), a coalition of more than 40 nonprofits and faith-based organizations formed in response to increased immigration enforcement activity in the region. Aligned with this mission, Clark led JFS and SDRRN's effort to create an emergency shelter for asylum-seeking families who have been released from federal custody as they wait to make their case in immigration court. Since late November 2018, the shelter has welcomed more than 25,000 individuals (all families with young children), providing medical screenings, warm meals and new clothes, legal guidance and transportation assistance to help families get to their loved ones or sponsors elsewhere in the U.S.

As lead immigration attorney for JFS, Clark also provides pro-bono legal consultations and representation to vulnerable families and individuals placed in the "Remain in Mexico" program known as Migrant Protection Protocols.

Clark holds a law degree from California Western School of Law and a bachelor's degree in international business from San Diego State University. She remains involved with California Western as an adjunct professor, teaching the Distinguished Advocate Summer Appellate Boot Camp and international law courses.

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Luis Olmedo

The Executive Director of *Comite Civico del Valle*, a community-based environmental justice non-profit best known for its campaign to combat and control the high levels of childhood asthma in California's Imperial Valley and surrounding areas. (More than 23,000 Imperial County residents have been diagnosed with asthma, many of them economically disadvantaged people with limited access to health care). The group has been serving the Imperial Valley since 1987, when it was founded by Olmedo's father.

For 13 years, Luis has advised local, regional, and state programs on environmental health issues affecting rural communities in California's border with Mexico California. He has also been involved in litigation at the local level to force government regulators to more effectively protect residents from air pollution. More recently, *Comite Civico de Valley* launched the Imperial County Community Air Monitoring Project, a fascinating partnership uniting a nongovernment organization, state agency scientists, university professors, and community leaders. Together, they are embedding low-cost air monitoring technology throughout neighborhoods, guided and assisted by the residents of those very neighborhoods, and developing an interactive GIS map to translate air quality data into actionable alerts easily understood by families, schools, and local leaders.