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# SPRING 2026 CALBO VIRTUAL CAREER EXPO

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22 - 3:00 - 5:00PM

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**CALBO:** [Mike Brinkman](#), CALBO Vice President

**College:** [Dennis Franco.](#), Interim Dean of Math and Engineering, Diablo Valley College

**Keynote:** [Hipolito Olmos](#), Building Official, City of Gilroy

**International Code Council (ICC):** [Karyn Beebe](#), Government Relations Regional Manager

**Wrap Up and Break Out Room Choice:** [DVC - MC](#)

**Room 1:** Plan Review and Building Administration

Volunteers: Neville Pereira and Efrain Ruvalcaba

**Room 2:** Women in Building Safety

Volunteers: Tamisha Mitchell and Leslie Edwards

**Room 3:** Private Sector - Why Choose this Route?

Volunteers: Mike Williams and Gil Estrada

**Room 4:** Building Inspections and Code Enforcement

Volunteers: Amir Hamidzadeh and Johnnie Rightmier

**Room 5:** Training and Education

Volunteers: Felix Namir and Shawn Kammerer

**Room 6:** Using Drone Technology for Building Safety

Volunteer: AJ O'Connell

**Room 7:** Permit Technicians - The Front Line

Volunteers: Carmen Pina and Franc Moufarrej

**Room 8:** Construction to the Clipboard

Volunteers: Valeria Martinez and Terry Knox

**Please review the room descriptions on pages 2-4.**



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# SPRING 2026 CALBO VIRTUAL CAREER EXPO ROOM DESCRIPTIONS

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## **Room 1: Plan Review and Building Administration**

Plan checkers are professionals who review and verify blueprints and construction documents for accuracy and compliance with building codes. They may also perform inspections of building sites and buildings to ensure construction follows the plans. They use various tools to check for errors and ensure eligibility requirements are met. They also produce construction documentation and create shop drawings. Their role often involves operating office equipment and performing tasks in a temporary capacity.

Building officials have the authority to enforce building codes within their jurisdiction. Usually working for government agencies, a building official is in charge of conducting building inspections to determine if the construction complies with the safety standards and regulations. They may also approve or deny permit applications, review requirements, and verify documents. Moreover, a building official also has managerial office duties such as supervising and leading staff to reach goals, setting daily objectives, establishing timelines, delegating responsibilities, and implementing policies and regulations.

## **Room 2: Women in Building Safety**

There are unique career paths and expanding opportunities for women in inspections, permitting, engineering, leadership, and more. Join a conversation with women working in building safety as they share their personal journeys and highlight career insights for the next generation.

## **Room 3: Private Sector - Why Choose this Route?**

Conventionally, local governments implement and enforce building codes through a building or development services department, staffed by government employees. However, as municipal staffing is struggling through the continuing wave of retirements and construction volumes that are still on the rise, jurisdictions have found it difficult to maintain this enforcement structure while ensuring the same level of quality, timeliness, and customer service.

Local Government sometimes utilizes third-party code enforcement services to assist. These private sector companies help support Building Departments with Permit Technician services along with Plan Checking and Inspections. This is a great place to start a career as you may work for many different jurisdictions.



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# SPRING 2026 CALBO VIRTUAL CAREER EXPO ROOM DESCRIPTIONS

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## **Room 4: Building Inspections and Code Enforcement**

A building inspector is responsible for inspecting the safety and security of the building location, including its structural quality and construction documents. Building inspectors coordinate with landowners or institutions to verify code regulations compliance for various permit types. A building inspector must have excellent communication and analytical skills.

A building inspector's responsibilities include reviewing various plans in the field to ensure accuracy in product approval selection and fire ratings, investigating complaints regarding unauthorized or unsafe building use or construction, and conducting occupancy, building, and ordinance inspections for commercial and residential properties. They also consult with contractors, design professionals, developers, and homeowners relating to compliance with construction requirements. They perform field reviews of plans and specifications and oversee the inspection of new and existing structures to determine compliance within city codes.

## **Room 5: Training and Education**

Do you have questions regarding what classes would be most suited for a Building Safety career choice? Room 5 has volunteers from DVC who can discuss and help you move forward.

## **Room 6: Using Drone Technology for Building Safety**

Building departments are continually embracing new technologies to enhance efficiency and to better serve their communities. Explore how drone technology is revolutionizing building inspections—enabling staff to access hard-to-reach areas, monitor construction progress, and strengthen code compliance. This innovative tool is helping to reshape the future of building safety careers and creating new opportunities in the field.



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# SPRING 2026 CALBO VIRTUAL CAREER EXPO ROOM DESCRIPTIONS

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## **Room 7: Permit Technicians - The Front Line**

Permit technicians are the first point of contact for the public at municipal offices that distribute permits. They examine plans, blueprints, and other documents to verify accuracy according to the building code and completeness; explain requirements and provide information to permit applicants; and process permit applications. Permit technicians also assist building inspectors in their day-to-day duties and perform basic data entry tasks. This career requires excellent written and verbal communication skills and data entry proficiency. Level II permit technicians coordinate with other relevant agencies regarding permit requirements, process building permit appeals, suspensions or revocations, and assist in engineering related functions to ensure that code requirements are being met.

## **Room 8: Construction to the Clipboard**

Designed for individuals in the construction trades who are exploring a transition into less physically demanding, office-based roles. This breakout session provides guidance on career pathways such as inspection, permitting, and code compliance, while highlighting opportunities for professional growth and long-term stability. Participants will gain insight into required training, certifications, and timelines, as well as how to leverage their hands-on experience into administrative and technical roles.



SPRING 2026

# VIRTUAL CAREER EXPO PROFESSIONALS

April 22 | 3:00pm - 5:00pm



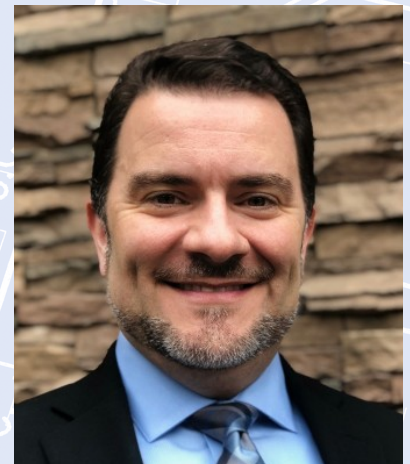
## **Mike Brinkman | VP Building Services - Central California | CSG Consultants/City of Newman**

Mr. Brinkman is highly certified in multiple disciplines as a DSA Certified Access Specialist, Certified Building Official and Master Code Professional. He has demonstrated his dexterity in enforcing a full range of state codes as well as specifications and standards. Mr. Brinkman is currently on the CALBO Executive Board as the Vice President.

Mr. Brinkman is responsible for all building operations for many municipal building departments—planning, directing, supervising and coordinating all building department activities while maintaining customer service levels and positive public relations. He is active as a manager, trainer and instructor for personnel working in residential and commercial construction, plan reading and code interpretation.

## **Dennis Franco | Interim Dean of Math & Engineering | Diablo Valley College (DVC)**

Serving as the Interim Dean of Math and Engineering at Diablo Valley College, he supports academic programs that prepare students for careers in technical and STEM fields. With over 24 years in higher education and student support, he brings a collaborative and student-centered approach to leadership. He is committed to expanding access to high-quality education and strengthening pathways between college programs and industry. He works closely with faculty, staff, and community partners to ensure students are equipped with the skills and opportunities needed to succeed in today's workforce.





## **Hipolito Olmos | City Building Official | City of Gilroy | KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

The Building Official for the City of Gilroy, brings more than 20 years of local government experience. He leads with practical expertise in building inspections, plan review, permit processing, and code compliance, and is known for driving results through strong project management, staff development, policy creation, and process improvement.

Holding a BA in Public Administration (Southern New Hampshire University), an AA in Behavioral & Organizational Social Science (Gavilan College), and AS degrees in Construction & Energy Management and Building Inspection & Construction Codes (Cabrillo College). A bilingual leader (English/Spanish), he is an ICC-certified Building Official and ICC Master Code Professional, serves on the ICC Plumbing & Fuel Gas exam development committee, is a Building Officials Leadership Academy graduate and mentor, and is a past president of the ICC Monterey Bay Chapter.

## **Karyn Beebe, P.E., LEED AP | Engineer | ICC**

A California licensed professional engineer and a LEED Accredited Professional with forensic investigation expertise.

Prior to ICC, she worked for APA - the Engineered Wood Association, where she worked on strategic partnership development and product support across the Western U.S.

She is also past President of ICC's San Diego Chapter and current board member of the Structural Engineers Association of Southern California. As the Government Relations Regional Manager for ICC responsible for California, Nevada, Guam, American Samoa, and Mariana Islands, she works in collaboration with chapters, members, and stakeholders to support the adoption and effective use of the International Code Council's codes, standards, products, and services.



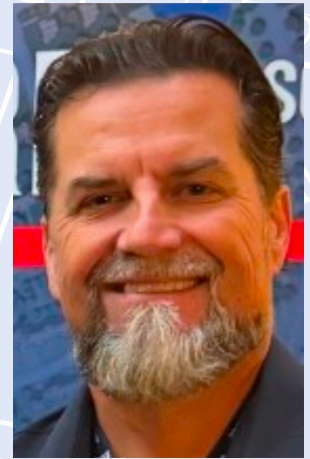


## **Leslie Edwards | Plans Examiner | County of Santa Barbara Planning & Development**

A licensed professional engineer, certified access specialist, and ICC professional with extensive experience in public sector plan review and infrastructure. She currently serves Santa Barbara County where she is dedicated to ensuring safe, code-compliant development while delivering strong customer service. With a background in teaching building codes, she is passionate about education, mentorship, and knowledge-sharing.

## **Mike Williams | Jurisdiction Service Manager| TRB + Associates**

With over 20 years of experience as a Building Inspector, he has worked across both municipal jurisdictions and the private sector, bringing a well-rounded perspective to code compliance and construction oversight. His career includes extensive experience in inspections, regulatory standards, and industry best practices. He currently serves as JSM for TRB, where he continues to contribute his expertise to the field.



## **Efrain Ruvalcaba | Building Official | Butte County Building Division**

Efrain Ruvalcaba is the Building Official for Butte County, with a career in the building industry beginning in 2011 after graduating from Butte College's BIT program. He worked for the City of Dublin Building Division from 2012 to 2017 before coming back to Butte County in 2017. Efrain holds several certifications, some being Certified Building Official, Inspector, Plans examiner, and Certified Access Specialist. He currently serves as a board member for the California Association of Building Officials and participates in several committees through local ICC chapters.

## **Neville Pereira | Director of Operations | TRB Plus Associates**

The Director of Operations at TRB Plus Associates, Inc., a Building Safety Code Compliance firm operating in California and Las Vegas. A registered professional engineer with nearly four decades of experience, he holds multiple ICC certifications and has served numerous California jurisdictions in roles ranging from plans examiner and inspector to Building Official, City Engineer, and Executive Director. He has taught architecture and codes practice as an adjunct professor. Neville's volunteer leadership spans ICC committees, CBOAC, and CALBO, reflecting a sustained commitment to public safety and the advancement of building code standards nationwide.

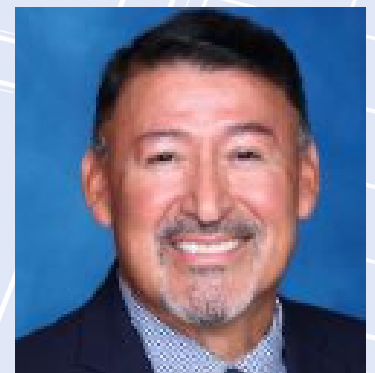


## **Valeria Martinez | Assistant Engineer | City of Modesto**

An Engineer in Training and will be eligible for her Civil Engineering Professional License in May 2026. She has worked in Public sector for 8 years and has worked in all phases of public projects from Finance, and Construction, to currently project management.

## **Gil Estrada | Regional Manager | True North Compliance Services**

A retired Building Official spanning 36 years, who now works for a Building & Safety Consultancy. Beginning his career in 1987, he started his Building & Safety career as an Inspector I with the County of San Bernardino. With time and continuing experience, training, and education, he was promoted up to the Building Official position.



## **Terry Knox | Life Safety Consultant | Shums Coda**

A building code and administration expert with 50+ years of leadership experience, having served as a building inspector, plans examiner, and Chief Building Official for multiple California jurisdictions. A service-first local government professional, he is known for building strong organizational culture and developing high-performing teams through practical, interactive instruction grounded in real-world examples. Holding an MBA, a BS with a minor in Construction Management, and an associate degree in building inspection; completed engineering studies at the University of Wisconsin–Madison; and has served on ICC committees and authored the book Principals of Residential Building Inspection 101 and code changes for ICBO/ICC. A past president of the Sacramento Valley Association of Building Officials, a CALBO Hall of Fame member, and a Certified California vocational instructor with lifetime junior college instructor certification.



## **Shawn Kammerer | Program Lead, Construction, Plumbing, Pre-Apprenticeship | Diablo Valley College**

A licensed contractor with over 20 years of experience in finish carpentry, focusing on the restoration, preservation, and fabrication of windows and doors in historic architecture across California and the United States. Since 2016, he has been a member of Artistic License, a guild of restoration artisans dedicated to the preservation of historic architecture in the San Francisco Bay Area.



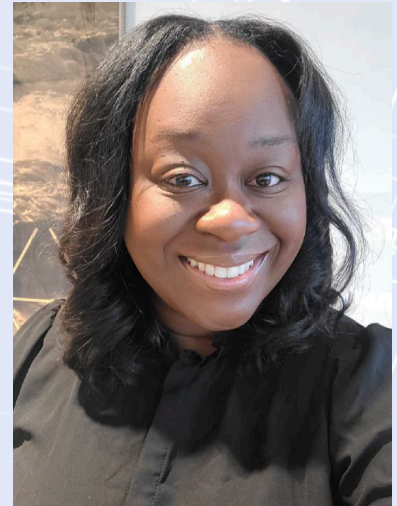
## **Tamisha Mitchell | Technical/Permit Coordinator | Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory**

Since 2017, she has worked in multiple jurisdictions as a Community Development Technician/Development Services Technician and has learned the different approaches that each jurisdiction uses to provide services. She understands the importance of communication, customer service, plan check, and inspections between each department to make the process as seamless as possible.



## **Nicholle Moore | Project Labor Agreement Administrator | City of Long Beach**

Nicholle is the Project Labor Agreement Administrator in the Department of Economic Development & Opportunity for the City of Long Beach. Previously, she served as an Associate Planner for Willdan and for the City of La Habra Heights, overseeing Planning, Building, and Code Enforcement. She holds a Master of Public Administration from CSU Long Beach, a B.S. in Criminal Justice from CSU Fullerton, and an A.S. in Construction Technology and Building Codes from Coastline College. Nicholle is a certified Code Enforcement Officer and Permit Technician. She currently serves as vice-chair of CALBO's Outreach and Communications Committee, supporting career development for future code officials.



## **Geoff Simmons | Chief Building Official | City of Pleasant Hill**

Geoff became Chief Building Official for the City of Pleasant Hill starting July 2020. Prior to that he has spent the last 13 years working in local jurisdictions as an Inspector, Plan Checker, Inspection Supervisor and Permit Center Manager. Before his time in local government he was a contractor for 15 years and a Journeyman Electrician for a number of years.



## **Carmen Pina | Permit Technician | City of Pleasant Hill**

Carmen began her career in the Building Department in 2008, with the City of Modesto as an Administrative Assistant and is currently the Permit Technician for the City of Pleasant Hill. Carmen has over 17 years in the Building Department from the back office to the front line as a Permit Technician. Carmen enjoys working with her home team at Pleasant Hill, the numerous property owners in the City, local and out-of-town contractors, and the multiple agencies involved in the permitting process, she enjoys problem solving and assisting applicants with their projects through plan review all the way to permit issuance and beyond.



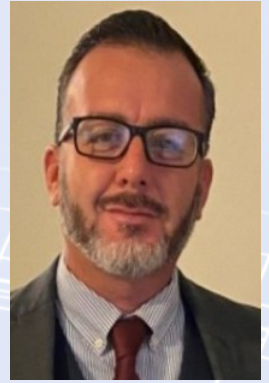
## **Amir Hamidzadeh | President | Company/Development Solution**

Bringing with him over 38 years of experience in the construction field. He has worked for several governmental agencies including County of San Luis Obispo, City of Simi Valley, City of Palm Desert and City of Agoura Hills. During his 30 years' employment with the public sector he was able to experience working for three different departments of Planning, Public Works and Building and Safety. He has also worked with several private architectural and engineering firms and for the last 28 years, he has had his own consulting firm. He is a California Licensed Engineer and has several Certifications including, Certified Building Official, Certified Access Specialist, Certified Energy Analyst, Certified Plans Examiner and multiple others. Involved with California ICC Chapters, he has been President of the local chapters 3 times. Well-rounded with much knowledge and experience and well respected among his peers.



## **Johnnie Rightmer | Building Inspection Supervisor | City of Jurupa Valley**

An experienced construction and building inspection professional with a strong background in residential and commercial development. With over a decade of hands-on industry experience, he has worked as a licensed general contractor and electrician, specializing in remodeling, electrical systems, and project management. He currently serves as a Building Inspection Supervisor for the City of Jurupa Valley, where he oversees compliance, safety standards, and permitting processes. Known for his practical expertise and collaborative approach, Johnnie brings a deep understanding of construction practices and regulatory requirements to support safe, high-quality building projects.



## **Franc Moufarrej | Chief Building Official | City of Livermore**

The Chief Building Official for the City of Livermore, he oversees building safety and ensures that construction projects comply with all applicable codes and standards. With extensive experience in the building industry, he is passionate about helping others understand the many pathways into the field and enjoys sharing real-world insights with students exploring career opportunities.

Today, Franc is pleased to join the panel and looks forward to discussing his career journey, professional experiences, and the wide range of opportunities available in the building industry.



## **AJ O'Connell | Building Official | City of Kingsburg**

Currently serving as a Building Official for the City of Kingsburg, AJ brings nearly a decade of experience in municipal building and safety. Prior to this role, AJ worked as a Building Inspector for the Cities of San Bernardino and Visalia, following earlier experience as a Permit Technician with the City of San Bernardino. In addition to their work in building services, he has a background in public service, having served as a City Councilor in Creswell, Oregon, and as a volunteer with the U.S. Peace Corps in Guyana. They hold a Bachelor of Science in Planning, Public Policy, and Management from the University of Oregon.

