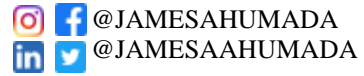


JAMES A. AHUMADA

555 Maine Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90802

📞 (626) 825-8693 ✉️ Ahumada.James@gmail.com



FEATURED SKILLS

Specialty in Municipal and Federal Policy, Business & Government Relations & Public Education

DESCRIPTION

Chief experiences have been in leading complex teams, community relationship building, project management, crisis communications and media relations. Utilizing these skills I have helped lead the City of Long Beach and manage the operations for a rising California elected official while helping to fundraise millions of dollars for political and charitable causes. I hope to use the experiences and skills I have enhanced over the years to work to strengthen and advance the mission of the Downtown Long Beach Alliance.

RELEVANT CAREER EXPERIENCE

U.S. House of Representatives, Long Beach, CA/Washington, D.C. *Dec. 2022 to Feb. 2023*
Senior Advisor, Office of Rep. Robert Garcia

- Directing the recruitment and hiring of staff, opening of offices and transition of services.

City of Long Beach, Long Beach, CA *Oct. 2020 to Dec. 2022*
Chief of Staff, Office of Mayor Robert Garcia

- Managed the legislative department, made up of a \$6.1 million budget and 50 FTEs, for Long Beach's first LGBTQ+ and first Latino mayor during both an unprecedented pandemic and while managing the elected's historic run for the U.S. House of Representatives.
- Led the Mayor's Office for the second largest city in Los Angeles County, home to nearly 500,000 residents and made up of 23 departments, notably including its own health department, water and gas department, the Port of Long Beach and an airport.
- Assisted the mayor in crafting, garnering support for, passing and messaging a \$3.2 billion balanced city budget — most recently including increases in city employee pay and substantial new investments in infrastructure repairs, public safety, and homeless services.
- Publicly representing the City of Long Beach including on trade missions to Thailand and Japan, conferences around the country, and legislative advocacy visits to Washington, D.C. — recently including meetings with the White House and Department of Transportation.

Communications Director

- Senior advisor to the mayor; managed the communications team, guiding the mayor's communications strategy throughout the City's response program to the COVID pandemic — an effort lauded by Governor Newsom and President Biden as a national model.
- Spearheaded the mayor's communications strategy, including building community support for major city-wide initiatives, including the housing of unaccompanied migrant children in Long Beach during the 2021 border crisis, the launch of various city programs, and the announcement and initial development of the \$251 million Long Beach Recovery Act.
- Built and reestablished strong relationships with reporters and media outlets throughout the country including those affiliated with NYT, WaPo, LA Times, Politico, CNN and others.

California State University, Long Beach, Long Beach, CA *Nov. 2014 to Sept. 2020*
ASI Senior Communications Manager

- Worked as a part of a senior management team at CSULB Associated Students, Inc., overseeing a communications and marketing division that involved continuous development of web, social media and supportive content creation.

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- Strategically guided the public image of a \$24 million, 600-person non-profit organization — most notably through the crises caused by the COVID-19 pandemic — and responsible for managing the marketing and public affairs for the CSULB student union, recreation center, child care center, recycling center and the various programs within each facility including a food pantry, a special events department and state-of-the-art media division.
- Served as the company's public information officer, responsible for communicating all policies, legislative priorities, and news to internal and external community audiences.
- Planned, developed and executed major initiatives which resulted in achievements such as securing an avenue of payment for undocumented student leaders, changing the Long Beach State mascot, improving student-to-student communications and creating campaigns to grow CSULB voter registration and Associated Students development initiatives.
- Managed the concept, design and launch processes for all corporate websites and mobile applications, ensuring compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act regulations and Cal State Accessible Technology Initiative standards.

U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

Aug. 2011 to Nov. 2014

Legislative Asst. & Dept. Press Secretary, Office of Rep. Waxman

- Advised Congressman Henry A. Waxman, former Chairman and Ranking Member on the House Energy and Commerce Committee, on a legislative portfolio that included financial services, small business, housing, labor, the budget, and education.
- Met with business and labor representatives from around the country, with a focus on companies, colleges, and universities in the Congressional District, which then included Santa Monica, West Hollywood, Beverly Hills and other parts of West Los Angeles.
- Coordinated with staff on the House Committee on Energy & Commerce to develop and launch a digital media plan for the Congressional Safe Climate Caucus; a collection of 39 members of Congress committed to pushing for action on climate change.
- Directed the Congressman's massive newsletter database and digital media presence by strategically managing his personal office website, Facebook, Flickr, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube accounts using popular tactics and various forms of analytic tracking software.

RELEVANT AFFILIATIONS

- **Long Beach Citizens Police Complaint Commission**
- **CSULB Alumni Board of Directors**
- **Rotary Club of Long Beach**

EDUCATION

- **2011 — Cal State University, Long Beach, Long Beach, CA**
B.A. in Political Science, Emphasis in Law & Public Policy, Served as Student Body President
- **2011 — The Panetta Institute for Public Policy, Washington, DC**
- **2013 — Truman National Security Project, Washington, DC**
- **Present — Cal State University, Long Beach, Long Beach, CA**
Masters of Business Administration (MBA)
- **2019 — The Leadership Long Beach Institute, Long Beach, CA**