



Nicholas “Nick” Ortiz was named President and CEO of the Greater Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce by its Board of Directors in March of 2015; as President and CEO, Ortiz oversees the Chamber’s operations and staff to ensure Chamber programs and services run with the high degree of excellence that its membership has come to expect.

Before joining the Chamber, Ortiz served as the manager, production regions for the Western States Petroleum Association, where he was responsible for managing the organization’s regulatory and public affairs efforts in the San Joaquin Valley and Central Coast regions. Ortiz has previously held positions with Pacific Gas & Electric Company and the Silicon Valley Leadership Group.

Ortiz is recognized as a leading authority on state and regional energy policy, having worked on a range of issues impactful to Kern County’s economy including: working with local groups on state electricity rate reform; streamlining permitting of oil and gas injection wells; negotiating regulatory language with state agencies during the implementation of SB 4, the state’s well stimulation legislation; and co-leading the development of the landmark Kern County Oil & Gas permitting process.

He has a bachelor’s degree in politics from the University of California, Santa Cruz. Ortiz is also very involved in the community, serving on the boards of the Bakersfield Homeless Center/Alliance Against Family Violence and Sexual Assault, United Way of Kern County, Mid State Development Corporation, Taft College Foundation, CSUB School of Business and Public Administration Executive Advisory Council, and the California Living Museum (CALM) Foundation.

Nick is married to Tera Ortiz, who works for the City of Bakersfield's Finance Department and they have two children, Kielee and Jaxon.

**Greater Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce**

*Your Partner in Business*

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