

Palmdale Community Advisory Committee



The Palmdale Advisory Committee is intended to build understanding between the public and the Palmdale Sheriff's Station through education and communication. The committee provides the Palmdale Sheriff's Station with direct input from the public regarding local community issues and concerns and works to establish a true partnership between the community and the Palmdale Sheriff's Station.

The committee is not employed by the Sheriff's Department. They are community members who volunteer their time. The committee consists of seven adult members from the community and two youth members.

Brief biographies and contact information for the members are below.

The two youth members are **Sarah S.** and **Andres R.** Due to their ages, their photos and information are not on this page. They can be contacted through the other CAC members.



Kamal Al-Khatib

Kamal has been a resident of the Antelope Valley since 1989. He is a local businessman who is familiar with the Antelope Valley educational, safety, financial, and budgetary issues. He has always believed public safety is a priority.

Kamal is the founder, and Executive Director of the “The Guidance Charter School” in Palmdale. He is also the Chief Executive Officer of “Buymehome.Com. Inc” and “K.A. Commercial Properties”

Kamal is involved in several community groups, such as the American Islamic Institute of Antelope Valley, the A.V. International Heritage Festival, and the AV interfaith Council, and the former Antelope Valley Human Relations Commission.

In his spare time, Kamal is a volunteer soccer Coach for AYSO.

Contact at: Kakhatib@aol.com



Atherine Blanco

Atherine has lived in Palmdale for the past 20 years with her husband Juan. They have 4 adult daughters and 3 grand-daughters. In August 2016, she celebrated 40 years with AT&T and is currently a Construction & Engineering Manager. Atherine has been doing volunteer work for the last 30 years. Volunteering many hours in community services and with AT&T community groups.

She was honored the last three years with President Obama’s Volunteer Service Award for the volunteer hours work. 2013- Silver Award, 2014- Bronze Award & 2015- Gold Award. It was recently announced that she would also be receiving the 2016 President Volunteer Service award.

Atherine is currently doing volunteer work with:

- *Community Network of Los Angeles Chapter (An African American Telecommunication Professionals organization – A board of director’s member since 1988 to present. An organization of dedicated AT&T employees and retirees dedicated to assist:

- *Worthy public, community organization and other diverse community events
- *The underprivileged in employment opportunities
- *Assist African-American employees of AT&T based on their specific needs.

- *Heart Walk Chairperson

- *Antelope Valley NAACP Member

- *Women of AT&T

- *Citizens of Palmdale – Organization Formed 2015 by my Husband Juan Blanco, with the community involvement form to acknowledge the improvement within Palmdale Sheriff Department in the Palmdale Station

Contact at: atherineblanco@att.net



Lilia Galindo

Lilia was born and raised in Mexico where she obtained a degree in Economics from National Polytechnic Institute (IPN) in Mexico City. In 1991, she married an American and they came to the United States in 1997. Lilia learned English in a total immersion class and subsequently earned a Master Degree from CSUN.

Lilia has held positions as a Section 8 interviewer, Assistant Director for a Head Start program, and Human Relations manager for the Antelope Valley Schools Transportation Agency.

In 2010, Lilia started her own radio program, “Café con Leche.” Over the years, Lilia has interviewed Congressmen, State Senators and Assemblymen, the Mayors of both Palmdale and Lancaster, Sheriff McDonnell, and many others.

Lilia was appointed by Governor Brown to be the director of the 50th District Agricultural Association. She is also a member of the Lancaster “First time Second Chance” and a member of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC). She was recently appointed as a board member of the Antelope Valley Community Clinic.

In 2014, Lilia founded a nonprofit organization named “Café Con Leche Immigration and Educational Services” and through it has organized informational forums regarding AB 60 in partnership with the Mexican General Consulate of Los Angeles.

Contact at: lgal33@gmail.com



Bishop Henry Hearn

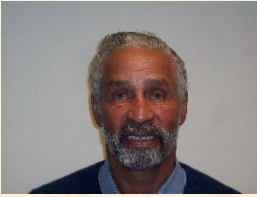
Henry served in the U.S. Army in Korea, has been in the Antelope Valley for over 45 years serving on the Lancaster City Council, as Vice Mayor and Mayor, as well as being involved in boards and committees such as United Way, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Housing and Urban Development Community Development Act Board, American Cancer Society, Advisory Board for the Boys and Girls Club, and Program Sponsor for the Antelope Valley Black Infant Health Program.



Chris Johnson

Chris is the Senior Pastor of Grace Chapel. He has been a resident of the Valley for 25 years and previously served as a local school administrator. Chris has been instrumental in starting neighborhood programs to help kids and families and has previously served on the Lancaster Criminal Justice Commission. He has been married for 28 years to his wife, Christin and they have four children. Chris is a supporter of our local Sheriff Department and deeply loves the people of our community.

Contact at: cjohnson@gclancaster.com



Emmett Murrell

Emmett is the Founder and current CEO and Director of The Emmett Murrell’s Farm and Boys Home, has served as Chairman of the Board of Black Infant Health, Director of Youth Employment for the Los Angeles Urban League and Special Project Coordinator for the Southern Area Boys Club. He is a current member of The Community Action League and Elder/Minister at the Living Stone Cathedral of Worship.



Dr. John Porter

John presently serves the Palmdale School District as the Assistant Superintendent for Special Education and Student services.

Prior to his appointment as Assistant Superintendent, John served the PSD as a Special Education teacher, a Special Education Program Specialist, an Assistant Principal and Special Education Director.

In the area of Student Services and alternative education, John has worked with other PSD leaders to reduce student expulsions by over 85% in the last several years and has been the guiding force to build an Alternate Education school that is based on restorative discipline – building the student skills necessary for success in school and life in a non-punitive, positive teaching environment. That school’s motto says it all, “We Teach Success.”

John (like his father, the late Dr. Carl Porter, who served for many years on the Board of Directors for the American Red Cross and the AV Board of Trade) is active in the community and serves on the boards of directors for the Kiwanis Club of Palmdale West (where he is serves as the immediate Past-President) and the Lancaster Performing Arts Center Foundation. Additionally, he is a lifetime member of the Friends of the Palmdale City Library (and a former director), a member of the Palmdale Sheriffs Boosters and is a former Board of Directors member of the Antelope Valley Chapter of the American Red Cross and is presently a member of the Edwards Air Force Base Civilian-Military Support Group. He also serves the Association of California School Administrators (ACDA) as a member of the statewide Student Services/Special Education Council, where he is presently President-elect.

John lives in Palmdale with his wife Susan, who is the Regional Manager for the United Way of Los Angeles County/Antelope Valley office. They have four grown children and eight grandchildren.

Contact at: drjohncporter@gmail.com