

2021
ELECTION EDITION

What's Up?

NEWS FOR
ACERA
MEMBERS



2021

Retirement Board Election

Message From the CEO

ACERA WILL BE conducting an election to fill one elected general position on the Board of Retirement. In November, active and deferred ACERA general members will receive a ballot in the mail to select a candidate for Second Member to

Represent the General Members.

As an ACERA member, this is your opportunity to vote for the member of the Board who represents you. ACERA's Board meets monthly through the year, making decisions that affect your retirement system. Enclosed you will find a campaign statement from each of the candidates. These statements are in addition to the material contained in the official ballot and may provide supplementary and different information. Please review this material carefully. Ballots must be received by the Registrar of Voters by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 15, 2021.

Sincerely,

Dave Nelsen,
Chief Executive Officer

VOTING BEGINS

Wednesday, November 10, 2021

Your ballot will arrive by mail

RETURN BALLOT TO REGISTRAR OF
VOTERS NO LATER THAN

**Wednesday,
December 15, 2021, 5:00pm**

www.acera.org

(510) 628-3000 • 1-800-838-1932

Darryl L. Walker Sr., *Alternate Safety*

Nancy Reilly, *Alternate Retired*

Keith Carson

Tarrell V. Gamble

Ophelia B. Basgal

George Wood

Henry C. Levy

Liz Koppenhaver, *2nd Vice Chair*

Jaime Godfrey, *1st Vice Chair*

Dale E. Amara, *Chair*

Board of Retirement

Dave Nelsen

Chief Executive Officer

Oakland, CA 94612

475 14th Street, Suite 1000

Alameda County
Employees' Retirement
Association



PRESORTED
STANDARD U.S.
POSTAGE
PAID
OAKLAND, CA
PERMIT NO. 2285



Kellie Blumin Simon (AKA Kellie Blumin) Deputy Public Defender

My name is Kellie Blumin and I am seeking election to the Board of the Alameda County Employees' Retirement Association (ACERA). The pension and health benefits we receive as ACERA members allow us to achieve financial security in retirement. As an ACERA Board of Retirement member, I would work to ensure that the over 11 billion dollars in retirement funds are protected and the assets are managed with the pension's long-term health as the goal. I would seek to preserve the Supplemental Retiree Benefits Reserve Fund (SRBR), which are non-vested benefits that provide for retired employees' monthly medi-

cal allowance, dental and vision coverage, and supplemental COLA. The SRBR must be safeguarded so that all future retirees can receive these benefits.

My educational background includes a BA from the University of California, Santa Barbara, and a JD from the University of San Francisco. I have worked in Alameda County for 22 years as a Deputy Public Defender. As an attorney, I understand the fiduciary duty to protect the fund so that every decision is made with this obligation in mind. Legal issues arise that affect our pensions, and my experience in handling complex cases, reading case law, and analyzing the appropriate statutes, will ensure that the tough questions are being asked and that good decisions are being made.

If elected, I will represent the interests of all ACERA members. It is important to me that employees are given the information they need to make smart retirement decisions, and that ACERA keeps our members apprised of current issues facing the organization. I would be available by phone or email to all employees who have questions about retirement benefits, transferring retirement, or strategies to maximize retirement pensions. I would also make sure that retirees receive all the benefits to which they are entitled in a timely manner.

Please support me in this election and I will fight to protect our pensions, work to maximize investment returns, and promote integrity and transparency at ACERA.

ENDORSEMENTS:

- Nancy E. O'Malley, District Attorney of Alameda County
- ACERA Board Members:
 - Dale Amaral
 - George Wood
 - Liz Koppenhaver
- Alameda County Management Employee Association (ACMEA)
- IFPTE Local 21 (Including Public Defender Chapter)
- Alameda County Deputy Sheriff's Association (DSA)
- Alameda County Prosecutors' Association
- Elizabeth Rogers, Former ACERA Board Member

ACERA has produced this What's Up? Election Edition Newsletter as a courtesy and service for the candidates and ACERA's members to provide an opportunity for the candidates to communicate with voters. ACERA assumes no liability for the contents of the submitted materials. These statements present solely the views of the candidates and do not represent an official statement of ACERA or its Board of Trustees. The content of these statements is presented exactly as the candidates submitted it. ACERA has neither approved nor confirmed the accuracy or content of these statements.



Stacey R. Perry

Administrative Specialist II, ACBH

I am Stacey R. Perry, a candidate for the Second Member seat for General Members of the Alameda County Employees' Retirement Association (ACERA). I currently work at Utilization Management as the Administrative Support Manager, with oversight responsibilities for the Administrative Unit.

I have been with the County for about seven years, with previous assignments at the Assessor's Office and ACERA, which was my assignment for three and a half years. While at ACERA, I was the Administrative Specialist assigned to the Assistant Chief Executive Officer, Operations. In that role, I was responsible for administrative

support for the actuarial valuation process, as well as contribution processes.

I am currently a PhD candidate in Public Policy after receiving a Master of Public Administration from California State University, East Bay in 2020

I believe I am the right candidate because of my previous experience with and knowledge of ACERA's processes, which are items upon which the Board makes decisions. I am also motivated to ensure these decisions would be made with as much transparency as possible while still upholding my fiduciary responsibilities to ACERA's membership. Additionally, I would look forward to engaging with any key stakeholders in ACERA's processes to ensure transparent governance of the fund.

I would like, based on this information, to ask that you vote for me as the new Second Member seat for General Members of ACERA.

ACERA has produced this What's Up? Election Edition Newsletter as a courtesy and service for the candidates and ACERA's members to provide an opportunity for the candidates to communicate with voters. ACERA assumes no liability for the contents of the submitted materials. These statements present solely the views of the candidates and do not represent an official statement of ACERA or its Board of Trustees. The content of these statements is presented exactly as the candidates submitted it. ACERA has neither approved nor confirmed the accuracy or content of these statements.



Dana Hodge

Social Worker III

I am running for the position of Second Member representing the General members of the ACERA Board of Retirement. I believe I will add value to the board with my education and work experience. My desire is to see ACERA thrive and prosper.

My commitment to public service started more than 25 years ago, when I started my career with Alameda County Social Service Agency. I am a recent graduate from California State University East Bay, with a master's degree in business with an emphasis in Finance. I am aware of the need to operate within a budget. I also realize that proper education

regarding our retirement benefits is paramount. I am convinced I can offer quality representation.

I became interested in finances, when I was a board member of the Financial Literacy Program at the Cooperative Center Federal Credit Union in Berkeley. I held that position for three years. For the past 15 years, I have volunteered with Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) preparing personal income taxes for low-income individuals. In addition, since 2019 I have served as the treasurer at my church.

My experience in finance will greatly add value to ACERA as it moves forward in dealing with challenges related to its continued sustainability.

In my spare time, I enjoy traveling and spending time with my family and friends.

ACERA has produced this What's Up? Election Edition Newsletter as a courtesy and service for the candidates and ACERA's members to provide an opportunity for the candidates to communicate with voters. ACERA assumes no liability for the contents of the submitted materials. These statements present solely the views of the candidates and do not represent an official statement of ACERA or its Board of Trustees. The content of these statements is presented exactly as the candidates submitted it. ACERA has neither approved nor confirmed the accuracy or content of these statements.