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WHITTIER AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

WINTER 2026

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New 2026 Labor and Employment Laws

By James W. Ward, J.D., Employment Law Subject Matter Expert/Legal Writer and Editor, CalChamber

After a busy year, the California Legislature sent hundreds of bills to Governor Gavin Newsom to either sign into law or veto. These bills span a wide range of issues. For example, California now has a new state snake and shrub. As great as the Giant Garter Snake and the Big Berry Manzanita are, however, many new labor- and employment-related laws are taking effect next year — and employers will want to be familiar with them.

These incoming laws touch on a variety of topics, including discrimination, leaves of absence, employment contracts, notice and recordkeeping requirements, collective bargaining, enforcement and more.

Here's a quick look at the most notable changes coming next year. Unless noted otherwise, the new laws take effect on January 1, 2026.

Minimum Wage

On January 1, 2026, California's minimum wage will increase to $16.90 per hour. This hourly increase also affects the minimum salary requirements for full-time exempt employees, which will increase to $70,304 per year.

Employers also must keep in mind that all fast food restaurant employees covered under California Labor Code Section 1474-1476 have their own minimum wage of $20 per hour, and to qualify as exempt, covered fast food employees must make at least twice the fast food minimum wage.

Additionally, California has different health care worker minimum wage rates in effect — some of which increased on July 1, 2025. And covered health care employees must make at least one and a half times the applicable health care minimum wage rate or twice the state minimum wage, whichever is greater.

Several cities and counties in California have also adopted their own local minimum wage rates that are separate from the statewide rate, many of which will increase on January 1, 2026, though local minimum wage rates don't affect the statewide minimum exempt salary threshold.

Discrimination, Harassment and Retaliation

SB 642 makes changes to California's pay scale disclosure requirements and the California Equal Pay Act. Under existing law, employers must provide pay scale information to applicants and employees when requested, and employers with 15 or more employees must post pay scale information in job postings. SB 642 revises the definition of "pay scale" for these purposes to mean a "good faith estimate" of the salary or hourly wage range the employer reasonably expects to pay upon hire.

The Equal Pay Act generally prohibits employers from paying employees an amount less than employees of a different gender, race or ethnicity for substantially similar work. SB 642 increases the statute of limitations on Equal Pay Act claims from two years to three and clarifies when a cause of action arises under the law. Notably, the law will also allow recovery under the Equal Pay Act to reach back as far as six years.

Additionally, California's pay data reporting requirements will undergo some revisions. SB 464 requires demographic information collected by an employer or labor contractor for pay data reporting purposes to be stored separately from employees' personnel records and, beginning January 1, 2027, increases the number of job categories in the report from 10 to 23.

SB 464 also changes pay data reporting penalties. Currently, when an employer doesn't comply with pay data reporting requirements, the California Civil Rights Department (CRD) can seek an order from a court requiring the employer to comply, recover related costs and ask the court to impose civil penalties on the employer for noncompliance. Courts had discretion to impose penalties; however, SB 464 removes court discretion and makes penalties mandatory.

Finally, Governor Newsom signed SB 303, a bill related to bias mitigation training. The bill adds new provisions to the Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA) stating that an employee's assessment, testing, admission or acknowledgment of their own personal bias — made in good faith or as part of a bias mitigation training — does not constitute unlawful discrimination. Lawmakers introduced this bill to address concerns that bias-related training information could be misused in discrimination claims against employees or employers.

Leaves of Absence

AB 406 is a follow-up bill to last year's AB 2499, which expanded and revised California's leave for victims of violence, including expanding the definition of "victim," reasons for which an individual can take leave and potential reasonable accommodations. AB 2499 also moved certain victims' leave and accommodation provisions

Continued on page 12

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WHITTIER AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
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page 3
Uptown Whittier's 71ST ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARADE Highlights

See what's inside

page 5
Silver Shield AWARDS BANQUET Sponsorship Opportunities

A Night of Appreciation for the Whittier Police Department

Silver Shield Awards Banquet – February 20

In **2026**, we continue to take great pride in standing firmly behind the dedicated men and women of the Whittier Police Department. Their unwavering commitment to protecting the communities of Whittier and Santa Fe Springs inspires deep appreciation and gratitude from all of us.

On **February 20**, the Whittier Chamber will proudly host the **26th Annual Silver Shield Awards Banquet & Appreciation Dinner** at the Pacific Palms Resort in the City of Industry. This special evening is dedicated to honoring the officers, civilian staff, and volunteers who devote themselves to keeping our cities safe. Attendees will experience meaningful reflections on the daily work and personal sacrifices of those who serve—through compelling stories, recognition of extraordinary acts, heartfelt tributes to retirees, and the continued strengthening of the bond between law enforcement and the community.

The responsibilities carried by law enforcement are immense, requiring not only authority and discipline but also compassion, connection, and a genuine desire to make a positive difference. The Whittier Police Department responds to thousands of calls for service each year, and both officers and civilian employees play an indispensable role in shaping the safety and well-being of Whittier and Santa Fe Springs. Our community remains profoundly grateful for their dedication.

Whether you plan to attend the event in person or wish to sponsor a meal for an officer, there are many meaningful ways to show your support for the Whittier Police Department.



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Whittier Chamber Business Focus
Official Publication of the Whittier Area Chamber of Commerce

This publication is mailed to 12,000 licensed businesses in the city of Whittier, all Whittier Chamber members, and Whittier residents in selected areas. We welcome comments, press releases, and community interest stories. The Whittier Chamber reserves the right to approve and edit submitted material.

The inclusion of advertising, logos, or paid advertorial, or reference to any products, process, service, trade name, trademark, or manufacturer in this publication is not an endorsement by the Whittier Area Chamber of Commerce.

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INDEX

Chair's Message 2
Uptown Christmas Parade 3
Mayor's Message 4
10-4 Tips from the WPD 5
What's Cool In Your School 6
Member Marketplace 9
Chamber Calendar 9
Community Connections 10
Renewing Members 14
Milestone Members 15
New Members 15

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



the YMCA

Curt Skotnicki,
Chair of the Board

Happy New Year

As we welcome 2026, I am truly grateful for the opportunity to serve as your Chair of the Board for the Whittier Chamber of Commerce. This year offers a fresh chapter for our business community—one filled with potential, renewed energy, and the chance to build upon the strong foundation we've created together. I look forward to deepening connections, elevating local businesses, and championing initiatives that continue to make Whittier a dynamic place to live, work, and thrive.

A key moment to look forward to is our beloved Silver Shield Awards Banquet. Each year, this event reminds us of the dedication and innovation within our membership, and 2026 will be no exception. We are excited to celebrate those who go above and beyond to make our community stronger.

Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment. With collaboration and a shared vision, I'm confident that 2026 will be a year of meaningful progress and positive momentum for us all.

The 110% CLUB

The 110% Club

Thank you to our generous members who have chosen to be part of our 110% Club. Their additional investment of 10% of their dues allows the Chamber to support business growth and strengthen the economic vitality of our region.

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Whittier High School Alumni Association • Whittier Hospital Medical Center • Whittier Host Lions Club • Whittier Meals On Wheels
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Join the Whittier Chamber today and learn what we can do to help benefit your business.

CHAIRMAN'S CIRCLE

The CHAIRMAN'S CIRCLE is a dedicated group of influential businesses that help shape our community vision and support the Whittier Area Chamber of Commerce's ability to strengthen the regional economy.

PIH HEALTH · the YMCA · Athens Services · BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF WHITTIER | PICO RIVERA · KAISER PERMANENTE · usbank · Credit Union of Southern California BUILDING BETTER LIVES · ROSE HILLS MEMORIAL PARK & MORTUARIES · WHITE EMERSON MORTUARY · EAST WHITTIER CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT · SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON · MAP property management

Uptown Whittier's

71ST ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARADE



Thank you to Council Member MaryAnn Pacheco for participating in the Whittier Christmas Parade and sharing in the holiday spirit with our community!



Grateful to Whittier Union High School District Superintendent Dr. Monica Oviedo, Lilia Bozigian, Assistant Superintendent of Ed. Services and Ann Fitzgerald, Assistant Superintendent of Personnel for joining the Whittier Christmas Parade and helping spread holiday cheer throughout our community!



Holiday cheer was in the air at the Whittier Christmas Parade! Thank you to City of Whittier Mayor Joe Vinatieri for joining the celebration and helping make the season merry and bright for our community!



The Whittier Christmas Parade was extra festive thanks to Athens Services! Thank you for joining the celebration and helping keep our community bright and merry this holiday season!



Thanks to Council Member Fernando Dutra, his wife Mary, and Justin Tipton, Executive Director of the Whittier Uptown Association, for spreading holiday cheer at the Whittier Christmas Parade!



Holiday cheer moo-ved into Whittier thanks to Chick-fil-A and their fun-loving cow mascots!



Thank you to Senator Bob Archuleta, Mayor Pro Tem Octavio Cesar Martinez, Grand Marshal Megan Telles from KTLA5, and Nick Kiouftis from California Grill & Bar for joining the fun and spreading holiday cheer at the Whittier Christmas Parade!



Below are the businesses that were donors for our 25 Days of Giveaways Campaign:

Dr. Solar & Roofing

Illusion Bridal

AZ Whittier Florist

Embroidery Goods

MAP Property Management

Lighthouse Sports Center

FirstLight Home Care

Zen's Tea House

Ladybugs Termite & Pest Control

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Pikey's Pizza

ACRO Printing, Inc.

Tepeyac Restaurant & Tequila Sports Bar

Ooma

White Emerson Mortuary

PIH Health

Shannon G's Flowers

YMCA of Greater Whittier

Local Fixture

L & G Goosehead Insurance Agency

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EM Bookkeeping & Tax Service

City of Whittier

Mary Kay

Whittier Area Chamber of Commerce



Great food, great company, and great leadership! The Whittier Area Chamber of Commerce Board gathered for a festive lunch at Clearman's Steak N' Stein



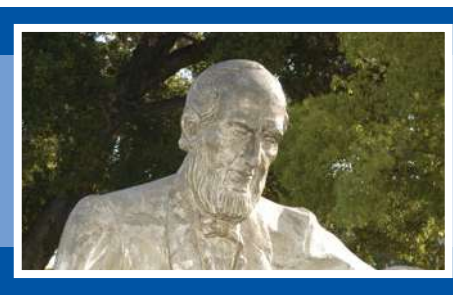
Holiday spirit was in full swing as the Whittier Area Chamber of Commerce staff shared a joyful moment with Santa and Mrs. Claus at the 2025 Holiday Lunchtime Mixer at Super Mex Restaurant in Uptown Whittier

A Special Thank You To Our Sponsors

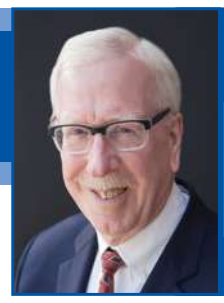
A Special Event • RMH Dance • Rose Hills Memorial Park & Mortuary
East Whittier City School District



City Of Whittier UPDATE



MAYOR'S MESSAGE



MAYOR
Joe Vinatieri

As Mayor, I want to thank you for being part of what makes Whittier such a special place to live, work, and do business. On behalf of the Whittier City Council, we're grateful to continue working alongside our community to build a city that is safe, connected, a great place to raise a family, and focused on the future.

One exciting update is the continued success of the Whittier Cruiser. This microtransit program uses electric vehicles to shuttle riders throughout Uptown, local trailheads, The Groves, and other key destinations within the service area. Since launching as a fare-free pilot, the program has grown to serve more than 3,300 riders each month, helping residents get around affordably and conveniently. Based on rider feedback and a detailed operational review, the City introduced a modest fare of $3 per rider, $6 max per ride, on January 28, 2026. This adjustment is intended to improve reliability, reduce wait times, and ensure the service continues to meet real transportation needs. Even with the new fare, the Whittier Cruiser remains significantly more affordable than traditional rideshare options, while providing valuable data to help guide the future of this popular program. We're excited to see the Cruiser continue to evolve and appreciate the community's enthusiasm and support. Residents are encouraged to download the Ride Circuit app to get cruising.

The City continues to make major investments in parks and open space. One of the largest projects underway is the historic $22 million renovation of Parnell Park. When complete in 2027, the park will feature new soccer fields, expanded picnic areas, a band shell for performances, upgraded lighting, improved pathways, modernized restrooms, expanded and modernized zoo space for our beloved animals, and EV charging stations. We're especially excited to welcome our zoo animals into larger enclosures. This is a significant investment in one of our most active community spaces and will create an even more welcoming park for families across Whittier.

While the Parnell Park Community and Senior Center is closed during outdoor construction, all Senior Services operations have temporarily relocated to the Uptown Whittier Senior Center. Residents are encouraged to reach out to the Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Department there for assistance with Dial-A-Ride transportation or other Senior Services-related needs.

We are also working toward creating new park space along the Greenway Trail at First Avenue, made possible through the City Council's recent purchase of a strip of open land. Community feedback is guiding the design of this future linear park, with a focus on active recreation, trail connectivity, and increased parking for park and trail users alike.

In other exciting news, the City recently acquired land adjacent to Anaconda Park, which will allow for future expansion of this park. Planning for this park space will occur in the coming years, bringing additional recreation opportunities to the community. At the same time, the City is gathering input on the future of Broadway Park, which is next in line for improvements under the Whittier Parks Master Plan.

Looking ahead to spring, there is much to look forward to. Families are invited to join us for our annual Eggstravaganza on Saturday, March 28, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Because Parnell Park is under construction, Eggstravaganza 2026 will be hosted at York Field. This popular event features egg hunts, a family fair, photos with the Easter Bunny, and plenty of fun for all ages. It's a wonderful way to celebrate the season and enjoy time with neighbors. We hope to see you at York Field on March 28.

We're also proud to welcome back Whittier Reads, presented by the Whittier Public Library and the Whittier Public Library Foundation. This year's selection, When It All Burns by wildland fire fighter Jordan Thomas, promises meaningful conversation and engaging programs throughout April at both library locations. I encourage you to pick up a copy from the library and take part in this community-wide celebration of reading and literacy.

Here's to a great spring season in Whittier. We hope to see you out and about in the community soon.



Thank you to Whittier City Manager Conal McNamara and Mayor Joe Vinatieri for presenting the 2025 State of the City address. We appreciate your leadership and insight into Whittier's future

THE WHITTIER AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PRESENTS

WHITTIER CITY COUNCIL
Candidates Forum

Attend to hear from the candidates running for City Council seats in Districts 2 and 4 as well as the Mayoral candidates in the citywide election.

Whittier Community Theatre
7630 Washington Ave.
Whittier, CA 90602

SAVE THE DATE:
TUESDAY
MARCH 3, 2026
5:30 P.M.

ELECTION OVERVIEW
Mayoral **District 2** **District 4**

Event is Open to the Public
FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:
WWW.WHITTIERCHAMBER.COM
(562) 698-9554



City Of Whittier UPDATE





Chief
Aviv Bar

10-4 tips from the WHITTIER POLICE DEPARTMENT

PROUDLY SERVING WHITTIER AND SANTA FE SPRINGS

Most Car Burglaries are Preventable

We have known for many years that basic crime prevention is the most effective way to reduce the likelihood of becoming a crime victim. We also know that most criminals are opportunistic in nature and will look for an easy job with the least amount of resistance to complete their crime.

Officers conduct interviews with car burglary suspects after their arrests. When asked how they committed their crimes, the criminals tell us they spent hours walking through parking lots and residential streets looking into vehicles for anything of value that was visible through the windows. When they saw an item, they simply smashed the window and took it. In other cases, the suspects said they parked in shopping centers and watched people place purses, backpacks, and other valuables in the trunk before heading to shop or use a fitness facility. When the owners walked away, the suspects smashed a window, opened the trunk, and removed the valuables. When the suspects examined a vehicle with nothing visible through the windows, they simply moved on to another vehicle.

This information should remind all of us that on any given day and any given time, criminals are looking for an easy target. In addition, the theft of purses and wallets from vehicles is a pre-curser to identity theft.

To reduce the chance of becoming a victim, do not leave ANYTHING visible in your parked vehicle. This includes when parked in your driveway. Even cheap sunglasses or a phone charger could entice a criminal to break the window and take them.



The 26th Annual Silver Shield

PRESENTED BY THE
WHITTIER AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Friday, February 20, 2026

Pacific Palms Resort
1 Industry Hills Pkwy, City of Industry, CA 91744

WHITTIER AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Silver Shield AWARDS BANQUET

$160.00 per guest
Cocktail Hour & Registration 5:30 p.m.
Dinner and Awards Program 6:30 p.m.

Sponsorships Available

Silver Shield Sponsor Levels

Cost	*Name*	*Benefit*
$3,950	Badge Sponsor	Two full page tribute advertisements in program Two tables at event (24 guests) Recognition at event and in program Power-point tribute advertisement during dinner Marketing in the Business Focus and online
$2,450	Chief Sponsor	Full page tribute advertisement in program One table at event (10 guests) Recognition at event and in program Power-point tribute advertisement during dinner Marketing in the Business Focus and online
$1,850	Captain Sponsor	1/2 page tribute advertisement in program 1 table at event (8 seats) Recognition at event and in program Marketing in the Business Focus and online
$1,450	Patrol Sponsor	1 table at the event (8 seats) Recognition at event and in program Marketing in the Business Focus and online
$150	906 Friend Sponsor	906 is the Police code for “backup & support” Sponsor an officer to attend the event Recognition in program
$160	Individual Ticket	Cocktail reception and dinner

Silver Shield AWARDS BANQUET

If you, or a business or organization you know, is interested in getting involved for 2026, please contact the Whittier Chamber at (562) 698-9554 or by emailing McKenna@whittierchamber.com.

WHAT'S COOL IN YOUR SCHOOL

think TOGETHER

thinktogether.org

Bringing Better Opportunities to Whittier Students with Jacquelyn Sanchez

Jacquelyn 'Jackie' Sanchez, Think Together's associate director of program excellence, grew up in East and South Whittier, witnessing the many changes in her community over the years. She has seen the transformational growth that has shaped the city into a standout community full of vibrancy and pride.

As a child, she participated in extracurricular activities, including choir and theater programs run by her school day teachers. Those experiences helped her understand the importance of enrichment opportunities, but it wasn't until after graduation that she realized how much more could be done for students beyond the classroom.

Jackie was first introduced to Think Together by chance while dropping off and picking up her youngest sibling from the program. Intrigued by the variety of activities offered, she decided to volunteer. She quickly saw the immediate impact her support could have on students and their families.

"As a volunteer, I noticed Think Together was a safe space for students to be in. It gave them that time to connect with their friends and get homework help," said Jackie. "It really helped a lot of families, specifically families with language barriers at home or working parents."

Her passion to make a positive impact quickly influenced her career trajectory as she rose through the ranks at South Whittier School District. From Think Together volunteer to program leader at Loma Vista Elementary, she was able to work closely with students and provide engaging lessons and guidance. Soon after, she earned the title of Site Program Manager at Carmela Elementary, where she was able to inspire not just the students but staff as well.

In 2023, Jackie's exceptional leadership earned her the role of Quality Assurance Coach. Then in 2025, she was named Associate Director of Program Excellence, a position that allows her to build and strengthen partnerships with local school districts. She has helped shape an enriching program that uplifts more than 600 elementary school students every day, paving pathways to new possibilities across eight elementary schools.

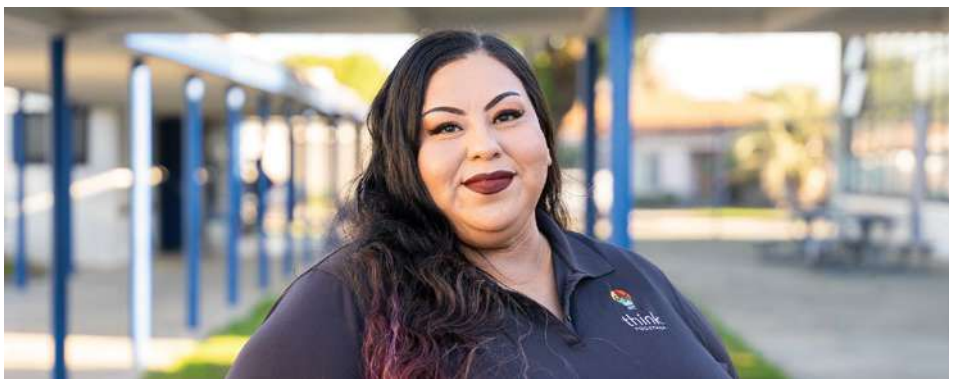
"Jackie's leadership has been instrumental in enhancing Think Together's impact on students and the Whittier community. Her passion for the students and families of Whittier is contagious, and she motivates her team by instilling a mindset of service and pride in their programs," said Jesse Durkin, Think Together's executive director of programs for

Santa Fe Springs. "While Jackie's success has opened doors to new opportunities, she remains driven by a deep connection to her roots in Whittier."

Looking ahead, Jackie envisions a future with even more partnerships at school sites, opening the door for students to explore activities like dance, sports and other program accelerators.

"As a working parent, it's important to know that my girls are safe and enjoying themselves," said Raynaldo, a Think Together parent. "Think Together provides that sense of security."

Through collaboration and innovation, this work continues to expand opportunities and empower students to discover their passions daily.



Jacquelyn Sanchez, Associate Director of Program Excellence Think Together

WHITTIER UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Whittier Union School Psychologist Recognized for Mental Wellness Advocacy

Whittier Union school psychologist Stephanie Murray, an advocate for student well-being and suicide prevention for more than 30 years, has been recognized by the California Association of School Psychologists (CASP) with its Nadine Lambert Outstanding School Psychologist Award, given to psychologists for their dedication and innovative practices. Murray received her award at the 2025 CASP convention on Oct. 29.

Murray began her Whittier Union career at California High School, where she worked to develop suicide prevention protocols, provide ongoing teacher training, and establish a centralized method of risk assessment and information sharing. The protocols were adopted Districtwide even before the passing of Assembly Bill 2246 in 2016, which requires all California school districts to have suicide prevention policies and protocols in place.

Murray also serves as co-chair of the Los Angeles County Child and Adolescent Suicide Review Team, is a member of the Los Angeles Suicide Prevention Network, is a suicide prevention consultant for the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE), and is a member of CASP's Mental Wellness Committee.

"This is a huge honor. There are so many psychologists who are doing such important work who rarely get recognized, so this is special," Murray said. "It's wonderful to work at Whittier Union, which understands the importance of providing support for student wellbeing and mental health."

Murray said she was compelled to enter the psychology field when, as a high school student, she felt adults were not seriously addressing student wellness concerns while determining on their own whether a student had true social-emotional issues. The shortsighted approach guided Murray's career arc as a psychologist.

"Students need to be heard, especially when they are in distress. There should never be any judging," Murray said. "That is why I wanted to work at a school and not in private practice. Every student, no matter their economic status, deserves to have someone they can talk to and trust."

Murray's work has also stood out among her peers at Whittier Union, who marvel at her unparalleled dedication and profound impact on the community. Cal High science department chairperson Alex McKenzie, who recommended Murray for the CASP award, has seen firsthand Murray's impact at the school site and beyond.

"Stephanie is a champion for our students, and her efforts are seen across the District," McKenzie said. "Her work with the LA County Child and Adolescent Suicide Review Team and Coroner's Suicide Guidelines Task Force is also particularly impressive. It's challenging work, reviewing suicides with other professionals. Stephanie is well deserving of this recognition."



Whittier Union school psychologist Stephanie Murray was recognized with the Nadine Lambert Outstanding School Psychologist Award at the 2025 California Association of School Psychologists (CASP) convention on Oct. 29.

As a school psychologist and suicide prevention advocate, Murray understands that there is always more work to be done, more data assessments to be evaluated, and more people to train. But she does feel the practices implemented at Whittier Union have made a positive impact, with school site student wellness surveys showing a rise in students feeling connected, identifying at least one adult on campus they can talk to and trust.

"Stephanie Murray has dedicated her life to making school life safe and nurturing for our students," Superintendent Dr. Monica Oviedo said. "She is so deserving of this honor. We can't thank her enough for all that she has done to bring suicide prevention awareness and well-being protocols to Whittier Union, but her influence goes well beyond policy. Stephanie is truly someone who cares and her guidance in mental health matters makes us all better teachers and administrators."



Athens Services Whittier

For nearly a decade, Athens Services has proudly served the west side of Whittier. As of November 1, 2025, that partnership has expanded, with Athens now providing exclusive waste, recycling and organics services for all of Whittier, including the eastern side.

This expansion is more than new containers-it represents a deeper commitment to keeping Whittier clean, sustainable, and vibrant.

More Than Just a Waste Hauler

Athens Services is a family-owned company with a history of more than 60 years of providing service across Southern California. Since 2017, we've proudly served Whittier, with a focus on innovation, sustainability, and community partnerships.

Our mission is simple: deliver dependable service with a personal touch. Whether assisting residents with a bulky item pickup or supporting businesses with recycling, Athens is here to make waste collection simple, innovative, and community driven.

We're also active partners in the community, sponsoring events like the Uptown Whittier Christmas Parade and supporting local education and outreach programs. By giving back, Athens demonstrates that we're not only here to collect waste but also to be part of Whittier's story.

What the Transition Means for You

Athens will begin carefully transitioning customers in the eastern side of Whittier in early 2026.

Here's what you can expect:

- **For commercial businesses and multifamily residences using bins on the East side of Whittier**: Athens containers will replace existing bins. Each container is clearly labeled for trash, recycling, and organics. Businesses will also receive resources to stay compliant with California's recycling and organics laws (SB 1383).
- **For single-family homes and multifamily dwellings using carts throughout Whittier**: Beginning in January 2026, all households across Whittier will receive brand new Athens Services carts, creating consistency across neighborhoods.
- **Ongoing Communication**: Residents will receive mailers, and online resources to guide them through the transition. These will include collection schedules, cart exchange details, and a guide to new services.

Services Designed for Whittier

Athens offers more than collection, it's about tools that support a sustainable lifestyle. Residents will have access to:

- **Annual Compost Giveaways** to enrich gardens.
- **Document Shredding & E-Waste** Events for secure and responsible disposal.
- **Four Free Bulky Item Pickups Per Year** for large household items.

Recycling and Organics: Building a Greener Future

As California advances its climate goals, separating waste properly is key. Athens helps communities meet these requirements by making recycling and organics simple:

- **Trash**: Non-recyclable, non-compostable items.
- **Recycling**: Paper, cardboard, bottles, cans, and certain plastics.
- **Organics**: Food scraps, yard trimmings, and other compostable materials turned into nutrient-rich soil.

By working together, Whittier can reduce landfill waste and create a more sustainable future. Athens will provide education, tools, and resources to make participation simple.

Looking Ahead

As Whittier's exclusive provider, Athens is committed to dependable service, responsive customer care, and forward-thinking sustainability. We thank the community for welcoming us into their homes, businesses and look forward to keeping Whittier clean, green, and beautiful *the Athens Way*.

Athens Services

For more information, please visit **AthensServices.com**.

WHITTIER AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Everything's better when we're together.

Join the Whittier Chamber today and learn what we can do to help benefit your business.



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AMBASSADOR SPOTLIGHT

Ambassadors are **volunteers** who believe in the Whittier Chamber's mission & values



John Bogdanov of TelWorx

John Bogdanov has long been a familiar and welcoming presence within the Whittier business community. As an Agent with TelWorx and a dedicated member of the Whittier Chamber of Commerce, Bogdanov exemplifies what it means to be engaged, supportive, and service oriented.

At TelWorx, John helps businesses save valuable time and money by researching, sourcing, and implementing technology and telecommunications services tailored to their needs. His work allows business owners to focus on what they do best, while he ensures their technology solutions work efficiently behind the scenes.

Bogdanov has been a Chamber member for seven years and has served as a Whittier Chamber Ambassador for six of those years. For him, the greatest benefit of Chamber involvement is the opportunity to connect with others and build strong, lasting relationships throughout the community. As an ambassador, he has especially enjoyed being more involved and providing a higher level of service to both the Chamber and its members.

His commitment extends well beyond a single role. John is actively involved in numerous Chamber committees and programs, including Silver Shield, Business Expo, Hathaway, and the Student Chamber Scholarship. He is also a regular participant at many Chamber events, such as ribbon cuttings, legislative lunches, State of the City, Non-Profit Network meetings, and a wide range of Student Chamber activities—including the Student Chamber Reception, Senior Breakfast, and Awards Banquet.

Over the past few months, Bogdanov has continued to give back in meaningful ways. He has attended and presented at several ribbon cuttings on behalf of the Chamber's Board, Ambassadors, and occasionally the City. He has served on the Silver Shield committee, spoken at the Student Chamber Reception, attended the Job Fair, participated in the Chamber's live stream, and assisted with the Member Open House.

Outside of his professional and Chamber commitments, Bogdanov looks forward to the holidays as a time to relax and enjoy meaningful moments with family and friends.

Through his continued involvement, leadership, and willingness to serve, John Bogdanov remains an asset to the Whittier Chamber of Commerce and a strong advocate for the local business community.



Paul Hernandez, State Farm

For more than a decade, Paul Hernandez has been a familiar and trusted presence in the Whittier business community. As the owner of State Farm – Paul Hernandez, he has built his agency around education, relationships, and service—values that closely align with his long-standing involvement in the Whittier Chamber of Commerce.

On a day-to-day basis, Hernandez's work goes far beyond selling insurance policies. His approach is rooted in needs-based consulting, helping customers truly understand their options and choose the right coverage for auto, home, life, and health insurance. When challenges arise, he serves as a problem-solver and advocate, guiding clients through the insurance claims process and helping them receive policy proceeds after claims are approved.

As a business owner and entrepreneur, Hernandez also focuses on leadership and growth within his agency. He leads and develops a professional team, ensuring everyone is aligned with the company's vision while managing the operational logistics of the business. In addition, he is deeply committed to community advocacy, regularly participating in local networking opportunities and educational seminars that help residents navigate complex topics such as Medicare and financial planning.

Hernandez has been a proud member of the Whittier Chamber of Commerce since 2013 and has served as a Chamber Ambassador for approximately 10 years. He credits the Chamber with providing elevated visibility and credibility for local businesses through platforms such as Business Focus newspaper and active social media outreach. Just as important to him is the Chamber's role as an advocate—ensuring the business community has a voice with local government leaders.

He also values the Chamber's signature events, from ribbon-cutting ceremonies that mark new beginnings to the high-energy Annual Business Expo that celebrates entrepreneurship and innovation. As an Ambassador, Hernandez has especially enjoyed the opportunity to build strong relationships, welcome and support new members, and experience personal and professional growth through this highly engaged role.

"I try to attend as many events as possible," Hernandez shared, noting that he regularly participates in Wake Up Whittier events, ribbon cuttings, and other Chamber programs. His consistent presence reflects his belief in collaboration and community connection.

Looking ahead to the holidays, Hernandez is most excited about spending quality time with family and friends, reflecting on 2025, and preparing for a successful 2026.

"In Whittier, we are stronger when we work together," Hernandez said. "By joining the Chamber, you aren't just joining an organization; you are joining a family of professionals dedicated to seeing one another succeed."

Through his business leadership, community involvement, and unwavering commitment to service, Paul Hernandez continues to make a meaningful impact on Whittier—one relationship at a time.

Ambassador Team 2025-2026

Ambassador Chair

Steve Rosas, *Ooma*

Ambassador Team

John Bogdanov, *TelWorx*

Paul Hernandez, *State Farm Insurance*

Laurie Perschbacher, *MAP Property Management, Inc.*

Peter Rodriguez, *Loan Officer/Real Estate Agent*

Catherine Badame, *Action Trophy*

Van Broussard, *Farmers Insurance - Van Broussard Agency*

Steven Flores, *Opus: Advice First*

Zimri Gutierrez, *AZ Whittier Florist*

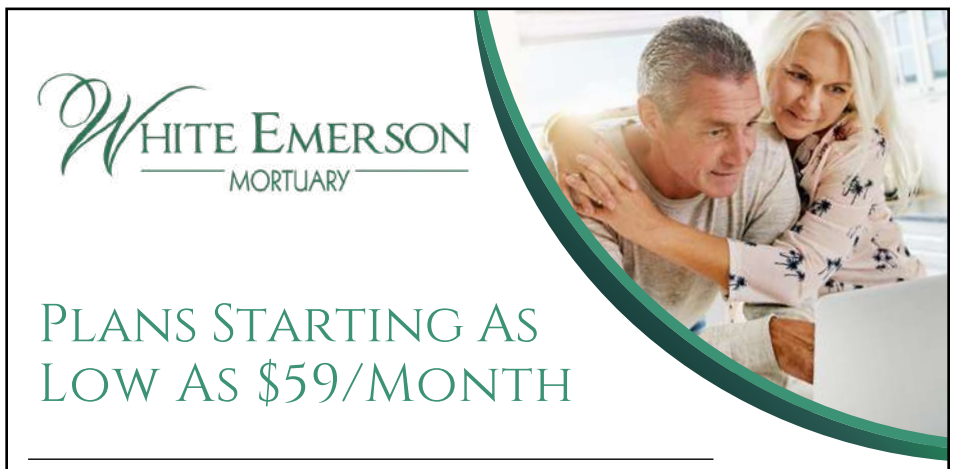
Kris Lewis, *L & G Goosehead Insurance*

Betty Peralta, *Ernest Peralta Photography*

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Dana Porter, *Happier At Home*

Juan Aceves, *YMCA of Greater Whittier*



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CHAMBER CALENDAR

JANUARY 2026

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for CrossFit Whittier
January 16, 2026 • 4:00 P.M.
CrossFit Whittier

Wake Up Whittier
January 21, 2026 • 7:30 A.M.
Whittier College (Villabobos Hall)

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Mass Mutual – Yecenia Cardenas
January 22, 2026 • 12 P.M.
Whittier Chamber Office

HR Forum
January 27, 2026 • 8:30 A.M.
Location TBD

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Zen Senior Care Services
January 29, 2026 • 12 P.M.
Whittier Chamber Office

FEBRUARY 2026

Wake Up Whittier
February 18, 2026 • 7:30 A.M.
Pioneer High School

The 26th Annual Silver Shield Awards Banquet
February 20, 2026 • 5:30 P.M.
Pacific Palms Resort

MARCH 2026

City of Whittier Candidates Forum
March 3, 2026 • 5:30 P.M.
Whittier Community Center Amphitheater

Wake Up Whittier
March 18, 2026 • 7:30 A.M.
Helpline Youth Counseling

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies



Today we celebrated the growth of our community with the grand opening of Milano Nail Spa. Thank you for choosing Whittier!



A big welcome to Uptown Taqueria Wen Chef, the newest member of the Whittier Area Chamber of Commerce! We're excited to support your journey.



Ribbon cut and doors open! Congrats to Harmony Electrical Plumbing & Air on this exciting milestone.



Congratulations to Team M & M Insurance on their official ribbon cutting!
We're proud to welcome you to the Whittier Area Chamber of Commerce and the local business community.

Congrats to these other Whittier Chamber Members who also celebrated a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony:

Headstone House by: Cemetery Tim • The Spot Barbershop • Nothing Bundt Cakes

Want your own ribbon cutting? Join the Whittier Chamber today!



Thank you to Rose Hills Memorial Park & Mortuary for graciously hosting our October Wake Up Whittier. We truly appreciate your hospitality and support of our community!



Thank you to Executive Director Oscar Hernandez for hosting Wake Up Whittier! Here, the CEO of the YMCA of Greater Whittier Curt Skotnicki presents Oscar with a certificate of recognition



Members of the Whittier Area Chamber of Commerce gathered at the Boys & Girls Clubs for the November 2025 Wake Up Whittier, where meaningful connections were made and valuable networking set the tone for a productive morning



WHITTIER COMMUNITY JOB FAIR

PRESENTED BY

WHITTIER AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

WHITTIER 1887 COLLEGE





"The Whittier Chamber's Job Fair was an outstanding example of community partnership in action. The event was well-organized, welcoming, and filled with a diverse group of talented applicants, from local college students and community members to experienced professionals seeking new opportunities.

Through this collaborative effort, we successfully filled 15 vacancies across several departments. We are proud to partner with the Whittier Chamber in connecting local talent with meaningful career opportunities and look forward to participating again next year!"

Dr. Lilia Vargas
Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
East Whittier City School District

"The job fair was amazing! 2 of our managers were able to attend and speak with the attendees! We had 11 strong leads and 2 hires from the fair, and it was the perfect timing for us! Thank you for putting together an amazing and well organized event! It 100% boosted our spirits and helps us on our mission and journey to change lives in our community!"

Sheree Freund, Owner
Lighthouse Sports Center LLC

The job fair for Happier at Home was a fantastic experience this year. There were so many people that attended, both Whittier college students and community members. The chamber did a great job advertising through facebook and other community channels and you could see this in the number of attendees. We talked to over 50 people and are hopeful that this awareness of our hiring opportunities will have a positive impact on the growth of our business.

Dana Porter
Happier at Home

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Labor Law -
Continued from front page

from the Labor Code to Government Code section 12945.8 in the FEHA, giving the California Civil Rights Department (CRD) enforcement authority and creating a new notice requirement AB 406 is essentially a clean-up bill following AB 2499 and it was passed with an urgency clause, meaning it took effect when signed on October 1, 2025. It moved the remaining victims' leave provisions from Labor Code sections 230.2 and 230.5 to Government Code 12945.8. These provisions protect employees who are victims, or whose family members are victims, and take time off to attend judicial proceedings related to the specific crime, including but not limited to delinquency proceedings, post-arrest release decisions, pleas, sentencing or postconviction release decisions.

For this specific leave, the term "victim" is defined as a person against whom certain crimes are committed, including a violent felony, serious felony, felony theft or embezzlement, or a person who suffers direct or threatened harm resulting from specific crimes or delinquent acts specified in the law. Placing all the victims' leave provisions in the same code under the jurisdiction of a single agency will likely make leave administration and enforcement more consistent.

AB 406 also made related changes to California's paid sick leave law (PSL) in Labor Code section 246.5 related to PSL permissible uses, adding the employees' right to use paid sick leave for judicial proceedings related to specific crimes described above and for jury duty and witness leave.

Given these changes, the CRD will likely update its model notice, Survivors of Violence and Family Members of Victims Right to Leave and Accommodations. Similarly, the California Labor Commissioner will likely update its paid sick leave notice.

Employers should be on the lookout for these updated notices. Though not a protected leave of absence itself, California's Paid Family Leave (PFL) program, a state-sponsored insurance program within the State Disability Insurance program that provides wage replacement benefits during a qualifying leave, is being revised. SB 590 expands eligibility for benefits to include individuals who take time off work to care for a seriously ill designated person, legally defined as "any care recipient related by blood or whose association with the individual is the equivalent of a family relationship."

Employees must name the designated person at the time they request PFL benefits and attest to the relationship. This change takes effect on **July 1, 2028.**

Employment Contracts

AB 692 affects certain voluntary employer benefits like monetary bonuses or educational tuition assistance that employers offer to incentivize and keep employees. Typically, an employer offers this benefit in exchange for an employee's promise to pay the employer back if the employment ends before a specified term.

AB 692 limits employers' ability to offer these types of benefits with repayment agreements by making it unlawful to include in any contract entered on or after January 1, 2026, a provision or term that does any of the following if the worker's employment or work relationship with a specific employer ends:

- Requires the worker to pay an employer, training provider or debt collector for a debt.
- Allows the employer, training provider or debt collector to resume or initiate collection of or end forbearance on a debt.
- Imposes any penalty, fee or cost on a worker.

The law has some exceptions for repayment agreements, including the following:

- Contracts entered under any loan repayment assistance or loan forgiveness program provided by a federal, state or local governmental agency.
- Contracts related to tuition repayment for a "transferable credential," as defined, that meets specific criteria.
- Contracts for enrollment in an apprenticeship program approved by the Division of Apprenticeship Standards.
- Contracts for discretionary monetary payments, including financial bonuses, at the outset of employment that are not tied to specific job performance, provided they meet specified criteria.
- Contracts related to the lease, financing or purchase of residential property.

Employers that offer these types of benefits and programs should consult with legal counsel about AB 692's impact on their practices and programs moving forward.

Notice and Recordkeeping

SB 294, the Workplace Know Your Rights Act, requires employers to distribute a new annual notice to their employees with information about several topics including workers' compensation, immigration protections, the right to engage in concerted activity and constitutional rights when interacting with law enforcement.

SB 294 directs the California Labor Commissioner to create a template notice by January 1, 2026, that employers can give their employees. Employers have until February 1, 2026, to provide it to their employees, and it must be provided annually thereafter. Employers must also provide new hires with this notice.

For recordkeeping, SB 294 requires employers to keep compliance records for three years, including the date that each written notice is provided or sent.

Separate from the new notice requirement, SB 294 also requires employers to notify an employee's designated emergency contact if the employee is arrested or detained on their worksite but only if the employee has designated an emergency contact for this purpose, and the employer has actual knowledge of the arrest. The bill requires employers to provide existing employees with the opportunity to choose an emergency contact by March 30, 2026, and at the time of hire for new employees hired after that date.

SB 617 will require covered employers to review and update the notices required under the California Worker Adjustment and Retraining Act (CalWARN). In addition to the notice's existing content requirements, SB 617 requires employers to include whether the employer plans to coordinate services through the local workforce development board as well as information about their local workforce development board and California's CalFresh food assistance program.

Lastly, regarding personnel records, SB 513 makes minor revisions to existing law, requiring employers to include the following information in their employees' education and training records:

- The name of the employee.
- The name of the training provider.
- The duration and date of the training.
- The core competencies of the training, including skills in equipment or software.
- The resulting certification or qualification.

Employers will need to review and

Continued on next page

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1. APY = Annual Percentage Yield. APY assumes dividends remain on deposit until maturity; early withdrawals will reduce earnings. The minimum certificate opening deposit is $1,000 new funds (defined as money not currently on deposit with CU SoCal); and funds must be received by March 26, 2026. Accounts are verified by ChexSystems® and are subject to approval and Membership eligibility. New Member online deposits must originate from an external (non-CU SoCal) account. Promotional certificate deposits via CU SoCal ACH transfers must remain on balance in account for a minimum of 60 days or additional penalties will apply. We may impose a penalty if you withdraw the principal from your certificate account before the maturity date. The penalty will be 60 days of dividends on the amount withdrawn. If the amount withdrawn reduces the principal balance below the stated minimum, you will be assessed a penalty on the entire principal balance and we will close the certificate account and transfer any remaining balance to your Regular Savings Account. Certificate automatically renews to a 6 or 12 -month term at maturity based on your original account selection provided at account opening. Renewal APY will be based on your CU SoCal relationship at the time of renewal and at the then-current APY. Visit CUSoCal.org/Rates for details. Offer subject to change without notice.

Labor Law -
Continued from previous page

adjust their recordkeeping practices accordingly.

Collective Bargaining

The Legislature passed and Governor Newsom signed two significant bills impacting collective bargaining rights — AB 288 and AB 1340.

AB 288 substantially expands the jurisdiction of the California Public Employment Relations Board (PERB), a state agency within the Labor and Workforce Development Agency that is responsible for overseeing government employer/employee labor relations. AB 288 gives PERB jurisdiction to enforce labor laws with respect to private-sector employees, who are generally covered by the federal National Labor Relations Act (NLRA), which is enforced by the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB).

AB 288 states that NLRA-covered employees may petition PERB when the NLRB has "expressly or impliedly ceded jurisdiction." The bill goes on to detail the conditions under which the NLRB will be deemed to have ceded jurisdiction.

Under AB 288, PERB will be able to hear unfair practices charges, conduct union elections, certify bargaining representatives and order certain remedies, among other things. Notably, on October 15, 2025, the NLRB filed a lawsuit challenging AB 288 on the grounds that it's preempted by the NLRA, which would prevent California from regulating this area.

AB 1340 applies to rideshare drivers covered by Proposition 22. Back in 2020, California voters approved Proposition 22, which classified certain app-based drivers as independent contractors. With the signing of AB 1340, in 2026, those drivers will gain unionization rights under PERB's jurisdiction. Specifically, AB 1340, the Transportation Network Company Drivers Labor Relations Act, provides that covered drivers have the right to form, join and participate in driver organizations, bargain through representatives of their own choosing and engage in concerted activities for the purpose of bargaining or other mutual aid or protection.

AB 1340 also requires covered Transportation Network Companies (TNC) to collect and report to PERB information on drivers that meet specified criteria starting January 1, 2026, and each following quarter. The law also describes in significant detail the obligations of covered TNCs and the PERB with respect to forming driver organizations and negotiating agreements.

Covered TNCs should consult legal counsel to ensure compliance.

Wage and Hour

This year, the Governor signed two industry-specific wage and hour bills. First, AB 751 makes permanent an existing rest period exception for certain positions within petroleum facilities. Under this limited exception, employers can require employees holding safety sensitive positions at petroleum facilities to be on call and required to respond to emergencies during their rest periods.

The exception was scheduled to expire at the end of this year but will instead be made permanent and expanded to cover safety sensitive positions at other types of fuel refineries.

Second, Labor Code section 512 related to meal periods provides an exception to the general meal period rules if the employee is covered by a valid collective bargaining agreement (CBA) and works in certain industries such as construction, commercial drivers, utility companies and others. SB 693 revises section 512 to add "water corporations" to the list of exceptions for those covered by valid CBAs.

Displaced Workers

Although the COVID-19 pandemic is long behind us, current law still provides certain hospitality workers displaced by COVID-19 with recall rights when the employer has open positions. Enacted in 2021 and revised in 2023, the law presumes that a covered employee separated from employment for economic, non-disciplinary reasons is separated due to a COVID-19-related reason unless the employer establishes otherwise. AB 858 extends the law another year to January 1, 2027.

Wage-and-Hour Enforcement

California lawmakers also passed new wage-andhour enforcement bills. Under SB 261, California employers that fail to pay a final wage judgment may face additional costs and penalties.

This bill provides that if a final judgment for unpaid wages remains unsatisfied 180 days after the time to appeal expires and there has been no appeal, the judgment debtor (employer) may face a civil penalty up to three times the outstanding judgment amount, including post-judgment interest. The employer has opportunity for a reduced penalty if they can show — through clear and convincing evidence — good cause to reduce the penalty.

In addition to triple penalties for not timely paying a final judgment, the law also provides that a prevailing plaintiff will be awarded attorney's fees and costs in an action to enforce the judgment.

SB 261 also expands enforcement by allowing public prosecutors, such as the Attorney General, a district attorney, city attorney, county counsel, or any other city or county prosecutor, to step in for employees to enforce unpaid judgments.

SB 648 expands the California Labor Commissioner's authority to enforce California's rules on tips and gratuities. Currently, Labor Code section 351 prohibits employers from taking tips from employees, deducting employees' wages based on gratuities paid to them or crediting gratuities against their wages. SB 648 gives the Labor Commissioner the ability to investigate and issue citations or file civil actions for potential violations of California's tip rules.

Vetoes

Governor Newsom vetoed two notable CalChamber-opposed and/or designated cost-driver bills this year, including the following:

• AB 1136, which would have created new leave of absence and reinstatement rights related to immigration proceedings and detainment.

• SB 7, which would have established several rules for employers using automated decision systems (ADS) in their practices, including notifying workers and job applicants before use, notifying job applicants of ADS use in hiring, prohibiting an employer from relying solely on ADS when making discipline or termination decisions, notifying workers when they use ADS in discipline or termination decisions and giving workers the ability to request the ADS data used in making such a decision.

Although the Governor vetoed SB 7, employers currently using or considering using ADS should keep in mind the CRD's recent ADS regulations that went into effect on October 1, 2025, clarifying when using those tools may be discriminatory.

For more information about how California's new labor and employment laws will affect your workplace, register for one of CalChamber's virtual 2026 Virtual Employment Law Updates seminars, where our legal experts offer key insights into new laws, regulations and court cases.

Employers should consult with legal counsel to address any questions they may have and help ensure compliance with the laws covered here.



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RENEWING MEMBERS - OCTOBER / NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2025

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Member Since: 1992

Alltime Systems
(626) 300-0877
Member Since: 2023

Ashley French Photography
(562) 833-3627
Member Since: 2012

Assistance League of Whittier
(562) 693-6533
Member Since: 2003

Banc of California
(562) 945-3724
Member Since: 2022

Berkshire Hathaway Home Services, California Properties – Kristina Fruneaux
(714) 592-8299
Member Since: 2024

Brick & Co. Real Estate
(562) 335-5269
Member Since: 2021

Carstar – Larry's Auto Body
(562) 946-1527
Member Since: 2021

Cleaners: Blue & White Cleaners
(562) 698-0477
Member Since: 2024

Cordoba Corp.
(213) 895-0224
Member Since: 2021

Credit Union of Southern California
(866) 287-6225
Member Since: 1981

Crossfit Whittier
(562) 464-5500
Member Since: 2023

Crosspoint Christian Church
(562) 698-2597
Member Since: 2021

Diego's Auto Repair
(323) 721-2264
Member Since: 2024

Douglas M. Rowan, CFP, CMFC, AIF Cetera Wealth Partners
(562) 945-7787
Member Since: 1995

Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center (ELARC)
(626) 299-4740
Member Since: 2024

Every Business HR Essentials
(562) 714-6630
Member Since: 2024

Friends of Family Health Center
(562) 690-0400
Member Since: 2015

GM Properties
(562) 762-3104
Member Since: 2004

Googie Car Wash
(562) 464-0000
Member Since: 2019

Greater Whittier LGBTQ+ Community Center
(562) 261-5611
Member Since: 2024

Haas Business Service
(562) 698-9538
Member Since: 1965

Harmony Electrical Plumbing & Air
(562) 204-4114
Member Since: 2024

Home Instead
(562) 698-8600
Member Since: 2018

Illusion Bridal
(562) 789-5596
Member Since: 2023

Infonetworks LLC
(888) 454-2000
Member Since: 2023

Jack's Whittier Restaurant
(562) 693-8713
Member Since: 2019

James Hardware Company
(562) 691-1711
Member Since: 2018

The Law Office of Alex M. Moisa
(562) 945-2086
Member Since: 2020

MAP Property Management, Inc.
(562) 945-3404
Member Since: 1996

MAP Property Services, Inc.
(562) 945-3404
Member Since: 2015

The Mission Square
(562) 458-5353
Member Since: 2022

Norms Restaurants
(562) 907-2760
Member Since: 2017

Norwalk-La Mirada Plumbing + HVAC
(562) 868-7777
Member Since: 2004

Oakmont of Whittier
(562) 693-8222
Member Since: 2014

Oasis Jewelry
(562) 908-1113
Member Since: 2016

One Heart at a Time
(323) 313-3420
Member Since: 2023

Ontario International Airport
(909) 957-6244
Member Since: 2024

Optimal Health & Wellbeing
(310) 560-7001
Member Since: 2023

Parminter, Robert, D.D.S.
(562) 698-0943
Member Since: 2003

Peralta Management Co. LLC
(909) 296-7221
Member Since: 2024

Perri, Bigley & Parvizpour Dental Corp.
(562) 698-8272
Member Since: 1989

Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers – Telegraph
(866) 552-2637
Member Since: 2023

Ramirez & Ezaki Dentistry
(562) 698-6684
Member Since: 2010

Rasmussen Gas Logs & Grills
(562) 696-8718
Member Since: 1979

Rob Marin Realty
(562) 688-1873
Member Since: 2016

Russ Bassett Corporation
(562) 945-2445
Member Since: 2012

The Salvation Army Whittier Communities
(562) 698-3848
Member Since: 2022

SE Builders
(949) 295-1047
Member Since: 2024

Servpro of Whittier
(562) 698-5368
Member Since: 2010

Shelter's Right Hand
(562) 373-5541
Member Since: 1993

Southern California Gas Company
(800) 427-2200
Member Since: 2007

Special 'T' Water Systems
(562) 945-7595
Member Since: 1992

Suburban Water Systems
(626) 543-2531
Member Since: 1959

Tepeyac & Tequila Sports Bar
(562) 695-2277
Member Since: 2019

Think Together
(562) 236-3831
Member Since: 2024

Toyota of Whittier
(562) 698-2591
Member Since: 1974

U-Haul of Leffingwell
(562) 943-7294
Member Since: 2017

Warner, David A., D.D.S., Inc. Periodontics & Dental Implants
(562) 945-7621
Member Since: 2010

West Coast Arborists, Inc.
(714) 991-1900
Member Since: 2018

Whittier Art Association & Gallery
(562) 698-8710
Member Since: 1998

Whittier Dog Club
(310) 339-8116
Member Since: 2024

Whittier High School Alumni Association
(562) 686-4326
Member Since: 2024

Whittier Hospital Medical Center
(562) 945-3561
Member Since: 1961

Whittier Union Adult School
(562) 698-8121
Member Since: 2017

Whittwood Town Center (Kimco Realty Corporation)
(949) 252-3873
Member Since: 2018

Woodruff Properties
(562) 693-0941
Member Since: 1989

Zapien's Salsa Grill
(562) 942-7072
Member Since: 2023

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MILESTONE MEMBERS THIS MONTH!

JANUARY

25 Years

Whittier Surgical Arts
(562) 698-0387

FEBRUARY

30 Years

The P.C. Help Desk
(562) 869-4435

25 Years

RMH Dance
(562) 693-9911

15 Years

My Attorney LA
(562) 693-5027

10 Years

First United Methodist Church
(562) 698-0022

Financial Partners Credit Union
(562) 904-4590

CIL Freight, Inc.
(626) 964-3232

MARCH

45 Years

Credit Union of Southern California
(866) 287-6225

20 Years

First Pacific Bank
(562) 947-1920

Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc.
(714) 257-4481

15 Years

Kaiser Permanente
(562) 657-4452

A Special Event
(562) 619-4236

Catering By Herach & Ara
(323) 728-0573

5 Years

Aura's World
(562) 698-4500

Los Nietos School District
(562) 692-0271

Action Trophy
(562) 451-3048

Allblack Co., Inc.
(562) 946-2955

Anaconda Street Productions
(562) 945-8537

NEW MEMBERS - OCTOBER / NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2025

ACCOUNTING & TAX SERVICE

EM Bookkeeping & Tax Service
Elva Marquez..... (714) 801-5982
8826 Ocean View Ave.
Whittier, CA 90605
www.embookkeepingtaxservice.com

ATTORNEYS/LEGAL SERVICES

Lyfe Law
Viri Valdes..... (310) 689-9472
864 S. Robertson Blvd., 3rd Fl
Los Angeles, CA 90035
www.lyfe.com

AUTO REPAIR & COLLISION

Los Duros Auto Collision
Julio Sandoval ..... (626) 362-5272
10426 Virgina Ave.
Whittier, CA 90603
www.losdurosautocollision.com

BAKERY

Nothing Bundt Cakes
Adrian Lopez ..... (562) 203-6048
13582-B Whittier Blvd.
Whittier, CA 90605
www.nothingbundtcakes.com

BANKS

BMO Bank N.A.
Ernesto Miranda ..... (323) 727-3360
13300 Crossroads Pkwy., Suite 120
City of Industry, CA 91746
www.bmo.com

BOOSTER CLUB

La Serna Baseball Diamond Club
Celina Porras..... (323) 394-1537
www.instagram.com/lasernabaseball

CLEANING SERVICES

Best OC Cleaning
Laura Medina..... (562) 713-7714
www.bestoccleaning.com

CONSTRUCTION

Greencal Construction
Eddie Salcido..... (714) 790-1750
9065 Rosecrans Ave.
Bellflower, CA 90706
www.greencalinc.com

DENTISTS & ORTHODONTISTS

Friendly Hills Family Dentistry
Fenal Shah ..... (203) 747-4000
14544 Whittier Blvd.
Whittier, CA 90605
www.friendlyhillsfamilydentistry.com

FINANCIAL PLANNING

Opus: Advice First, A Private Wealth Practice of Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC
Steven Flores ..... (650) 743-6560
522 Ramona St.
Palo Alto, CA 94301
www.opusadvicefirst.com

FITNESS CENTERS

Sessions, Indoor Cycling
Megan Armenta-Garcia (562) 236-7069
14625 Whittier Blvd.
Whittier, CA 90605
www.sessionscycle.com

GOVERNMENT CONSULTANT

Morales + Morales, Inc.
Jorge Morales..... (323) 449-0241
www.morales-partners.com

Be sure to show support and visit these new Chamber Members

HEADSTONES

Headstone House By: Cemetery Tim
Tim Morris..... (562) 504-0000
11601 Whittier Blvd.
Whittier, CA 90602
www.headstonehouse.com

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Ali'i Nui Enterprise
Dorothy Akau ..... (949) 351-1562
411 E. Huntington Dr. Suite 107-182
Arcadia, CA 91006

HOME IMPROVEMENT & HARDWARE

Torress Insulation, Inc.
Abraham Torres .....(855) 332-2111
11606 Washington Blvd., Unit D
Whittier, CA 90606
www.torresinsulationinc.com

ICE CREAM/DESSERTS

Bruster's Real Ice Cream
Emad Boutros..... (562) 693-9005
15526 Whittier Blvd.
Whittier, CA 90603
www.brusters.com

MARKETING AGENCIES

Blue Icon Communications
Louis Reyes..... (562) 358-4020
9826 Painter Ave., Suite M
Whittier, CA 90605
www.bicomm.us

NAIL SALON

Whittwood Nails
Dane Sutton..... (562) 943-6825
15334 Whittier Blvd., #9
Whittier, CA 90603
www.instagram.com/whittwoodnails

ORGANIZATIONS

Zen Senior Care Services
Nara Murillo ..... (909) 573-5930
1255 W. Colton Ave., Suite #588
Whittier, CA 92374
www.zenscs.org

PIZZERIA

La Crosta Wood Fired Pizza
Emad Boutros.....(562) 600-1120
15526 Whittier Blvd., Unit B
Whittier, CA 90603
www.lacrostala.com

RESTAURANTS

North Woods Inn of La Mirada
Kristen McDonald ..... (562) 801-3737
9545 E. Whittier Blvd., Suite 100
Pico Rivera, CA 90660
www.clearmansrestaurants.com

SCHOOLS

Carden Academy of Whittier
Amber Yanez ..... (562) 694-1879
9920 Mills Ave.
Whittier, CA 90604
www.cardenacademyofwhittier.com

SOCIAL MEDIA VIDEOS/MARKETING

Hyto Marketing
Kim Nguyen ..... (562) 896-5467
www.hytomarketing.com

YOUTH SERVICES

Amazing Athletes of North OC
Michael Herrera ..... (562) 687-0416
www amazingathletes.com/ca/northoc

Bright Side Learning Solutions
Melissa Ashton ..... (714) 869-7422
6528 Greenleaf Ave., Suite #218
Whittier, CA 90601
www.brightsidelearningsolutions.com



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