

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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CONTACT:Ann Newton
818.760.2121**Fiona Hutton & Associates Expands to Strengthen Client Services***Public Affairs Firm's Capacity Grows with the Addition of Two New Associates*

LOS ANGELES – Amid challenging economic times, [Fiona Hutton & Associates](#) continues to thrive and grow, adding two new associates to its public affairs and public relations staff to expand and strengthen its client services, the firm's president, [Fiona Hutton](#), announced today.

Alma Hernández, a skilled communications specialist with expertise in state government, politics and policy-making, joined Fiona Hutton & Associates as a senior account executive. Elizabeth Craver, an adept organizer and skillful manager, became the firm's account coordinator.

"With the addition of these two outstanding associates, Fiona Hutton & Associates will continue to grow and build on its unparalleled service to clients on a broad spectrum of public policy issues," said Ms. Hutton. "Ms. Hernández brings a wealth of public policy, governmental, campaign and media experience to the firm, and Ms. Craver ensures clients continue to get the first-rate service they expect and deserve."

Ms. Hernández is a former press secretary and campaign manager for several California lawmakers and legislative candidates, as well as State Board of Equalization Member Jerome E. Horton. A top staff member in the Assembly's Democratic Caucus under former Speaker Fabian Núñez, the leadership sent her to buttress campaign efforts in highly targeted legislative races at crucial points in the 2002, 2004 and 2006 elections.

She also has experience in working with statewide trade associations, having previously served as an associate director at the California Medical Association, an organization of 35,000 physicians. Ms. Hernández is a native of California's Central Valley who is fluent in Spanish and English and well-versed in the cultural characteristics of the state's diverse communities.

"Ms. Hernández's experience gives her the unique ability to move quickly and respond adroitly to the ever-changing political climate – both essential talents for serving clients involved in complex and often controversial issues," said Ms. Hutton. "Her in-depth knowledge of the state's media and her extensive network of government and political contacts will enhance and expand the reach of the winning communications and outreach programs we design for our clients."

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Ms. Craver previously served as a communications assistant to a health and wellness facility in the marketing of special events and conferences. She also played a key role in the development of a health education program for students at George Washington University School of Public Health and Health Services.

“Ms. Craver serves as a highly organized and efficient manager in establishing and maintaining the technical systems for external advocacy and communications programs,” said Ms. Hutton. “Her attention to detail and her ability to coordinate and organize a fast-moving team is essential to developing successful communications strategies for our clients.”

Fiona Hutton & Associates is a Los Angeles-based public affairs and public relations firm with a record of success in representing high-profile clients and effectively managing complex and challenging issues. For more information, please call 818.760.2121 or visit the website at www.fionahuttonassoc.com

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