

Greetings, my name is Ernesto Villasenor, and I am running as your next ABA Delegate of Diversity and Inclusion this coming March.

Representation matters. Being from Compton and becoming the first in my family to graduate from college and attend law school has been more than just a dream - my newly acquired privilege became an opportunity for me to reach back to my community and create a pipeline for pursuing the legal profession among underrepresented individuals with similar narratives like mine and countless others.

I've seen firsthand the impact of having representation at the decision-making table in previous professional experiences and spaces where minority voices were under or not represented at all. I aim to shake things up within the ABA and the legal profession to erode this underrepresentation that is long overdue to be addressed.

I've pushed in my previous work a strong diversity and inclusion framework into the fabric of the organization. I've ensured that voices which were non-existent were brought to the decision-making table, and served as a fierce advocate even when senior leadership was uneasy or unwilling to make the needed changes. I've worked in political campaigns where we've uplifted the community's voice and sent representatives that looked and were from the communities that were not represented. I've helped push for and ensured legislative bills became law that provided voices and protections to the most vulnerable communities.

I want to bring not just this expertise to the ABA and the legal community as the next ABA Delegate of Diversity and Inclusion, I also want to bring humbleness and a platform for the experts and leaders of underrepresented communities that I am only an ally of to ensure that they are heard. That they are represented and have a seat at the decision-making table. I also want to work with the Chair and other leaders within the ABA and legal community to create pipelines that lead to opportunities for underrepresented individuals such as myself become the next leaders and members of both the ABA and legal community.

Again, my name is Ernesto Villasenor and I urge you to vote for me as your next ABA delegate of Diversity and Inclusion this coming March.

# Ernesto Villaseñor, Jr.

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## Education

University of Baltimore School of Law  
*J.D. Candidate*

Baltimore, Maryland  
*May 2023*

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
*Bachelor of Science, Sustainability Studies*  
*Minor in Economics*

Troy, New York  
*Aug. 2010 – May 2014*

- Senior Thesis – Harnessing the Power of Digital and Community-based Activism for Youth Social Justice Activists
- Gates Millennium Scholarship Recipient

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## Experience

Chrysalis  
*Program Manager*

Los Angeles, CA  
*July 2019 – Aug. 2020*

- Supervise, onboard, train, and facilitate growth of Employment Specialists, who function as our clients' primary case manager, and other staff who are in front-line, direct service, roles.
- Support staff in focusing on program metrics and outcomes and support site in reaching team goals. Actively utilize various program reports and tools to help staff manage caseloads.
- Track and monitor program data. Analyze trends of client service delivery use. Help create data informed annual goals for the site.
- Meet with staff regularly to discuss data, provide training and support engagement and professional development.
- Connect with Senior Leadership on organizational developments and opportunities for departmental collaborations that will bring new resources to the communities we serve
- Guide growth and development of the Downtown site, and provide feedback and guidance, to Site Directors at other sites in our organization
- Serve as the lead in bringing legal resources to our clients, and partner with the Legal Aid Foundation and the Los Angeles Public Defender's office to provide training to our case managers and Client Services staff

Chrysalis  
*Employment Specialist*

Los Angeles, CA  
*May 2018 – July 2019*

- Oversee day-to-day case management of both working and non-working clients. Encourage and motivate clients to work on their job search and other issues impeding them from self-sufficiency
- Orient, assess, and provide employment counseling for clients, including, but not limited to: assessing clients for job readiness; provide referrals to education, training, Chrysalis social enterprise engagement, and other social services
- Participate in meetings and weekly case conferences sharing best practices and providing thought partnership to colleagues
- Represent Chrysalis to stakeholders by providing site tours, engaging partner organizations, and attending community meetings and trainings
- Maintain accurate client/program data to manage caseload and generate reports as needed
- Document each service, the outcome and next steps, as well as any observations of clients' skills, job readiness, and/or growth opportunities into ServicePoint case management database

Planned Parenthood of the Pacific Southwest  
*Advocacy Coordinator – Bilingual*

Coachella Valley, CA  
*Sept. 2016 – July 2017*

- Established advocacy volunteering program in the Coachella Valley for voter outreach
- Used volunteer base for phone banking efforts for Sabrina Cervantes assembly campaign and Catherine Cortez-Mastos US Senate campaign
- Developed rapid response organizing coalition in the Coachella Valley with local democratic clubs and activists organizations
- Community outreach at high schools, community colleges, and community events to provide information on health centers and advocacy efforts using tools such as Hustle and digital email organizing
- Lobby congressional and state representatives on legislative bills that are pro-reproductive justice and progressive
- Provide advocacy and organizing trainings to youth groups and community partners on reproductive justice and other social justice issues
- Supervise lead volunteers and interns for advocacy projects in the Coachella Valley

Courage Campaign  
*Campaign Organizer*

Los Angeles, CA  
*Jan. 2016 – Aug. 2016*

- Executed digital campaign strategies for legislative pushes in the California State Senate and Assembly
- Executed email campaigns for fundraising opportunities

- Social Media curator for more than 25,000 followers on Twitter and Facebook
- Use HTML & CSS coding for organizing email development
- Create, plan, and execute social media strategies on current issues and on-going campaigns within organization
- Generate and code online petitions in both English and Spanish for campaigns

Massachusetts Coalition for Occupational Safety and Health

Boston, MA

*AmeriCorps Massachusetts Promise Fellow/Teens Lead @ Work Fellow*

*Aug. 2015 – Dec. 2015*

- Develop college and career readiness initiatives for the Teens Lead @ Work program for underrepresented youth
- Create interdisciplinary programming on youth workers' safety and health for peer leaders
- Provider guidance, mentoring, and coaching to youth peer leaders on effective leadership and training for peer-to-peer development

City of Compton

Compton, CA

*Council Assistant and Liaison for the 1<sup>st</sup> District*

*Nov. 2014 – Mar. 2015*

- Engage with constituents of the 1<sup>st</sup> District on ongoing and upcoming projects pertaining to health access, quality of life, public works, and other issues
- Plan and coordinate events in the City of Compton for members of the community
- Advise the Councilmember on potential resolutions and ordinances that can enhance quality of life in Compton's 1<sup>st</sup> District
- Voice community concerns to City Councilmembers and City Manager, and according department heads, ensuring that needs are addressed in a timely manner

## Leadership

People for the American Way Foundation

Washington, D.C.

*Young People For (YP4) Alumni Council Representative*

*June 2014 – June 2020*

- Serve as a mentor to incoming Young People For (YP4) fellows, providing guidance and feedback on their Blueprints for Social Justice
- Serve as a community organizing, communications and governance strategy, and message creation trainer during the Young People For (YP4) National Summit
- Active in the Court Matters program, where Fellows and Alumni engage in organizing and advocacy efforts on the judicial branch throughout the country
- Curriculum developer and editor for National Summit trainings

Gates Millennium Scholars Program

Washington, D.C.

*Ambassador and National Member of the Alumni Council*

*April 2010 – Aug. 2020*

- Assist the Gates Millennium Scholars Program in efforts to provide meaningful resources for Alumni as they continue their professional endeavors
- Serve as the Chair of the Social Entrepreneurship Task Group and Assistant Chair of the Civic Engagement Task Group
- Served as the College Student Relations (CSR) Fellow for the Hispanic Scholarship Fund's Youth Leadership Institute at Loyola Marymount University

New American Leaders Project

Washington, D.C.

*New American Leaders Fellow*

*Jan. 2016 – Nov. 2016*

- Develop and create policies set forth by the APHA on minority recruitment and retention strategies for public health practitioners
- Strategize with the diverse committees and councils within the APHA to help create and sustain narratives on minority health – both theory and practice
- Empower APHA members from underrepresented communities to seek leadership roles within the APHA
- Provide guidance for the APHA to expand on health policies and practices that seek to create a better understanding and unique, culturally-inclusive programs and assessments centric of underrepresented communities

California Democratic Party

Compton, CA

*64<sup>th</sup> Assembly District Delegate*

*Jan. 2015 – Jan 2016*

- Elected as District Delegate representative for the 64<sup>th</sup> Assembly District of California
- Serve as liaison and representative between the cities and communities of the 64<sup>th</sup> Assembly District at the California Democratic Party State Convention
- Serve as a voting member for endorsements on measures and candidates running for the LA County Democratic Central Committee endorsement on their respective communities

## Technical Skills

- Proficiency in Prezi, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Lightroom, Adobe Acrobat Pro, and iMovie
- Proficient in ActionNetwork, Hustle, ActionKit, ActBlue, SproutSocial, ShareProgress and HootSuite
- Proficient in NGP VAN for phone banking and voter outreach efforts
- Proficient in ServicePoint for case work management