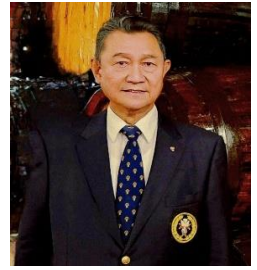


California State Council



*Candidate Resolutions
for State Officers
Columbian Year
2026-2027*

**RESOLUTION TO ENDORSE VLADIMIR RIVERA AS A
CANDIDATE FOR STATE DEPUTY CALIFORNIA STATE
COUNCIL COLUMBIAN YEAR 2026-2027**



WHEREAS, Brother Vladimir Rivera is a member of Father Leheny Council 5007 at Our Lady of Peace Parish in North Hills, California and has faithfully served the Knights of Columbus since joining the Order in 2010; and

WHEREAS, Brother Vladimir Rivera is currently serving as the State Secretary for the California State Council and a former State Treasurer, State Advocate and State Warden. He served as the State New Council Development Chairman in 2021-2022 and helped the State Deputy achieve 325% of his goal. A Past President of the Southern California Chapter, in 2019-2020 and former Southern California Chapter Wheelchair Program Director; and

WHEREAS, At the height of Covid-19 lockdown, as SoCal Chapter President he ran and coordinated the joint LA Diocese “Hearts to Serve Initiative” and KofC “Leave No Neighbor Behind” Program to deliver food, medicines and groceries for the elderly, home-bound and pregnant women, the program was later expanded to include families who are suffering because of the lockdown; in one district alone in the Los Angeles area, the knights made 41 deliveries to our suffering brothers and sisters; and

WHEREAS, Brother Vladimir Rivera was recognized as the Top District Deputy of the California Jurisdiction for the Columbian Year 2016-2017 at the 115th State Convention in San Diego on May 19-20, 2017; and

WHEREAS, Brother Vladimir Rivera as District Deputy, chartered Reseda Council 16584 at St. Catherine of Siena Church in Reseda, Council 16687 at St. Jane Frances De Chantal Church in North Hollywood in CY 2016-2017, Council 17904 in Incarnation Church in Glendale, CY 2021-2022 and as the Southern California Chapter President chartered Council 17376 at St. Mel Church in Woodland Hills in CY 2019-2020; and as the State NCD Chairman was instrumental in the chartering of Cor Mariae Council 17951 at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church in Encino; and

WHEREAS, Brother Vladimir Rivera served Council 5007 as Grand Knight in 2015-2016 and earned a Star Council Award, and as District Deputy 86 received the 2-Star District Deputy Award for the CY 2016-2017 and received the Knight of Year Award for the CY 2018-2019 from Father Leheny Council 5007; and

WHEREAS, Brother Vladimir Rivera served Cardinal McIntyre Assembly 65 as Faithful Navigator in 2013-2014 and was awarded the District Master Award of Excellence for Membership Growth, and also received the Sir Knight of the Year Award for 2023-2024. He served as the Color Corp Commander in 2012-2013; and

WHEREAS, Brother Vladimir Rivera is a U.S. Army veteran who served in the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment and also served the 140th Aviation Regiment-California National Guard, and was awarded the U.S. Army Achievement Medal for exemplary service and dedication to duty, and a graduate of the U.S. Army Non-Commissioned Officers Academy in Fort Bliss, Texas on Leadership Development Course; and also a graduate of the U.S. Army Aviation and Logistics School in Fort Eustis, Virginia and was the Commander of his Class; and

WHEREAS, Brother Vladimir Rivera is an active member of Our Lady of Peace Parish, a member of the Life, Justice and Peace Committee; and a member of the Filipino Ministry of Archdiocese of Los Angeles serving the San Fernando Pastoral Region, he is active in his community and a Past President of the Los Angeles Cosmopolitan Lions Club, District 4L3; and

WHEREAS, Brother Vladimir Rivera is a graduate of Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Adamson University, the Catholic University run by Vincentian Fathers in the Philippines; and

WHEREAS, Brother Vladimir Rivera retired from Phillips 66 LA Refinery as a Pipe & Instrument Designer, Engineering Department.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVE THAT, in view of his service and dedication to the Knights of Columbus, to the Our Lady of Peace Parish Community and our Country; Father Leheny Council 5007 proudly and enthusiastically endorse Brother Vladimir Rivera for State Deputy, California State Council, for Columbian Year 2026 - 2027.

RESOLUTION TO ENDORSE TIMOTHY “TW” STARKWEATHER AS A CANDIDATE FOR THE OFFICE OF STATE SECRETARY CALIFORNIA STATE JURISDICTION, 2026-2027 COLUMBIAN YEAR



WHEREAS, Brother TW Starkweather has successfully served as State Warden for CY 2023-2024 and State Advocate for CY 2026-2027; and

WHEREAS, Brother TW Starkweather has been a member of the Knights of Columbus since 2001, joining St. Joan of Arc Council 9206, as a member of Council 9206, he held various leadership positions up to and including Grand Knight, where in 2008-2009 he earned a Triple Star for new Membership achieving 600% of quota, personally recruiting 15 new members; and

WHEREAS, Brother TW Starkweather joined the Fourth Degree in 2007 as a member of the Holy Spirit Assembly 1979. He has held most positions in his Assembly, having served as Faithful Navigator in 2007-2008, he also held the position of Color Guard Commander from 2007-2016; as Captain from 2006-2007 he brought in 12 new members and as Navigator brought in 17 new members of the Fourth Degree, helping the Assembly average 24 new members a year for the next four years; and

WHEREAS, in 2016 SK TW Starkweather was appointed by Supreme Knight Carl Anderson, to serve as Master of the Northern California District, as Master, he increased membership in his District over his 4-year term; and

WHEREAS, During COVID he worked with VSM, and other Masters in the jurisdiction to implement the First Virtual Fourth Degree Exemplification with over 500 candidates attending, additionally he implemented and held the First Tri-Lingual Fourth Degree Exemplification; and

WHEREAS, Brother TW Starkweather served as the Oakland Chapter President from 2009-2012, when the Oakland Chapter was first in Membership, and nearly all state programs, he has served as District Deputy Mentor for both the San Jose and Oakland Chapters; and

WHEREAS, Brother TW Starkweather has served the California Jurisdiction in many Capacities, currently, he is serving as the State Treasurer for Year 2025-2026; he was a District Deputy for eight years, having received Star District as DD in 2016 he established the Santa Maria Council 16453 in Orinda, he has served as the State Retention Chairman, developing the Worthy Shepherd Program, helping reduce the number of suspensions statewide; and

WHEREAS, Brother TW Starkweather has been married forty-six years to Lady Jackie, they have a daughter Erin and three granddaughters; he is a member of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulcher of Jerusalem and a member of the Knights of Peter Claver, he proudly served in the USMC five years active duty and three years as active reserve.

NOW, THERETOFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that in view of his dedicated service and leadership to the Knights of Columbus, to his Parish, his Council, Chapter, State, Church and Community, the St. Joan of Arc, Council 9206 enthusiastically and proudly endorses Brother Timothy “TW” Starkweather for the office of State Secretary for the Columbian Year 2026-2027 and urges his election at the Annual State Business Meeting to be held in May of 2026.

RESOLUTION TO ENDORSE **GENE HAYS, Sr.** AS A CANDIDATE FOR THE OFFICE OF **STATE TREASURER** FOR THE CALIFORNIA STATE COUNCIL IN THE 2026-2027 COLUMBIAN YEAR



WHEREAS, Brother Sir Knight Gene Hays, Sr. joined the Knights of Columbus on Pearl Harbor Day, December 7, 1992, and has been a member of Fr. Maguire Council 3851 in Covina for over 32 years; and

WHEREAS, Brother Hays served as Grand Knight of Fr. Maguire Council 3851 for the 1996-1997 Columbian year earning the Star Council Award, as Financial Secretary (2005-2010), and numerous other roles over the years; and

WHEREAS, Brother Hays joined the Fourth Degree on Veterans Day, November 11, 1995 and assisted with the formation of Christopher Columbus Assembly 2482 (Covina/Glendora) in February 1997 where he served as Charter Faithful Comptroller (1997-1999) and later as Faithful Navigator (2011-2012); and

WHEREAS, Brother Hays has been involved in the leadership of the San Gabriel Valley Chapter for 28 years during which time he created the Chapter's website, managed electronic communications for 10 years; was the Chapter's chairman for the intellectual disabilities drive, was Vocations Chairman, served on the Third Degree team; and he served in every elected position of the Chapter, including Chapter President in 2009-2010 when the Chapter was recognized with the Roy Oldham Award for the most funds collected statewide for the American Wheelchair Mission and when the Chapter was recognized for 100% participation in the intellectual disabilities drive; and

WHEREAS, Brother Hays has served the State Council continuously over the past 27 years in roles including District Warden (1999-2001), District Deputy (2001-2003), Library Systems and Technology committee member (2002-2004), Family of the Month/Year chairman (2004-2008), Convention Liturgy Coordinator (2007-2014), Church Activities Director (2008-2009), board member (2009-present) and CFO (2010-2019) of the Emilio B. Moure Museum Association, State Awards chairman (2010-2012), Hierarchy Transportation Chairman for the 2012 Supreme convention, associate board member of the Frank Nigro Columbian Foundation (2013-present), Resolutions Committee member (2017-present), Assistant Convention Chairman (2020-present), State Operations Director in SIX Columbian years (2013-2014, 2018-2020, and 2021-2024), State Warden (2024-2025), and State Advocate (2025-2026); and

WHEREAS, Brother Hays was elected by the delegates at the 2010 state convention to represent California as a delegate to the 2010 Supreme Convention in Washington D.C. where he also participated in the Color Corps for the Opening Mass; and

WHEREAS, Brother Hays was appointed as District Master for the Southern California District of the Fourth Degree serving from September 1, 2014 through August 31, 2018 during which time he led the formation of twelve new assemblies, growing the district from 41 to 53 assemblies (29% growth) and hosted fifteen exemplifications for 2,028 new Sir Knights; and

WHEREAS, Brother Hays has been a life-long member of St. Christopher Church in West Covina where he has served as a Eucharistic Minister and Lector, as a member of the school and parish finance councils, and where he was instrumental in bringing a Winter Shelter program for the Homeless to the parish in 2007; and

WHEREAS, Brother Hays met his lovely wife of 39 years, **Danalynn**, in high school and later served as her RCIA Sponsor when she became a member of our Church, and together they raised a son (Gene Jr, a Past Grand Knight) and two daughters (Renee and Sarah), all who have been actively involved in Brother Hays' work in the Church and the Order.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, in view of his dedicated service to our Order and our Church, Fr. Maguire Council 3851 endorses Brother **Gene Hays, Sr.** for election as **State Treasurer** for the 2026-2027 Columbian year by the delegates convened in Visalia for the 124th Annual Meeting of the California State Council.

RESOLUTION TO ENDORSE ROD OLGUIN AS A CANDIDATE FOR THE OFFICE OF STATE ADVOCATE CALIFORNIA STATE JURISDICTION, 2026-2027 COLUMBIAN YEAR



WHEREAS, Brother Rod Olguin took his First Degree on September 1, 1986, and took his Fourth Degree on March 1, 1988, and has remained a Knight in good standing; and

WHEREAS, Brother Rod Olguin has served through the elective offices of Franciscan Council 9408, in Fresno, California; Msgr. Singleton Council 10248, in Clovis, California and as the Charter Grand Knight for Holy Spirit Council 16185, in Fresno California; and

WHEREAS, Brother Rod Olguin was awarded the Six Star Council after achieving 625% of goal while Grand Knight of Council 16185 for the 2015-2016 fraternal year; and

WHEREAS, Brother Rod Olguin served as the Faithful Navigator for the Paul T. Pryor Assembly 2950, where he received the Star Assembly Award; and

WHEREAS, Brother Rod Olguin served as District Deputy for District 66, where he received the Star District Award; and

WHEREAS, Brother Rod Olguin served as the District Warden and as a District Marshal for district 70; and

WHEREAS, Brother Rod Olguin has served as treasurer and as Chapter President for the Central California Chapter; and

WHEREAS, Brother Rod Olguin is credited with bringing in 81 new members into our Order; and

WHEREAS, Brother Rod Olguin served as the State RSVP chair for five consecutive years, which resulted in statewide RSVP donations totaling \$533,720; and

WHEREAS, Brother Rod Olguin served as the State Membership Director for the 2022-2023 fraternal year and was instrumental in achieving the Circle of Honor status for California; and

WHEREAS, Brother Rod Olguin has served as a Grant Awards Committee man for the Anne and Frank Nigro Charitable Grant Program since 2023; the Tour Chairman for the 2023-2024 State Annual Meeting and the ASAP Sate Chairman for the 2023-2024 fraternal year; and

WHEREAS, Brother Rod Olguin served as the State Cor Chairman from 2022 to 2024; and

WHEREAS, Brother Rod Olguin served as the State Warden for the 2025-2026 fraternal year; and

WHEREAS, Brother Rod Olguin has demonstrated by example the principles of the Knights of Columbus: Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that in view of his service and dedication to the Knights of Columbus, his Council, Chapter, Assembly, Church, Community and State Council, Holy Spirit Council 16185 proudly and enthusiastically endorses Brother Rod Olguin for the office of State Advocate for the Columbian Year 2026-2027 and urges his election at the California Annual State Council Meeting to be held in Visalia, in May 2026.

**RESOLUTION TO ENDORSE BROTHER ALEX CASTANON
AS CANDIDATE FOR THE OFFICE OF STATE WARDEN
CALIFORNIA STATE JURISDICTION, 2026–2027 COLUMBIAN YEAR**



WHEREAS, Brother Alex Castanon is currently serving as the California State Life Programs Chairman; and

WHEREAS, Brother Alex Castanon joined the Knights of Columbus in March 2014 as a member of Our Lady of Rialto Council 15680, where he served as Council Chancellor; and

WHEREAS, in 2019 Brother Alex Castanon served as Grand Knight for San Gorgonio Council 5392 and was awarded Star Council; and

WHEREAS, Brother Alex Castanon joined his Fourth Degree on March 30, 2019, joining Martin A. Matich Assembly 3133 and became a member of the Color Corps; and

WHEREAS, Brother Alex Castanon served as District Deputy for the Columbian Years 2020–2022 earning Star District honors for two consecutive years; and

WHEREAS, from 2021 through 2025, Brother Alex Castanon served as an officer of the Arrowhead Desert Valley Chapter, and as Chapter President in 2024–2025, during which ADVC was named Chapter of the Year, and he served as First Delegate to the Supreme Convention in Washington, D.C.; and

WHEREAS, Brother Alex Castanon proudly served in the United States Air Force from 1975 through 1983 as a Firefighter and Special Material Handler, attaining the rank of Staff Sergeant (SSGT) and receiving an Honorable Discharge; and

WHEREAS, in 1979 Brother Alex Castanon worked as an Industrial Firefighter for General Dynamics in Pomona; and

WHEREAS, in 1985, using his GI Bill earned during military service, Brother Alex Castanon received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Cal Poly Pomona; and

WHEREAS, in 1986 Brother Alex Castanon began his career as an Airport Firefighter and Airport Police Officer with Los Angeles World Airports, assigned to Ontario International Airport and retired in January of 2014; and

WHEREAS, for over 40 years Brother Alex Castanon has faithfully served his parish communities in numerous ministries and received the Our Lady of Guadalupe Award from the Diocese of San Bernardino; and

WHEREAS, from 2022 through 2025, Brother Alex Castanon served as California State Ultrasound Chairman, assisting councils in raising funds to provide approximately 35 ultrasound machines to pregnancy centers throughout California.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that in recognition of his exemplary service and unwavering dedication to his family, his Council, his Chapter, his Assembly, the Pro-Life movement, and the Knights of Columbus, San Gorgonio Council 5392 hereby proudly and enthusiastically endorses Brother Alex Castanon for the office of State Warden for the 2026-2027 Columbian Year.

**A RESOLUTION TO ENDORSE (EPI) INIGO FELIMON B. ENGO AS A
CANDIDATE FOR THE OFFICE OF CALIFORNIA STATE COUNCIL WARDEN
2026-2027 COLUMBIAN YEAR**



WHEREAS, Brother (Epi) Inigo FB Engo joined the Knights of Columbus of Kielty Council 10140 in Lakewood, California on April 18, 2011, and served in various elected positions and the council's Grand Knight in 2015-2016, advanced to the fourth degree joining Assembly 042 in October 10, 2013 served various elected positions including that of Faithful Navigator in 2018-2019, Color Corps Commander for 6 years in total, District Deputy from 2019-2024, State Safe Environment Chairman 2020-2021, and Exemplification Lead Southern California Chapter 2020-2021, served two consecutive two terms as SoCal Chapter President on 2022 to 2024, served as the Assistant Membership Director for two consecutive years 2022-2024, served as the State Membership Director on 2024-2025; and

WHEREAS, Brother (Epi) Inigo FB Engo received various awards and recognition, including CA State "Knight of the Year" in 2024-2025, Circle of Honor status awardee as State Membership Director, and recognized by the Supreme as the number 2 recruiter in the whole order for the Columbian year 2024-2025, and

WHEREAS, Brother (Epi) Inigo FB Engo is currently SoCal District Deputy Mentor, SoCal 2nd Year Trustee, appointed and presently serving as the California State Membership Director special consultant, and

WHEREAS, Brother (Epi) Inigo FB Engo is an active parishioner of St. Pancratius Church, Lakewood, California, serving as Lector, Eucharistic, and Live Stream Ministries; and

WHEREAS, Brother (Epi) Inigo FB Engo, together with his wife, Pam, sons Jeruel and Jared, are advocates Resolution and served as Team Captain of Walk for Autism Speaks; and

WHEREAS, Brother (Epi) Inigo FB Engo earned a Bachelor of Science in Marine Transportation from the Philippine Merchant Marine Academy, he was the silent drill commander, recipient of various awards, earned the rank of Ensign (2LT) in the Navy and Third Mate license upon graduation, board examination top topnotcher, Graduated from Naval Reserve Accession Course in Great Lakes, Illinois and served his country in US Navy reserve from 2004- 2008; and

WHEREAS, Brother (Epi) Inigo FB Engo is active in his alumni organization, served as the Chairman from 2014 to 2016, and President of the Philippine Merchant Marine Academy Alumni Association of North America from 2016 to 2018, and

WHEREAS, Brother (Epi) Inigo FB Engo served as Merchant Marine officer in a worldwide route in various capacities from Third Mate to Chief Mate, served different capacities working on shore, such as Marine Cargo Surveyor, Director of House, Safety, and Environment, and Training Director of Pan Pacific and Intertek from 2005 to 2012, served as Chief Executive Officer of EMCI (E Marine Consultancy Inc.) from 2012 to 2018, served as Superintendent, Manager of Metro Ports in Long Beach Ca from 2015 to 2023. and currently the Manager of Pan Pacific Surveyors, Inc. in Paramount, CA, from 2024 to present.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, in view of his service and dedication to the Knights of Columbus, his Council, Community, and Church, Msgr Kielty Council 10140 proudly endorses Brother (Epi) Inigo FB Engo for the office of California State Council Warden for the Columbian Year 2026-2027 and urges his election at the state election to be held in Visalia, on May 15 - 16, 2026.