

First 5 California Personnel Report

At each quarterly Commission meeting, First 5 California (F5CA) staff provides a personnel report that includes new hires, promotions, resignations/retirements, personnel requests in progress, vacancies, and advertised positions.

New Hires

- Jackie Wong, Chief Deputy Director over the External Governmental Affairs Office, Evaluation Office (EO), and Program Management Division. Jackie has 30 years of experience in the private sector and government working and advocating for educational and economic equity, as well as racial justice for children, youth, and families. Jackie previously served as the Vice President of Policy and Advocacy at GRACE, Inc., a private anti-poverty non-profit dedicated to reducing child poverty in California.
- Julian Podgruszewski, Fiscal Advisor, Fiscal Services Office. Julian has been with the state for two years and comes from the California Department of Public Health, where he was a part of their budget team. Julian will be developing, coordinating, and maintaining all fiscal components for F5CA, including all budget, accounting, and auditing systems.
- Joe Chang, Analyst, Retired Annuitant, Contracts and Procurement Office (CPO). Joe has almost 25 years of state service managing business services, accounting, project management, contracts, and facilities. Joe will be drafting a CPO policy/procedure manual and mentoring staff on process development.
- Jalal Haddad, Health Program Specialist, EO. Jalal comes from the Department of Health Care Services where he worked for more than 12 years overseeing an array of the department's Medicaid Home and Community-Based Service Programs, enabling people to be served in their own homes and communities rather than institutions. Jalal's understanding of Medicaid (Medi-Cal) regulations, outcomes of health care programs, and impact on children and families, will be an asset to F5CA's home visiting work and other potential new areas of family health and wellbeing.

Personnel Requests in Progress and Vacancies

- F5CA does not currently have any personnel requests in progress or vacancies.

Special Assignments

- Joan Dutra, Analyst for CPO, has replaced Robert Dean, Research Data Specialist for EO, as F5CA's COVID-19 Contact Tracer. The Administration has mandated state departments to assign five percent of their staff to contact tracing as part of the process of supporting those who have tested positive for COVID-19 and their close contacts.