



# Civil Rights

The background of the cover is a photograph of the interior of a grand, domed building, likely a state capitol. The dome is ornate with a grid of decorative panels. A person is silhouetted against the light coming from the windows, standing on a balcony and looking out over the vast interior space.

## A Civil Rights Guide to Building a Prosperous America

League of United Latin American Citizens



The Commissioners serve at the direction of National President, Rosa Rosales. Their roles and responsibilities include, among other things, conflict prevention and resolution activities. They provide guidance to different levels of the LULAC organization as it relates to civil rights including, but not limited to, technical assistance and training



**Richard Sambrano**  
Commission Chair



**Mary Ramos**  
Co-Chair



**Victoria Neave**  
Attorney



**Edward Elizondo**



**Lico Reyes**



**Jason Riveiro**



**Gabriel Rosales**



**Phillip Archuleta**



**Juan Aponte**  
Advisor



**Ralph Arrellanes**



**Jan Tucker**



**Jorge Rivera**



**Victor Valdez**



## Case Work

# Roles and Responsibilities of the California LULAC Commission

There are twelve California LULAC Commissions with distinct roles and responsibilities listed as follows: California LULAC Civil Rights Commission (CLCRC); California LULAC Education Commission (CLEC); California LULAC (Green) Environmental Commission (CLGEC); California LULAC Health Commission (CLHC); California LULAC Housing Commission (CLHAC); California LULAC Immigrant Affairs Commission (CLIAC); California LULAC Legislative Commission (CLLC); California LULAC



Youth Commission (CLYC); California LULAC Young Adult Commission (CLYAC); California LULAC Women's Commission (CLWC); California LULAC Seniors Commission (CLSC) and the California LULAC Veteran Affairs Commission (CLVAC).

The Commissions are advisory bodies to the State Board and delve into present day issues affecting each Commission Constituency. The Commissions may work through local LULAC Councils or address issues independently. The Commissions are formed from LULAC members throughout the state. The Commissions plan, coordinate events, forums, public hearings, outings, workshops, speakers and co-sponsor the same with other organizations. They conduct research and propose topics, positions and possible action which may result in policy, resolutions or suggestions for legislative action that California LULAC may advance locally, regionally, state-wide or nationally.

### Civil Rights Commission

The California LULAC Civil Rights Commission is headed by Chairman, Jan Tucker, and Co-Chair and LULAC National Vice President for the Far West, Angel Luevano. The California Commission became involved in the following case. Mr. Jose Carmen Murillo y Garcia was arrested while he was living in Laredo, Texas in May 2009 on a 33-year-old murder warrant from Los Angeles County, California.

In spite of the fact that he had been fingerprinted and run through national criminal record checks on multiple occasions by immigration authorities, the warrant never showed up.

Jose didn't even know he was wanted for murder. He was given an extradition hearing without a translator. When he demanded to contact the Mexican consulate in both Texas and California, his rights under the Vienna Convention were ignored. Finally in September, his court appointed lawyer contacted LULAC civil rights commissioner Jan Tucker, who promptly filed a complaint to the Mexican Consular Protection service and swung into action to assist Jose's defense.

To counter the prosecution's contention that on September 8, 1976 Jose had supposedly murdered a man in Los Angeles County, abandoned his car in San Ysidro by the Mexican border and then fled into Mexico to hide out for years, Tucker located Baptismal records for Jose's eldest son demonstrating that on September 14, 1976 he'd been in St. Alphonsus Church in Fresno for his son's baptism.

Tucker helped the attorney obtain Jose's immigration files from the Department of Homeland Security with a Touhy Request. Those records showed he'd been voluntarily fingerprinted by INS -- not something somebody would do if they knew they were wanted by the law for murder.

To counter claims by the prosecutor that Jose had changed his surname from Murillo Garcia to Garcia Murillo to avoid prosecution, Tucker testified as an expert witness on the differences between Spanish language and English language surnames. He also explained to the jury the relevance of countless documents from Mexico demonstrating that it would have been impossible for Jose to hide in Mexico, especially when he was registered to vote with his thumb print, photo, and a data strip on his registration card.

In November 2009, the jury hung 9-3 for a not-guilty verdict. The case will be retried and LULAC is continuing its efforts to see that Jose's rights under the Constitution and international treaties are respected.



**Jan Tucker**  
LULAC Civil Rights  
Commission



**Angel Luevano**  
LULAC V.P. Far West