



**Assembly Select Committee on Asia/California Trade and Investment Promotion  
and the Assembly Committee on Jobs, Economic Development, and the Economy**

*U.S. Trade Tariffs on China: Effects on California's Economy*

Wednesday, July 17, 2019 at 10 a.m.

Milton Marks Auditorium, State Building, 455 Golden Gate Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94102

***Biographies of Speakers***

**Agenda Item II. Remarks from Lieutenant Governor Eleni Kounalakis**

**The Honorable Eleni Kounalakis**  
***Lieutenant Governor of California***

Ambassador Eleni Kounalakis was sworn in as the 50th Lieutenant Governor of California by Governor Gavin Newsom on January 7th, 2019. She is the first woman elected Lt. Governor of California. A native Californian, she visited each of the state's 58 counties during her historic campaign.

From 2010 to 2013, Kounalakis served as President Barack Obama's Ambassador to the Republic of Hungary. Kounalakis was the first Greek-American woman – and at age 43 one of America's youngest – to serve as U.S. Ambassador. Her highly acclaimed memoir, "Madam Ambassador, Three Years of Diplomacy, Dinner Parties and Democracy in Budapest" (The New Press, 2015), chronicles the onset of Hungary's democratic backsliding.

Governor Jerry Brown appointed Kounalakis to chair the California Advisory Council for International Trade and Investment in 2014. Kounalakis was a Virtual Fellow at the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Intelligence and Research (INR) between 2014 and 2017, specializing in international trade and immigration. She is currently a director of the Association of American Ambassadors and a National Democratic Institute (NDI) "Ambassadors Circle" advisor.



Prior to her public service, Kounalakis was president of one of California's most respected housing development firms, AKT Development, where she worked for 18 years. She built master-planned communities and delivered quality housing to the Sacramento region's working families – recognizing her as one of the capital region's most prominent businesswomen. Passionate about early childhood development, Kounalakis served as a member of California's First 5 Commission and the California Blue Ribbon Commission on Autism.

Eleni Kounalakis graduated from Dartmouth College in 1989 and earned her Masters in Business Administration (MBA) from U.C. Berkeley's Haas School of Business in 1992. She holds an Honorary Doctorate of Laws from the American College of Greece. She is married to Dr. Markos Kounalakis and the couple has two teenage sons, Neo and Eon.

### **Agenda Item III. Deputy Consul General Ren Faqiang, Chinese Consulate in San Francisco**

#### **The Honorable Ren Faqiang** *Deputy Consul at the People Republic of China's Consulate in San Francisco*

Born in 1971, Shandong province

1996-1999 Department of North American and Oceanian Affairs of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China, US Affairs desk officer

1999-2003 Chinese Consulate General in Chicago, vice consul

2003-2011 Department of North American and Oceanian Affairs of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China, Deputy Director, Director

2011-2015 Chinese Embassy in Sri Lanka, Deputy Chief of the Mission, Political Counselor

August, 2015 up to now Chinese Consulate General in San Francisco, Deputy Consul General

Married with a daughter

Graduated from Shandong Teachers' University and Foreign Affairs College in Beijing



## **Agenda Item IV - Assessing the Business and Economic Implications of the Trade Dispute on California**

### **Darlene Chiu Bryant**

*Executive Director, GlobalSF - San Francisco Headquarters*

Darlene Chiu Bryant is Executive Director of GlobalSF, a non-profit organization established to support San Francisco's economic development efforts with global partners. Appointed by the late San Francisco Mayor Edwin M. Lee to head up ChinaSF, a public private partnership of the City of San Francisco, she oversaw efforts that brought in more than \$5.1 billion in Foreign Direct Investment, created more than 788 jobs and recruited more than 98 companies to San Francisco Bay Area.

Darlene has had a diverse career in both the public and private sectors, in international trade overseas working for German, Japanese and Chinese multinational firms and in her native San Francisco to work in communications and public affairs for Mayor Gavin Newsom, East West Bank, United Commercial Bank and Pacific Gas & Electric Company.

Bryant is a current boardmember of Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation, founding boardmember of Asian Pacific American Leadership Foundation and CALNET, boardmember of the Edwin M. Lee Democratic Club, and advisory boardmember of the University of San Francisco Chinese Business Studies Initiative.



### **Stephen Cheung**

*Executive Vice President, Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation  
President, World Trade Center Los Angeles*

Cheung leads investment attraction to the LA County region on behalf of both LAEDC and WTCLA, and facilitates successful location of new businesses, projects, and deals from both international and U.S. investors into the region. He also supports international trade and international connections for organizations based in LA County.

Prior to his current role, Stephen Cheung was the Secretary General of International Trade and Foreign Affairs for Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti, and was responsible for managing policies and programs related to the Port of Los Angeles, Los Angeles World Airports, International Affairs and Global Trade. In this role, he was the lead organizer for Mayor Garcetti's previous international trade missions to Mexico, China, Korea and Japan. Furthermore, Cheung implemented the city's strategic plan to make Los Angeles a global capital of clean technology by building the infrastructure to support research, development and manufacturing with key partners.

Concurrently, Cheung was the Director of International Trade for the Port of Los Angeles – the busiest container port in North America, and was



responsible for developing programs to increase trade through the Port of Los Angeles, and facilitate goods movement through the Southern California region.

Cheung currently sits on the Board of Advisors of UCLA's Luskin School of Public Affairs and Sister Cities of Los Angeles, while also serving on LA Metro's Sustainability Council and Biz-Fed's International Trade Committee. He has previously served on the Board of Directors of the Los Angeles Regional Export Council and the Los Angeles Business Council.

Stephen was born in Hong Kong and grew up in Los Angeles where he received both his Bachelor of Arts in Psychobiology and Master of Arts in Social Welfare from UCLA. He is fluent in both Mandarin and Cantonese.

## **James Green**

*Senior Research Fellow, Georgetown University*  
*Senior Advisor, McLarty Associates*

James Green has worked for over two decades on U.S.-Asia relations for the U.S. Government and in the private sector. Currently, Mr. Green is the creator/host of Georgetown University's U.S.-China Dialogue Podcast and a senior advisor at the global consulting firm McLarty Associates. From 2013-2018, Mr. Green was the Minister Counselor for Trade Affairs at the U.S. Embassy in Beijing.

In prior government service, Mr. Green worked on the Secretary of State's Policy Planning Staff responsible for East Asia, drafting policy proposals and public speeches for the senior leadership the U.S. Government on major issues from handling the rise of China to U.S. participation in the shifting regional architecture in the Asia-Pacific.

In the corporate sector, Mr. Green was a Senior Vice President at a leading a global strategy firm where he advised a range of Fortune 500 companies and industry associations on market-access opportunities and challenges in China. In the mid-2000s, Mr. Green established and headed the government relations department at the American Chamber of Commerce in Shanghai – Asia's largest AmCham.

Mr. Green attended Brown University, where he earned his B.A. with honors in political science. He is a graduate of the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) in Washington, DC where his M.A. degree work concentrated on China studies and international economics. Mr. Green speaks proficient Mandarin and conversational Italian. He lives in the San Francisco Bay Area.

## **John Grubb**

*Chief Operating Officer, Bay Area Council*

John is responsible for the organization's government relations, public policy, advocacy and China operations. The Bay Area Council is the voice of the San Francisco-Silicon Valley Bay Area's largest companies. Each year, Mr. Grubb is tasked with implementing the annual vision of improvements



for the Bay Area developed by the CEOs of these companies. He works with a staff of professionals in five offices in California and China to formulate and execute many of the Council's successful advocacy campaigns that have improved the lives of millions of Bay Area residents. John's previous positions with the Council include Senior Vice President of External Affairs and Vice President of Communications.

Before joining the Bay Area Council, John worked at Hill and Knowlton and Porter Novelli, two of the world's largest public relations agencies. Prior to his communications work, he founded, owned and managed a bar and restaurant in Manual Antonio, Costa Rica.

John volunteers his time as Chair of the Sleepy Hollow Charitable Foundation. He is a former Chair of the SF Public Relations Round Table (the oldest PR organization in America), and has served on the Executive Committee or as Campaign Director on numerous ballot measure campaigns. A Vanderbilt University graduate, he and his wife, Koren, live in Sleepy Hollow in Marin County with their daughter, Natasha, and son, Jack.