



**Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development**  
1400 10th Street, 2nd Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814 USA  
+1 (916) 322-0694 / (877) 345-4633  
[www.business.ca.gov](http://www.business.ca.gov)

## About GO-Biz

The Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz) was created by Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. to serve as California's single point of contact for economic development and job creation efforts. GO-Biz offers a range of services to business owners including: attraction, retention and expansion services, site selection, permit streamlining, clearing of regulatory hurdles, small business assistance, international trade development, assistance with state government, and much more.

*The Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz)  
includes the following units:*

### **Business Investment**

The Business Investment Services Unit works with companies to expand their presence in California by streamlining the site selection process and offsetting the cost of doing business with the use of local, state and federal incentives.

### **Permit Streamlining**

The Permit Assistance unit provides permit streamlining for business owners struggling with local, state and federal permitting for major job creating projects. The permitting team also administers the state's electronic on-line permit assistance center, CalGOLD.

### **Small Business Assistance**

The Small Business Unit provides small business assistance through interagency projects, informational workshops, and direct advocacy. It also maintains a comprehensive list of resources for small business technical assistance, financing, and state procurement.

### **Encouraging Innovation and Entrepreneurship**

GO-Biz administers the state Innovation Hub (iHub) program which includes 12 iHubs stretching from Chico to San Diego. These regional innovation clusters bring together government, academia, and business to further enhance California's entrepreneurial ecosystem thru the promotion of innovation as a community building and job creation tool. In 2011, three of the 12 iHubs opened their first Innovation Incubators

### **International Affairs and Business Development**

The International Affairs and Business Development unit provides critical support on issues relating to international trade and investment opportunities, foreign relations, and business-expanding international agreements. The unit collaborates with federal, local and international partners to identify and assist small to medium size companies in developing markets abroad for their products and services. The unit also promotes foreign investment, including certification of EB5 targeted employment areas, and it supports expansion of shipping and air transport to keep California a top international gateway for the United States.

# Staff Directory

## Executive

**Kish Rajan**  
Director

**Panorea Avdis**  
Chief Deputy Director

## Communications and Policy

**Riley Ray-Robbins**  
Deputy Director

**Brook Taylor**  
Communications & Policy

## California Business Investment Services (CalBIS)

**Leslie McBride**  
Deputy Director

**Mather Kearney**  
Assistant Deputy Director

**Patrick McGuire**  
Sr Business Development Specialist

**Jason Rancadore**  
Sr Business Development Specialist

**Jeff Malin**  
Sr Business Development Specialist  
(Los Angeles)

**Justin Currie**  
Business Development Specialist  
(Bay Area)

## Permit Assistance

**Paul Martin**  
Deputy Director

**Frank Ramirez**  
Sr Permit Assistance Specialist  
(Northern / Central California)

**Andrew Sturfels**  
Sr Permit Assistance Specialist

## Small Business

**Barbara Vohryzek**  
Deputy Director & Small Business Advocate

**Janelle Green**  
Small Business Specialist

**Lillian Conroe**  
Small Business Specialist  
(So Cal - Los Angeles)

## Innovation and Entrepreneurship

**Louis Stewart (iHubs)**  
Deputy Director

## International Affairs and Business Development

**Abby Browning**  
Int'l Policy, Planning & Partnerships

**Davide Bolognesi**  
Int'l Investor Relations

## External Affairs

**Jorge Jaramillo**  
Deputy Director

## Legislative & Inter Government Affairs

**Will Koch**  
Deputy Director

## Administrative Support

**Jenifer Henneke**  
Administrative Manager

**Virginia Gutierrez**  
Administrative Analyst

**Jason Triano**  
Office Technician