

California Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers Association



November 6, 2023

CACASA D.C. Delegation:

Congratulations on being selected to represent CACASA in our nation's capital, Washington, D.C., March 17 – March 22, 2024! Here is our 2024 D.C. delegation team:

Lisa Herbert, Sutter	lherbert@co.sutter.ca.us
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We appreciate you making the commitment of time and energy necessary for this trip on behalf of the CACASA Membership. Those that have attended in the past, know this trip is a lot of work but, we also endeavor to make it enjoyable and we always strengthen our relationships.

This program has been popular with CACASA and our desire is to give members the experience and opportunity to participate. It is important that we anticipate, monitor and track all expenses associated with this trip. This includes both the costs reimbursed by CACASA and any costs you pass on to your county. CACASA maintains a budget of \$15,000 for this event and we will provide an expense reimbursement form to help you capture this vital financial information.

Meetings in D.C. will be planned for four full days starting Monday, March 18 and continuing through Thursday, March 21, 2022. This allows about four months for us to prepare. We will need to request and schedule meetings and to research, edit, and approve our fact sheets. It is critical that we (individually and collectively) stay on top of our obligations in preparation for the trip (travel arrangements, meeting requests, Fact Sheet assignments, etc.)

This year accommodations are as follows:

Embassy Suites Washington, DC Convention Center
900 10th Street NW,
Washington, District of Columbia, 20001,
Phone 202-739-2001

Check-In Date: Sunday, March 17, 2022 at 3:00 pm (Saturday arrivals are an option as well)

Check-Out Date: Friday, March 22, 2022 at 12:00 (noon)

****Please let Lindsey know if you are okay sharing a room with another participant or would like your own room****

Hotel accommodations are already set, but it will be your responsibility to make airline arrangements. There are three airports that service Washington, D.C. – Reagan-National (DCA), Dulles (IAD), and Baltimore-Washington (BWI). For travel-planning purposes, please note that we will hold a kick-off dinner meeting scheduled for **Sunday, March 17 at 6:30 p.m. (pending)**. Please plan your in-bound flight accordingly, allowing sufficient time to arrive, collect luggage and adequate travel time from airport to hotel (~ 45 min). We want to schedule arrival and departure times so that we can

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coordinate shared ground transportation to and from airports. Please send flight itinerary (once confirmed) to Lindsey Carter and Tim Cansler. Cansler Consulting will cover your ground transportation; details on that will be provided closer to your arrival date. Please begin looking at flight options immediately; naturally, if Tim, Louie or I can help, please let us know.

Please provide us your cell number, as it will be listed on the itinerary. Make sure you capture everyone else's cell number on your phone; this will be extremely valuable during the trip.

We will also hold a closing dinner on Thursday, March 21, at Fogo de Chao at 7 p.m.

We will schedule conference calls in the coming weeks. The first conference call is scheduled for **November**. The second conference call will be scheduled in **January**. The third conference call will be **scheduled during the first or second week of February and then periodically up to our departure date**. Do not worry if you cannot make the calls, we can brief everyone after-the-fact. Please do NOT wait for our conference call(s) if you have any travel/flight questions.

Please be aware that meetings typically begin by 9:00a.m. and the last meeting can be as late as 5:00p.m. Meetings will be *tentatively* held at House and Senate office buildings on Capitol Hill and agency offices (USDA, OMB, CBP, EPA, etc.) off the Hill and often back and forth. We will typically meet for breakfast each morning at the hotel to confirm assignments and finalize plans for the day.

House and Senate offices and agency buildings all have security checkpoints (with metal detectors), please be cognizant of carrying loose change and wearing large belt buckles, jewelry, etc. The White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Custom Border Patrol, US-EPA, and the Majority Leader's office all have additional security checkpoints where government issued photo I.D. is required. OMB also requires a background check prior to our appointment. You will be asked to provide information to them, including a social security number, to be cleared before attending the meeting. We will call contact you soon to provide this information.

Given all of this, please:

- Wear comfortable shoes, we walk a lot.
- Bring at least 100 business cards.
- Have cash available for taxis between meetings. Most drivers accept credit cards. In some cases, we can use Uber or Lift.
- Always have a government issued photo I.D.

Again, congratulations and thank you for participating. We expect this to be a productive and valuable trip for each of you and for our Association.

Sincerely,

Louie Mendoza & Lindsey Carter

Tim Cansler

Louie Mendoza & Lindsey Carter
CACASA DC Subcommittee Co-Chairs

&

Tim Cansler
Federal Legislative Advocate