

California State Treasurer Fiona Ma
Delegation to Latvia
July 25-28, 2024

Fiona Ma, California State Treasurer

Fiona Ma is California's 34th State Treasurer. She was first elected on November 6, 2018, with more votes (7,825,587) than any other candidate for treasurer in the state's history and reelected on November 8, 2022. She is the first woman of color and the first woman Certified Public Accountant (CPA) elected to the position.

The State Treasurer's Office was created in the California Constitution in 1849. It provides financing for schools, roads, housing, recycling and waste management, hospitals, public facilities, and other crucial infrastructure projects that better the lives of residents. California is poised to become the world's fourth-largest economy and Treasurer Ma is the state's primary banker. Presently, her office processes more than \$3 trillion in banking transactions. She provides transparency and oversight for the government's investment portfolio and accounts, as well as for the state's surplus funds.



Treasurer Ma oversees an investment portfolio that currently averages over \$200 billion—a significant portion of which is beneficially owned by more than 2,200 local governments in California. She serves as agent of sale for all State bonds and is trustee of billions of dollars of state indebtedness.

Josh Newman, California State Senator

California State Senator Josh Newman represents the 29th Senate District, which includes portions of Los Angeles, Orange, and San Bernardino Counties. He currently serves as Chair of the Senate Committee on Education and the Senate Select Committee on Transitioning to a Zero Emission Energy Future, and is a member of the Senate Committees on Transportation; Elections & Constitutional Amendments; Energy, Utilities & Communications; Budget & Fiscal Review; and the Select Committees on Hydrogen Energy and on Mental Health. He also serves on the State Allocation Board, which is responsible for disbursing roughly \$50 billion in school facilities construction funds.

Prior to his election in 2016, Senator Newman's professional experience included service as an officer in the United States Army; executive-level positions for a series of start-ups in the Internet and mobile technology sectors; and as the founder of an initiative that assisted young military veterans throughout Southern California pursue rewarding, career-oriented post-service employment. He is a graduate of Yale University, with a BA in History. He and his wife reside in Fullerton with their daughter and their three weird but lovable rescue Chihuahuas.

Bob Hertzberg, California State Senator (retired)

Bob Hertzberg was first elected to the California State Assembly in 1996 and was unanimously elected as the Assembly's 64th Speaker in 2000. After his tenure as Speaker, Hertzberg earned distinction as a global clean energy entrepreneur,

with projects spanning Europe, Asia, Africa and North America. In 2014 he returned to state government as a State Senator from Los Angeles where he served as Senate Majority Leader. A licensed attorney for over 40 years, he has been named one of the top ten lawyers in Los Angeles and top 100 lawyers in California. The Guardian Magazine recognized him as “one of the 50 people who could save the planet.”

Through his law practice and continued cooperation with California and US government officials, Sen. Hertzberg has developed a strong network among the state’s elected officials and business leaders that extends to include elected officials in Washington, D.C. and internationally. Today, as a Lawyer, he is focused on helping clients solve complex problems at the intersection between business, government, and public policy. His current client list includes some largest technology, internet, and energy companies in the world.

At the national government level, Sen. Hertzberg enjoys strong personal and professional relationships with several members of the United States Congress and other senior officials, including Vice President Harris and members of the President’s Cabinet. In California, he works closely with the Governor Newsom, State Treasurer Fiona Ma, Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass, and numerous other state and local officials.

He is a Senior Fellow with the climate action group Mission Possible, a member of the Foreign Affairs Council, and served as Chair of the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC) in 2004 and 2011.

Jeff Leader, Foreign Affairs Liaison for CA State Treasurer Fiona Ma

Jeff Leader currently serves as Foreign Affairs Liaison for California State Treasurer Fiona Ma. He is also an advisor on Trade and Foreign Investment to several members of the United States Congress, and other California elected officials. He also closely cooperates with several members of the California based foreign consular corps.

In private business, Mr. Leader is a partner at Hermes Deployment Corporation (HDC) and is an executive with the Wuhan, China Yunhong Group. His practice focuses on US-China technology transfer activities, market entry support, and coalition development. In addition, He also advises and facilitates on US technology acquisitions for foreign companies, with a focus on China state owned enterprises. In academics, he is a program lecturer at Stanford University and an Advisory Board member for China Business Studies at the University of San Francisco.

His client portfolio includes U.S. defense contractors and aerospace companies, clean energy, environmental remediation, healthcare, water contaminant destruction, biotechnology, large-scale property development (PRC), and advanced communications interests, including: Aerojet-Rocketdyne, Boeing, Allergan Pharma, Solar Power, Inc. (LDK Solar), BIOCOM, OptiStreams, Yunhong CTI / Biotech, BronzeLink Satellite (HK), Beijing Tech Investment Group, N.A. Railway Group (PRC), Sunshine Kaidi New Energy Group (PRC), the Vlade Divac (NBA) Foundation, and others.

Jeff Leader possesses (U.S.) Juris Doctor and Bachelor of Arts in Marketing and Communications degrees.

Kenneth Morrison, Morrison Consulting

Kenneth Morrison is Founder and Principal of Morrison Consulting, a firm specializing in smart technologies that improve systems and communication security and privacy, building performance, energy efficiency, and sustainability.

With over 30 years of corporate IT Security experience and consulting, he has provided key stakeholders with highly confidential risk assessments, analyzed security for U.S. and global systems, evaluated regulatory compliance, architecture integrity, and resilience. His work includes establishment of strategic, cost effective, scalable programs for globally expanding firms, effective and leverageable frameworks for cloud migrations, ERP and regulated systems, and design of complex strategic security architecture frameworks.

Mr. Morrison has held technology management and architecture roles with international companies including IBM, Sun Microsystems, and Oracle Corporation. He has served on several boards and was Chief Technology Officer of MCST

Development, a 900-acre smart city in Sichuan. Mr. Morrison holds CISSP and CISM IT Security certifications and is a regular presenter on topics impacting global IT security for businesses and enterprises.

He earned an Architecture degree from the University of California Berkeley, College of Environmental Design, where he has been a Distinguished Visiting Fellow.

Lauren Morrison, Morrison Consulting

Lauren Morrison is a business development specialist with experience in start-up development, marketing, product and brand identity. She has worked with companies ranging from early-stage ventures to Fortune 500 and multinational enterprises.

Her background includes work in clean energy, law, public policy, technology, sports, medicine, construction, real estate development, and AI. She worked with Thomson Reuters (West) on content creation, marketing, branding, and new product development. As Acquisitions Manager at McGraw Hill, Lauren worked on new product development, recruited and liaised with international subject matter experts, and expanded audiences through effective targeted content strategy.

Lauren has worked with Silicon Valley technology companies on branding and content creation for new and existing products and market expansion. She acted as a liaison for international technology start-ups seeking to expand their presence in the US. She has created and directed community programs that bring cultural events to wide audiences and is an avid supporter and fundraiser for public school education programs.

Kam Mahdi, Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Clean Energy Technologies (CETY)

Kam Mahdi is Chief Executive of Clean Energy Technologies, a company he co-founded in September of 2015 that offers a suite of zero emission heat recovery solutions, combined heat to power and waste to energy products as well as engineering and manufacturing solutions focused on other energy efficient and environmentally sustainable technologies.

From 2010 to December 2015, Mr. Mahdi served as the CEO of Probe Manufacturing an electronics manufacturing and product development accelerator. His vision of creating a product development accelerator led to Probe Manufacturing's acquisition of the General Electric Heat Recovery Solutions in 2015 and the company's concurrent name change to Clean Energy Technologies (CETY) . He has been instrumental in making CETY a major player in the renewable and energy efficiency markets.

Mr. Mahdi is an accomplished chief executive with domestic and international experience in operations, P&L oversight, multi-channel product distributions, licensing, joint ventures, and marketing involving both start-ups and growth organizations.

He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering from California State University of Northridge.

Mārtiņš Andersons, President, American Latvian Association (ALA)

Mārtiņš Andersons is President of the American Latvian Association (ALA), a non-profit founded in 1951 that represents the nearly 100,000 Latvian-Americans living in the United States. Its focus areas include Culture, Education, Advocacy, and Business Development. In addition to his work for ALA, Mr. Andersons serves on various other Latvian non-profit boards including the Latvian American Chamber of Commerce (LACC) whose mission includes fostering business connections between the United States and Latvia. For many years he has also been active in organizing two bi-annual gatherings of investors, entrepreneurs, and business leaders in cooperation with Latvia's Foreign Ministry, Latvia's Investment & Development Agency, LACC and other organizations: Spotlight Latvia (in the U.S.) and the World Latvian Economics and Innovation Forum (outside the U.S.).

In his professional life Mr. Andersons has extensive experience in the fields of finance and business strategy. He has worked in New York, San Francisco, and Los Angeles as an investment banker for J.P. Morgan and GE Capital providing working capital and acquisition finance to clients across multiple industries. He is currently based in San Francisco where he is focused on sales strategy and operations for companies in Silicon Valley and the broader Bay Area region.

Mr. Andersons holds an MBA from Columbia University as well as a BA in economics and international relations from Northwestern University.

Delegation companies represented by VIDEO:

[OptiStreams -- MOSES platform](#)

OptiStreams seeks to bring its MOSES infrastructure independent communications solution to the E.U. for military, civilian emergency response, and other needs. **The company seeks partnerships with Latvian companies to support market entry and expansion, final assembly, sales, after-sales service, and other revenue generating activities.**

[G-DECK Technologies](#)

Water contaminant destruction systems engineering and technologies. Applications include near-zero waste stream wastewater treatment, reduced cost process water systems (potable to ultra-pure), and multiple standard effluent stream treatment capability systems. **A spin-out of a Fortune 500 US defense contractor, G-DECK Technologies seeks strategic partners to accelerate EU market entry to serve the semiconductor, electronics manufacturing, wastewater treatment, biopharmaceutical, and other water intensive industries.**

[UBTECH Robotics](#)

Pasadena, California-based AI-driven robotic technologies for the healthcare and other service sectors. **The company seeks partners to support broader EU market entry, after-sales service, product development, and sales.**

[Clean Energy Technologies Inc. \(CETY\)](#) is an Irvine, California-based company that has already established an operational facility in Latvia and is a rising leader in the zero-emission field by offering eco-friendly green energy solutions, clean energy fuels and alternative electric power for small and mid-sized projects in North America, Europe, and Asia. They deliver power from heat and biomass with zero emission and low cost.