

**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR GAVIN NEWSOM**  
**Cabinet Affairs**  
(916) 557-5438

**Cabinet Team**

**Issue Areas**

**Ann Patterson**

*Cabinet Secretary*  
Assistant – Nicole Arnaiz

**Gina Da Silva**

*Chief Deputy Cabinet Secretary / Senior  
Advisor for Immigration*  
Assistant– Andrea Escobar

Immigration; Immigrant Integration

Team Manager for: Government, Health & Human Services,  
Education, Labor, Innovation & the Economy

**Rhys Williams**

*Chief Deputy Cabinet Secretary / Senior  
Advisor on Emergency Management*  
Assistant – Andrew Huitt

Emergency Preparedness and Management; Homeland  
Security; Military and the National Guard

Team Manager for: Justice & Public Safety, Climate &  
Environment, Infrastructure

**Ben Chida**

*Chief Deputy Cabinet Secretary*  
Assistant – Marshall Comia

TK-12 Education; Longitudinal Data System; Higher  
Education; Future of Work; CDE; SBE; California Volunteers;  
State Library; and Arts Council

**Emiko Burchill**

*Deputy Cabinet Secretary*  
Assistant – Marshall Comia

Water Resilience; Drinking Water; Conveyance; Ground  
Water Management; Flood Protection; Water Conservation,  
Efficiency, Recycling and Storage; Habitat and Species  
Protection (water supply related)

**Elena Chávez Quezada**

*Senior Advisor on Social Innovation*  
Assistant– Andrea Escobar

Philanthropy; Innovative Public-Private Partnerships

**Richard Figueroa**

*Deputy Cabinet Secretary*  
Assistant – Andrew Huitt

Early Childhood Development; Childcare; Health and  
Human Services; Health Insurance; Public Health; Social  
Services; CalVET; COVID-19

**James Hacker**

*Deputy Cabinet Secretary*  
Assistant – Marshall Comia

Housing; Homelessness; Transportation; Infrastructure; High  
Speed Rail; DMV; Autonomous Vehicles; Broadband

**Christine Hironaka**

*Senior Advisor for Energy*  
Assistant – Andrew Huitt

Energy and Utility Policy; Utility Safety; Energy Efficiency  
Standards; Building Decarbonization; Energy Planning and  
Procurement; Reliability; Energy Transition; Clean Energy  
Technologies

**Hafsa Kaka**

*Senior Advisor on Homelessness*  
Assistant – Marshall Comia

Housing; Homelessness

**Kevin Matulich**

*Deputy Cabinet Secretary*  
Assistant – Andrea Escobar

Labor and Workforce Development; Business & Economic  
Development; International Affairs; Civil Rights; Commission  
on Status of Women and Girls; Elections/FPCC; Gambling;  
Lottery; Horseracing

**Kim McCoy Wade**

Senior Advisor on Aging, Disability and Alzheimer's  
Assistant – Andrew Huitt

Aging; Disability; Alzheimer's; Strategic Alignment

**Loretta Miranda**

Deputy Tribal Affairs Secretary and Special Counsel  
Assistant – Michael Park

Tribal Affairs

**Dwight Payne**

Assistant Deputy Cabinet Secretary

Assists with Immigration; Emergency Preparedness and Management; Homeland Security; Military and the National Guard

**Hinnaneh Qazi**

Deputy Cabinet Secretary  
Assistant – Marshall Comia

Government Operations; CalHR; Revenue and Taxation; Pensions/CalPERS/CalSTRS; Information Technology; State Contracting; Consumer Services; Boards and Commissions; Privacy; Financial Institutions; Alcoholic Beverage Control; Fairs

**Maricela Rodriguez**

Senior Advisor for Civic Engagement and Strategic Partnerships  
Assistant – Andrea Escobar

Public Education and Community Engagement for Climate Justice Drought Response / Water Conservation and Extreme Heat; COVID-19 Vaccines; Harm Reduction

**Lauren Sanchez**

Senior Advisor for Climate  
Assistant – Andrea Escobar

Climate Mitigation, Adaptation and Resilience; Air Pollution; Conservation and Biodiversity

**Joe Shea**

Deputy Cabinet Secretary  
Assistant – Andrea Escobar

Outdoor Recreation and Accessibility; Agriculture; Wildlife and Natural Resources; Pest Management, Toxics and Chemical Safety; Recycling

**Christina Snider**

Tribal Affairs Secretary  
Assistant – Michael Park

Tribal Affairs

**Vicky Waters**

Deputy Cabinet Secretary  
Assistant – Andrew Huitt

Corrections; Board of Parole Hearings; Board of State and Community Corrections; Department of Justice; Policing and Local Law Enforcement; Peace Officer Standards and Training; Juvenile Justice; Penal Code Revision Committee; Reparations Task Force; Firearms

**Katie Wheeler Mathews**

Senior Advisor on Federal Affairs  
Assistant – Andrew Huitt

Washington DC Office Director; NGA; WGA; DGA; Appropriations; FEMA; Defense; Homeland Security; Immigration; HHS; USDOL; USDOJ; Department of Education; State Department; USDOT

**Michael Wiafe**

Education Policy Associate

TK-12 Education; Longitudinal Data System; Higher Education; Future of Work; CDE; SBE

**Nicole Arnaiz**

Special Assistant to the Cabinet Secretary  
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Assistant to Ann Patterson

**Marshall Comia**

*Executive Assistant for Cabinet Affairs*  
marshall.comia@gov.ca.gov

Assistant to Emiko Burchill, Ben Chida, Jason Elliott, James Hacker, Hafsa Kaka, Hinnaneh Qazi

**Andrea Escobar**

*Executive Assistant for Cabinet Affairs*  
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Assistant to Elena Chavez Quesada, Gina Da Silva, Maricela Rodriguez, Lauren Sanchez, Kevin Matulich and Joe Shea

**Andrew Huitt**

*Executive Assistant for Cabinet Affairs*  
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Assistant to Richard Figueroa, Christine Hironaka, Kim McCoy Wade, Vicky Waters, Katie Wheeler Mathews and Rhys Williams

**Michael Park**

*Executive Assistant for Tribal Affairs*  
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Assistant to Christina Snider and Loretta Miranda

