

POLITICAL ADVOCACY



Community Engagement Associate Susan Siegert speaks with contractors at Trade Show

For the past six months, I have seen first hand the possibilities and opportunities we have to bolster our message and create new opportunities for partnership, especially within the communities in which our members live and work. Everywhere I go, people are interested in learning more about our programs, which reinforces the notion that California needs us here to thrive—in order to build the next generation of construction workers in the trades.

This summer, there will be plenty of opportunities to continue down this path, and I will be providing further information along the way as we gear up for the next few months.



Clayshoot and Congress

Congressman John Duarte joined us at our annual Clayshoot on May 19th. He gave a rousing speech on the importance of returning him to Congress, and our members enjoyed having facetime with their elected representative. Looking down the road ahead, we hope to invite more of our elected representatives from state and federal governments to speak with our members. It provides a great opportunity to hear directly from them regarding what they are working on, and how they are addressing our members needs—especially as it pertains to regulations, building and construction.

ABC National Legislative Conference

On June 11–June 15, ABC National will be hosting our Legislative Conference, where we will be meeting our federal representatives in Washington D.C. We have a slate of ten meetings set up with elected officials and their staff. As part of our preparation, we are reaching out to our members in these districts to ask if there is anything they would like us to communicate to their representatives.

If you have any questions or would like us to communicate a specific federal issue, please contact Matthew Estipona matthew@abcnorcal.org or Joe Lubas joe@abcnorcal.org and we will ensure your message is relayed to the person who needs to hear it.



Out and About in the Community

On May 16th, we participated in a regional tradeshow to showcase our apprentice programs, benefits of membership and the current political landscape regarding project labor agreements in the region.



Matthew and Susan attending regional trade show

It was a great experience to understand the different trades that also require apprentices, and the potential opportunities for collaboration with new industries that are growing.

Politics and Partnerships in the South Bay



New ABC instructor Richard Brown with San Jose Mayor Matt Mahan and Matthew Estipona



Matthew Estipona attending fundraiser for soon-to-be Speaker of the Assembly, Robert Rivas

Capitol Update

As we approach the first half of the 2023–2024 legislative session, I am proud to share that there has been no major legislation that would dramatically impact our members—aside from Senate Bill 574, which would have instituted a statewide project labor agreement throughout California, that was turned into a 2-year bill. We are continuing to keep an eye on bills relating to High Road legislation and will provide updates on them as they make their way through each house.

ABC of California will be hosting a Legislative Mid-Session Webinar Update on July 20 at 2:00–3:00pm. We will be providing an overview of bills that passed or failed, as well as key issues to look out for in our region and state. Stay tuned for more updates as we approach the date.

Sacramento will be the hosting-ground for two upcoming events, including a Top Golf event, with our Sacramento Area Council on June 22nd and our Sacramento Facility Open House event on July 19th. We are inviting local elected officials to attend and, if you are a member in the region and would like to learn more about how to get involved, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Thank you again for your time. I am looking forward to providing you all with more updates on our government affairs and community engagement activities in the coming month. Have a great start to the summer season with your families and loved ones.