



San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council

AFL-CIO

Contact: Anthony Saavedra
(619) 850-9697 (cell)
asaavedra@unionyes.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council Unanimously Selects Lorena Gonzalez as Secretary-Treasurer

Gonzalez becomes the first woman to lead Labor Council in its 106 year history.

San Diego – Dec. 20, 2007 – The delegate body of the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council voted unanimously to appoint Lorena Gonzalez as its new secretary-treasurer and CEO last night.

The delegates, a representative body of members from all 119 local unions affiliated with the Labor Council, followed last week's unanimous vote by the organization's executive board. Gonzalez will become the first female to lead the Labor Council, since its charter in 1902.

Gonzalez, who has served as the Labor Council's political director since September 2006, takes over for the retiring Jerry Butkiewicz effective January 2, 2008.

"I am humbled by the support I have received from our local unions," Gonzalez said. "It's a privilege to be entrusted with the opportunity to work as hard for our members as they do for the families they support."

Labor Council President Mickey Kasparian echoed the sentiments of the organization's membership.

"No one is more qualified to take over for Jerry than Lorena," said Kasparian. "Under her leadership, San Diego's labor movement will continue to grow and thrive."

"If we didn't have someone like Lorena to step right in and continue to strengthen the foundation that has been laid, I wouldn't feel so comfortable retiring," said Butkiewicz. "This is a great and historic day for San Diego's working families."

The San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council is a coalition of 119 local unions that represent 120,000 working families in the region. The Labor Council strives to ensure that all workers in the region earn a fair wage and health care for their families.

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JERRY BUTKIEWICZ, *Secretary-Treasurer*

MICKEY KASPARIAN, *President*

3717 Camino Del Rio South • San Diego, CA 92108 • (619) 283-5411 • Fax (619) 281-1296