



President's Award

Julie A. Su

Secretary

California Labor and Workforce Development Agency

Julie A. Su is the Secretary of the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency. In January 2019, Governor Gavin Newsom appointed Ms. Su to serve as his cabinet advisor on labor issues and employment programs for workers and businesses throughout California. Secretary Su oversees the state departments and boards that enforce labor laws, including minimum wage and occupational safety standards, provide state disability and unemployment insurance benefits, fund workforce training and apprenticeship programs, combat wage theft, protect injured workers, and arbitrate public sector contract disputes.

As California Labor Commissioner from 2011 through 2018, Secretary Su worked to enforce the state's labor laws to ensure a fair and just workplace for both employees and employers. In 2014, she launched the first "Wage Theft is a Crime" multi-media, multilingual statewide campaign to reach out to low-wage workers and their employers. She is also a past recipient of the MacArthur Foundation Fellowship "genius grant."

Prior to her appointment as California Labor Commissioner, Secretary Su was the Litigation Director at Asian Americans Advancing Justice-Los Angeles, the nation's largest non-profit civil rights organization devoted to issues affecting the Asian American community.

Secretary Su has taught at the University of California, Los Angeles Law School and Northeastern Law School and is a graduate of Stanford University and Harvard Law School. She is a nationally recognized expert on workers' and civil rights and has dedicated her distinguished legal career to advancing justice on behalf of poor and disenfranchised communities.

