



July 7, 2026

CONTACT:

Executive Director Bryn Kirvin, bkirvin@sanidiego.gov

Ethics Commission Main Line: 619-533-3476, ethicscommission@sanidiego.gov

**Ethics Commission Appoints New Chair
and Vice Chair for Fiscal Year 2027**

SAN DIEGO – Jimmie Slack, a retired public servant with over three decades of experience with the County and City of San Diego, will be the next Chair of the San Diego Ethics Commission, serving a one-year term that began on July 1, 2026.

The Honorable Laura Halgren (retired), who served more than 20 years as a San Diego Superior Court judge with assignments in criminal, civil, and family courts, will serve as the Commission's next Vice Chair for the same term.

As Chair, Slack succeeds Paul Cooper, who has been an Ethics Commissioner since November 2021. Cooper will continue serving as a Commissioner until his second term expires on June 30, 2029.

As he steps down as Chair, Cooper noted, "It has been my honor and privilege to serve as Chair of this dedicated Commission for the past two years. I am confident that Commissioner Slack, as our new Chair, will continue to provide strong leadership and guidance, ensuring that the City's ethics laws are faithfully enforced and that the citizens of San Diego remain well served and protected."

Slack is currently retired after serving many years in local politics. Slack served in the Navy as a Hospital Corpsman, including in Vietnam. After his service with the Navy, Slack received his bachelor's degree in public administration/management from San Diego State University.

Slack began his career in politics in the office of San Diego County Supervisor Leon L. Williams. During his twelve years with Supervisor Williams, he became the

Supervisor's Chief of Staff and was responsible for assisting in developing policy, advising the Supervisor on various county, state, and federal programs, projects and services, and managing and developing staff.

After the retirement of Supervisor Williams, Slack worked as a Regional Project Manager for Lockheed Martin/ACS State and Local Solutions.

Upon his return to San Diego city government in 2005, Slack served as Chief of Staff to Councilmember/ Council President Tony Young during his entire tenure as a Councilmember. Slack continued in his public service by serving as Chief of Staff to Council President Myrtle Cole

Slack retired from the City in October 2018.

Commenting on his new position, Slack stated, "I am honored to be selected as Chairman by my fellow Commissioners and to continue leading the Commission and the staff's successful efforts in educating, training, and enforcing the City's ethics laws."

Slack is in his fifth year serving on the Commission, is registered as a Democrat, and served as the Commission's Vice Chair for the previous two years.

—

The Ethics Commission is an independent City entity dedicated to monitoring, enforcing, and reforming the City's ethics laws. The Commission has jurisdiction over City laws regarding ethics, campaign finance, and lobbying. Commission staff provide the regulated community with education and advice regarding ethics laws, conduct investigations, audit City campaign committees, and propose related legislation.

For more information, we invite you to visit our website, www.sandiego.gov/ethics, or to contact our office at ethicscommission@sandiego.gov.