

**From:** Ross Pike <[chair@sddemocrats.org](mailto:chair@sddemocrats.org)>  
**Date:** June 5, 2025 at 6:46:44 PM PDT  
**Subject:** A Message From SDCDP Acting Chair Ross Pike  
**Reply-To:** [sdcdp-centcomm26+managers@googlegroups.com](mailto:sdcdp-centcomm26+managers@googlegroups.com)

Dear Central Committee Members,

I'm writing to let you know that Chair Kyle Krahel-Frolander has requested and been granted a leave of absence. As our County Party's Chair Pro Tem, I have stepped in as Acting Chair of the San Diego County Democratic Central Committee. I'm honored to take on this role and grateful for the incredible work each of you continues to do for our Party and our communities.

For those I haven't had the chance to meet yet, I want to share a little about me: I am a former Michigan Democratic Party county chair and I got my start in Democratic politics as a teenager, volunteering for President Obama's first presidential campaign. From there, I never left the Democratic Party and even have the Democratic donkey tattooed on my left wrist! At 18, I became the youngest county Democratic Party chair to be elected in Michigan. After moving to Fallbrook in 2017 to be closer to my sister following the tragic loss of our mom, I quickly became active in local politics which led to me being elected to the Fallbrook Planning Group in 2020. We made history as my election meant I was the first openly gay elected official in Fallbrook. Then in 2022, I was recruited by our local firefighters union to seek a seat on the North County Fire Protection District Board. I won that race and was re-elected to both boards in 2024 with nearly 74% of the vote. I am the only Democrat in San Diego County to simultaneously hold two elected offices and I did it by building coalitions with grassroots activists and labor organizations. I've been proud to advocate for progressive values every step of the way, from ensuring North County Fire was the first fire district to adopt a climate action plan and a DEIB plan to championing equity and transparency in local government, on top of securing the highest bilingual pay for firefighters and EMT/paramedics in Southern California. I'm proud to stand for our shared Democratic values every day while representing the Avocado Capital of the World.

Professionally, I am a certified mediator and worked for the National Conflict Resolution Center in the Alternative Juvenile Justice division disrupting the school-to-prison pipeline. Now, I work for Assemblymember Dr. Darshana Patel in her San Diego office working as a liaison for local governments and the case manager assisting constituents with state agencies including unemployment and paid family leave.

I also serve as President of the Fallbrook Democratic Club, which I've had the privilege of growing into the largest Democratic club in San Diego County with nearly 300 club members—even in a community that leans R+10. In 2024, our endorsed local candidates saw an 80% win rate, proving that organizing, persistence, and a clear message can break through, even in traditionally conservative areas. For our efforts, the Council of Clubs named us the 2025 Geographic Club of the Year. That kind of grassroots success is exactly what we need to carry into the work ahead.

**Now, as Acting Chair, my main focus is clear: we must elect Paloma Aguirre to the San Diego County Board of Supervisors.** This race is critical. Control of the Board—and the future of so many of our county's priorities—hangs in the balance. From advocating for affordable housing to climate leadership to defending and protecting our immigrant communities, what's at stake couldn't be more important.

Paloma is a strong, values-driven leader, and she's exactly who we need representing us at the county level. But we know these races aren't easy. That's why I'll be working closely with all of you to make sure we have the people-power and resources to get her across the finish line. [In the meantime, will you join me in ensuring we secure control of the County?](#)

Thanks for everything you do. I'm energized and honored to continue working with you through this transition in a new capacity. Let's win this!

In solidarity,

Ross Pike  
*Acting Chair*  
San Diego County Democratic Central Committee

Please refer all scheduling requests to this email, [chair@sddemocrats.org](mailto:chair@sddemocrats.org).