

SAN FRANCISCO HEALTH COMMISSION

The mission of the San Francisco Department of Public Health is to protect and promote the health of all San Franciscans.

As the governing and policy-making body of the Department of Public Health, the San Francisco Health Commission is mandated by City & County Charter to manage and control the City and County hospitals, to monitor and regulate emergency medical services, and all matters pertaining to the preservation, promotion and protection of the lives, health and mental health of San Francisco residents. The Health Commission meets the first and third Tuesday of the month, 4:00 p.m. in Room 300 of 101 Grove.

James M. Illig, President

Commissioner Illig is the Director of Government Relations for Project Open Hand, and has extensive experience in San Francisco's non-profit, social service community as an executive director and program manager. He is past Chair and current Vice Chair of the Board of Directors of St. Mary's Medical Center. Commissioner Illig is a member of the San Francisco General Hospital Joint Conference Committee and Vice President of the Governing Board of the In Home Supportive Services Public Authority.

Sonia Melara, MSW, Vice President

Sonia Melara is the Executive Director of Rally Family Visitation Services of Saint Francis Memorial Hospital. She serves on the part-time faculty of San Francisco State University's School of Social Work. She is the founder of CommuniQue: *Management and Communications Consultants*. Commissioner Melara has more than 30 years of management experience in the non-profit, public and private sectors. She has been appointed to serve under four San Francisco Mayors including as Executive Director of the Department on the Status of Women. She has also served as member and President of the San Francisco Parking and Traffic Commission, member and Chair of the San Francisco Immigrants Rights Commission and member of the Work Force Investment Board. Under President Carter she served on the National Advisory Commission on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. Commissioner Melara is co-founder of California's first shelter for survivors of domestic violence, San Francisco's La Casa De Las Madres. She is a long term activist and has served on many non-profit boards. She is presently on the board of directors of La Cocina, a commercial kitchen business incubator for low-income women who want to start their business in the food industry. Commissioner Melara is chair of the Health Commission's Citywide Health Planning and Effectiveness Committee and a member of the Finance Committee.

Edward A. Chow, M.D.

Commissioner Chow is a practicing internist and is the Medical Director for the Chinese Community Health Plan and Executive Director of the Chinese Community Health Care Association. He is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Institute of Medical Quality (IMQ), a subsidiary of the California Medical Association. He is serving his fifth term on the Health Commission and is currently chair of the San Francisco General Hospital Joint Conference Committee and a member of the Health Commission Finance Committee.

Margine A. Sako

Margine Sako is the Executive Director of the St. Mary's Medical Center Foundation. She served as Mayor Willie Brown's liaison to the Department of Public Health with a focus on universal healthcare and hospital acquisition. Commissioner Sako has extensive experience in grantmaking, policy, planning, development and implementation of community health services. She has also worked for Catholic Healthcare West and the San Francisco Foundation. Commissioner Sako is a member of the Laguna Honda Hospital Joint Conference Committee and the Citywide Health Planning and Effectiveness Committee.

David J. Sánchez, Jr., Ph.D.

Commissioner Sánchez is Professor Emeritus at University of California, San Francisco. He has served as Assistant Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs, faculty associate for Academic and Student Outreach, and professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine. He has also served on the National Commission on Health and Vital Statistics, The White House Conference on Children and as one of the first Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Fellows at the Institute of Medicine serving on both the Senate and House Appropriation Committees. Dr. Sánchez chaired the University of California Institute for Mexico and the United States, and continues as a member of the editorial board for the journal of the Mexican Studies/Estudios Mexicanos. Commissioner Sánchez chairs the Laguna Honda Hospital Joint Conference Committee and is a member of the San Francisco General Hospital Foundation. He has also served on the San Francisco Board of Education and the Community College Board, the San Francisco Police Commission and is Trustee Emeritus of the San Francisco Foundation.

Steven Tierney, Ed.D.

Steven Tierney is Professor and Program Director for the Community Mental Health Program of the California Institute of Integral Studies. He was a member of the Board of Health and Hospitals for the City of Boston for 15 years. Commissioner Tierney is chair of the Health Commission Finance Committee and a member of the Citywide Health Planning and Effectiveness Committee.

Catherine M. Waters, RN, Ph.D.

Commissioner Waters is a Professor in the Department of Community Health Systems at the UCSF School of Nursing. Her community-based research focuses on preventative healthcare and advancing public/private community partnerships. Commissioner Waters is a member of the San Francisco General Hospital Joint Conference Committee and is the Health Commission representative to the San Francisco Health Plan.