



# COUNTY of VENTURA

## Board of Supervisors

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Third District

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June 3, 2025

Ventura County Board of Supervisors

**SUBJECT: Receive and File a Presentation from California State Association of Counties (CSAC) CEO Graham Knaus Updating the Board on CSAC Activities and Paul Danczyk, Chief Operating Officer of the California Counties Foundation Regarding the Successful Completion of the CSAC Institute Leadership Training Held in Ventura County.**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Receive and File a Presentation from CSAC CEO Graham Knaus Updating the Board on CSAC Activities and Paul Danczyk, Chief Operating Officer of the California Counties Foundation Upon the Successful Completion of the CSAC Institute Leadership Training Held in Ventura County.

**DISCUSSION:**

CSAC CEO Graham Knaus will be providing our Board with an update on the latest work and activities of CSAC in support of California Counties. Paul Danczyk, Chief Operating Officer of the California Counties Foundation, will be providing an update on the CSAC Institute Leadership Training and recognizing the County's graduates. As background on the leadership training, on June 21, 2022, our Board approved a memorandum of understanding with the CSAC Institute to conduct ten CSAC Training Institute courses for forty County of Ventura leaders.

The CSAC William "Bill" Chiat Institute for Excellence in County Government is a professional, practical continuing education program for senior County staff and elected officials. Its goal is to expand the capacity and capability of county elected officials and senior staff to provide extraordinary services to their communities. The Institute was established in 2008 and is a component of the California Counties Foundation, Inc. and the California State Association of Counties.

The CSAC Institute coursework includes training in leadership, policy, governance, talent management, budgeting, and financing with specific application to County government operations. Additionally, the CSAC Institute offers the Credentialed County Senior Executive Certification for senior executives, managers and elected department directors as well as the Credentialed County Technology Executive for IT Directors and senior managers.

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Through the agreement with CSAC, ten leadership courses were provided over the past twelve months to many County leaders locally, relieving the County of the cost of travel and productivity loss associated with sending a large quantity of employees offsite to train in other regions of the state.

In 2023, the training program was very successful for Ventura County's first cohort. Twenty-nine of the County's senior executives, including many agency and department heads, completed all ten CSAC Leadership Training courses. Over the past twelve months, twenty-eight additional County leaders have completed the program, earning certification as CSAC Credentialed County Senior Executives.

We wish to thank CSAC and the California Counties Foundation for their partnership and support of California Counties with special thanks to Graham Knaus, CSAC CEO, and Paul Danczyk, Chief Operating Officer of the Foundation, for being here today to personally provide these important updates and present the certifications to our County leaders.

Sincerely,



Kelly Long  
Supervisor, Third District