



# INSURANCE DIVERSITY INITIATIVE NEWSLETTER

Email us at  
[Diversity@insurance.ca.gov](mailto:Diversity@insurance.ca.gov) about any  
events or updates you'd like to share  
with the Initiative and our  
stakeholders!

Deadline for submissions is the 25th  
of every month.

## FEBRUARY 2017

- Multistate Insurance Diversity Survey
  - IDI Announcement
  - SurveyMonkey - Survey Portal Link Feedback
- Diversity Events Calendar
- Insurance Diversity Task Force
  - 1st Quarterly Meeting March 2, 2017



## INSURANCE DIVERSITY INITIATIVE

To Our Insurance Diversity Initiative Stakeholders:

I am writing to share a note of gratitude with you. Friday, February 3rd was my last day at the California Department of Insurance as Chief of Community Programs, and as one of the leaders of Insurance Commissioner Dave Jones' Insurance Diversity Initiative.

The opportunity to build the Initiative from the ground up six years ago and then watch it grow has been one of the most rewarding of my career. It catapulted me into the world of supplier and governing board diversity, and thus the opportunity to work with you - people who are dedicated to making positive impact through real and tangible economic opportunities. And I have truly enjoyed your stories along the way – the call from X Insurance Company's first ever supplier diversity manager, the diverse business owner's first contract within the insurance industry, the success of a company's first ever supplier diversity fair. Thank you for your participation in these efforts and for your partnership with me and my team. I will tremendously miss working with you.

On my first day working on supplier diversity, I googled "supplier diversity." Six years later, I am so excited to say that - with you - we built a successful statewide initiative that is now generating real results (i.e. more contract opportunities for California's diverse suppliers) and that is now starting to impact diverse businesses



## [SurveyMonkey: Survey Portal Link Feedback](#)

### **Multistate Insurance Diversity Survey Portal Link Feedback -**

It has been over 2 months since the exciting launch of the new [Multistate Insurance Diversity Survey Portal](#) which houses all public information gathered as a result of the 2016 Multistate Insurance Diversity Survey (MIDS). If you have yet to visit our portal, you may access it on our [MIDS Results webpage](#). We encourage all our stakeholders to visit the portal and check it out!

Whether you have been using the portal for the past 2+ months, or today will be your first visit, we want to hear from you! Please take this opportunity to provide us with your personal experience using the portal. To do so, we created a [brief questionnaire: SurveyMonkey - Survey Portal Link Feedback](#) that allows you to rank and provide feedback on the different elements of the portal.

This is a request for feedback. Please share your questions, comments, and/or concerns with us at this time. If you are unable to fit all your comments within the survey, we invite you to reach out to us directly to share. All additional feedback can be submitted to [diversity@insurance.ca.gov](mailto:diversity@insurance.ca.gov) for review.

If you are unable to access the survey links above, please use this URL:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XWVZDF2>

**Please submit all feedback by 5:00pm (PST) on Friday.**

nationally. I look forward to staying involved and making sure that I am now participating as an "IDI Stakeholder," as many of you have since Day One.

Please keep in touch. I am now serving as Deputy State Director for United States Senator Kamala Harris and would love to hear from you, for whatever the reason. My personal email is [mvramil@gmail.com](mailto:mvramil@gmail.com) and my work email is [Melanie\\_Ramil@harris.senate.gov](mailto:Melanie_Ramil@harris.senate.gov), if there is any way we can work together in my new capacity.

Thank you again for giving me this amazing opportunity to work with you, learn from you, and grow an important program with you. It's been an exciting and enjoyable ride every step of the way.

With much gratitude,  
Melanie



Melanie V. Ramil, Former Chief  
Community Programs  
California Department of Insurance

February 17, 2017.

Thank you for your time; we look forward to your feedback!



## Diversity Events Calendar

### February

- [California Black Chamber of Commerce - 2017 Annual Legislative Welcome Reception](#)  
February 15, 2017  
Sacramento, CA
- [California Black Chamber of Commerce - 2017 Annual Capitol Policy Luncheon](#)  
February 16, 2017  
Sacramento, CA

To submit a request for your Supplier Diversity or Governing Board Diversity-related event added to our calendar or to see upcoming events, please visit our [events calendar](#).

## Insurance Diversity Task Force



### INSURANCE DIVERSITY TASK FORCE

**Pictured L-R:** [Melanie Shelby](#) (Chair); [Sal Peinado, Jr.](#); [Cathy Schwamberger](#); [Michael Keeley](#); [Randolph Sinnott](#); [Melinda Guzman](#); [Mark Morales](#); [Pat Fong Kushida](#); [Robin Billups](#); [Danielle Beavers](#).

**Not Pictured:** [Ramon Jones](#); [Janice Brown](#); [Craig Holden](#); [Linda Akutagawa](#) (Vice-Chair); [Scott Syphax](#).

**Upcoming Meeting - Save the Date**



1st Quarterly Insurance Diversity Task Force Meeting  
Thursday, March 2, 2017, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
California State Capitol  
10th and L Streets  
Assembly Committee Room 126  
Sacramento, CA 95814

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*Interested in serving on a board or committee?*  
Visit our [Boards and Committees](#) page for more information!

**INSURANCE DIVERSITY INITIATIVE**  
Office of Insurance Commissioner Dave Jones  
California Department of Insurance  
(916) 492-3623  
[www.insurance.ca.gov/Diversity](http://www.insurance.ca.gov/Diversity)

STAY CONNECTED

