



THE CITY OF  
**SAN FERNANDO**

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CITY COUNCIL

MAYOR  
SYLVIA BALLIN

VICE MAYOR  
ANTONIO LOPEZ

COUNCILMEMBER  
JOEL FAJARDO

COUNCILMEMBER  
ROBERT C. GONZALES

COUNCILMEMBER  
JAIME SOTO

## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Nick Kimball, Deputy City Manager/Director of Finance

(818) 898-1202

DATE: August 10, 2018

**CITY OF SAN FERNANDO VICE MAYOR ANTONIO LOPEZ AND  
COUNCILMEMBER ROBERT GONZALES JOINED  
NALEO EDUCATIONAL FUND AND UCLA FOR FIRST NATIONAL  
EDUCATION LEADERSHIP AND PUBLIC POLICY ACADEMY**

*Three-day intensive convening allowed Lopez and Gonzales and 60 Latino  
elected officials to learn about effective public policies that support  
Latino families and communities.*

San Fernando, CA – City of San Fernando Vice Mayor Antonio Lopez and Councilmember Robert Gonzales joined the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) Educational Fund and the Latino Policy and Politics Initiative (LPPI) at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), for the first *NALEO National Education Leadership and Public Policy Academy* held August 3-5, 2018.

The three-day intensive, by invitation only, convening brought Vice Mayor Lopez and Councilmember Gonzales together with a cohort of 60 Latino state legislators, county and municipal officials, higher education trustees, and school board members to learn about effective public policies that support Latino families and communities, including strategies for supporting the success of Latino boys and men.

“I was blown away with the wealth of information I received in the three-day academy. This experience has giving me a new outlook in policy creation and implementation. I thank NALEO, UCLA, and the sponsors for providing San Fernando leadership with this opportunity,” stated Vice Mayor Lopez.

“The NALEO National Education Leadership and Public Policy Academy, in partnership with UCLA, was by far the best educational experience I have ever received as an elected official,” stated Councilmember Gonzales.

ADMINISTRATION  
DEPARTMENT

117 MACNEIL STREET  
SAN FERNANDO  
CALIFORNIA  
91340

OFFICE OF THE  
CITY MANAGER  
(818) 898-1202

WWW.SFCITY.ORG

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Page 2 of 2

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In partnership with UCLA LPPI, NALEO Educational Fund designed academy curriculum that allowed Vice Mayor Lopez, Councilmember Gonzales and other Latino policymakers to strengthen their governance capacity in the critical areas of education, economic development, criminal justice, and immigration as they relate to improving opportunities for Latinos, with special attention to intersections across gender and age, so that they are better equipped to contribute to the economic success of the country.

Topics addressed during the Institute's curriculum included:

- Challenges and Opportunities for Latinos in the 21st Century
- Academic Attainment Trends for Latino Students
- Dismantling the School-to-Prison Pipeline: Transformative Justice
- Increasing College Access and Opportunities for Latino Males
- Fruitvale, Oakland: A Case Study on Transportation and Community Economic Development
- Improving Public Trust in Communities While Addressing Public Safety
- Collateral Consequences: Blurred Lines between Immigration and Criminal Law
- Restoring Hope through Reintegration

A full agenda and more information about the convening is available on the NALEO Educational Fund website at [http://www.naleo.org/2018\\_leadership\\_academy](http://www.naleo.org/2018_leadership_academy).

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