



[BreatheSoCal.org](http://BreatheSoCal.org)

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# MEDIA RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**June 29, 2021**

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## **Breathe Southern California Board of Directors Adds Five New Members**

**LOS ANGELES, CALIF., June 29, 2021** – Breathe Southern California announces the appointment of five new members of its Board of Directors, as well as the full slate of officers and board members for 2021. Joining the Board of Directors are **Angela DePaoli, Bo Okoroji, Whitney O’Neill, Reza Ronaghi, and Zach Woolridge.**

Breathe Southern California President & CEO Marc Carrel announced, “I look forward to working with these five distinguished industry leaders. Each one of them brings significant expertise and a wealth of knowledge that will help expand our important mission to clean the air and improve lung health across Southern California. I am excited to see what we can accomplish together.”

**Angela DePaoli, M.S., P.M.P.** is founder, President & CEO of Bargas Environmental Consulting, a premier environmental consulting firm in California. As its sole proprietor and President, Angela brings over 20 years of experience in managing complex projects to guide timely innovative solutions for clients. She assists project developers, public agencies, private clients, elected officials, construction contractors, sub-consultants, and project teams find balance between quality development and environmental concerns. Under Angela’s leadership the company has expanded from its Sacramento headquarters to include five additional offices in Orange, Pasadena, Riverside Temecula, and San Diego, California.

**Bo Okoroji** is Head of Investment & Divestment for Unibail-Rodamco-Westfield (URW), the premier global developer and operator of flagship shopping destinations. Bo leads the team responsible for sourcing, underwriting, and managing due diligence efforts for all acquisitions, dispositions, and investment opportunities in the United States. In this role, Bo and his team are primarily focused on identifying strategic opportunities to create premier flagship shopping, mixed-use, and lifestyle destinations located in major markets across the country. Aligned with URW’s purpose to Reinvent Being Together, Bo and his team are committed to a vision of creating better places where people can live, work, and play within sustainable and inclusive communities. In Southern California, URW assets include Westfield Century City, Westfield Culver City, Westfield Fashion Square, Westfield Mission Valley, Westfield North County, Westfield Palm Desert, Westfield Plaza Bonita, Westfield Santa Anita, Westfield Topanga and the Villages, Westfield UTC, Palisade at Westfield UTC, Westfield Valencia Town Center, and the shop and dine experience at five of the terminals in LA International Airport (LAX).

**Whitney O'Neill** is Senior Director of State Government Affairs for the West Region for Charter Communications (Spectrum). In this role, Whitney manages two teams and directs state and municipal legislative strategies across four states, including within Charter's largest service territory across its 41 state footprint in Los Angeles. Prior to joining Charter Communications, Whitney oversaw the government and regulatory affairs department for the Southern California Regional Rail Authority. Previously, Whitney worked in Washington, DC as a federal lobbyist for non-profit organizations focused on healthcare, criminal justice and budget policy, and previously served Congressman Kurt Schrader (OR) in his Washington, DC office.

**Reza Ronaghi, M.D., MSc.**, is an Interventional Pulmonologist and Critical Care Physician at UCLA, with a career-long record of medical operations, research development, and patient care success for leading organizations. Dr. Ronaghi specializes in the treatment of airway diseases such as lung cancer, COPD, and asthma, and regularly performs interventional procedures such as bronchial thermoplasty for treating asthma patients as well as bronchoscopic lung volume reduction surgery. He has given talks on interventional pulmonary, lung cancer, COPD, and asthma around the world, and his work has been published in numerous journals. He also serves on the Steering Committee of the Trudeau Society.

**Zach Woolridge** works for Banc of California within the Specialty Banking division as a Relationship Manager, specifically focused on growing the deposit and lending portfolio within the Entertainment industry. Throughout his time at Banc of California, Zach has built a clientele base in other verticals such as Sports, Nonprofit, Business Management, High Net Worth, Commercial Real Estate, and Property Management. Prior to Banc of California, he worked for Los Angeles Football Club (LAFC), where he created and oversaw the Partnership Development team, which is dedicated to maintaining and upselling LAFC's corporate partner portfolio. While at LAFC, he oversaw the corporate partner integration with the design and build of Banc of California Stadium, along with establishing the policies and procedures within the team.

#### **ABOUT BREATHE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

*Established in 1903, Breathe Southern California is a 501(c)(3) environmental health nonprofit focused on improving the air quality and lung health of Southern Californians. The imbalance in social justice and health equity is the foundation of our vision to educate and empower all Southern Californians to reduce their risk of lung disease by decreasing tobacco use, improving air quality, and increasing access to health care. To Learn more about Breathe Southern California, visit [www.breathesoal.org](http://www.breathesoal.org)*

The full slate of board members for 2021 is listed on the next page:

## 2021-22 Board of Directors

### Officers

**Eileena James Brown, M.B.A., *Chair***  
Golden State Insurance (retired)

**Andrea M. Caster, Esq., *Vice Chair***  
Attorney & Counselor at Law  
Law Office of Andrea Merrell Caster

**Robert L. Duitsman, Esq., *Treasurer***  
Attorney-at-Law, Law Office of Robert L. Duitsman

**Lauren Nevitt, Esq., *Secretary***  
Senior Environmental Counsel  
Southern California Gas Company

**Lawrence M. Lebowsky, Esq., *Immediate Past Chair***  
Attorney-at-Law  
Law Office of Lawrence M. Lebowsky

### Members of the Board

**Yossef Aelony, M.D.**  
Clinical Professor of Medicine (Pulmonary)  
Harbor-UCLA Medical Center

**Robert Berliner, Esq.**  
Attorney-at-Law  
Brooks Kushman P.C.

**Larry Chung**  
Vice President, Local Public Affairs  
Southern California Edison

**Steven L. Bryson, Esq.**  
Attorney-at-Law  
Law Office of Steven L. Bryson

**Cynthia Carter**  
Independent Owner  
Juice Plus+

**Angela DePaoli, M.S., P.M.P**  
President & CEO  
Bargas Environmental Consulting

**Anita Quiñonez Gabrielian**  
Partner  
CG Benefits Group

**Diana Guth, BA, RRT**  
Owner  
Home Respiratory Care

**Lucy Labruzzo**  
Executive Vice President  
Cordoba Corp.

**Janet K. Leader, M.P.H., R.D.**  
Associate Director of Field Studies (retired)  
Department of Community Health Sciences,  
UCLA Fielding School of Public Health

**Guy W. Soo Hoo, M.D.**  
Director, Medical Intensive Care Unit  
Pulmonary & Clinical Care Section,  
West Los Angeles VA Medical Center

**Alexis "Lexi" Wiley**  
Vice President, Marketing  
AMPLIFY Power

**Bo Okoroji**  
Vice President, Investment and Divestment  
Unibail-Rodamco-Westfield (URW)

**Whitney O'Neill**  
Senior Director of State Government Affairs, West  
Region  
Charter Communications

**Reza Ronaghi, M.D.**  
Interventional Pulmonologist, Critical Care Physician,  
UCLA Health

**Zach Woolridge**  
Director, Private Banking  
Banc of California

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