

Incumbent state officers accept unchallenged nominations to serve another term



State officer election not needed



CAPT State President
Eric Soto



CAPT State Vice
President
Paul Hannula



CAPT State Secretary/
Treasurer
Jaime Garcia

At a recent special meeting of the CAPT Board of Directors, CAPT's incumbent state officers—State President Eric Soto, State Vice President Paul Hannula (Atascadero Chapter), and State Secretary-Treasurer Jaime Garcia (Coalinga Chapter) were nominated to serve the association in their respective offices for another two-year term. Community Facilities Chapter President Donald Cofer nominated incumbent Jamie Garcia for the office of State Secretary/Treasurer and incumbent Eric Soto for the office of State President. Patton Chapter President Sylvia Hernandez nominated incumbent Paul Hannula for the office of State Vice President.

No other candidate for state office was nominated, leaving the incumbent officers, who accepted their nominations, unopposed in CAPT's biennial State Officer Elections. Per CAPT's Constitution and Bylaws, unopposed state officer candidates shall be deemed elected, and no election shall be held for that office. If all candidates are unopposed, there shall be no election held. Following CAPT's CBLs, the three unopposed state officers will assume their next two-year term post effective September 24, 2020.

State President Eric Soto is a second-generation Psychiatric Technician. At age 19, Eric entered state employment in 1998. He has over 22 years of state service at Metropolitan State Hospital, where he served as a job steward in 2004 and was appointed Chief Steward in 2005. Eric was elected chapter vice president in 2006 and 2008. Beginning in 2010, Eric was elected to four consecutive terms as chapter president before being elected State President in 2016.

"It is an honor and privilege to serve my fellow CAPT Brothers and Sisters for another two years," said Eric. "I will continue to do everything I can to maintain the trust and confidence the membership has placed in me. Together, we will continue to traverse the long road to workplace justice and the furtherance of our great and noble profession."

State Secretary/Treasurer Jaime Garcia started his career in state service as a pre-licensed Psychiatric Technician in 2006 and worked his way up to Senior Psych Tech in 2008. He became a CAPT Job Steward in 2008 and a Chief Steward in 2012. In 2013, Jaime was appointed as Coalinga Chapter Vice President, and in May of 2014, he was elected President. In May of 2018, Jaime was nominated and accepted the State Secretary-Treasurer's office, filling the shoes of his good friend and leader-predecessor, Paul Alizaga. With his recent, unchallenged nomination, Jaime will continue to serve another term as the association's State-Secretary-Treasurer. Jaime's vision is to "bring PTs together as a collective body so that regardless of future obstacles, our union stays united and strong!"

"On July 22, during a special board meeting, I was nominated and unchallenged for another term by the CAPT Board of Directors," said Jaime. "I am thrilled to serve my fellow brothers and sisters during such a crucial time, and I accept the challenge of assisting CAPT and its members as we navigate through the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Eric, Paul, and Jaime are dedicated union activists who have demonstrated outstanding leadership at the chapter and state levels. Please join CAPT in congratulating these union activists in their posts.