Senate Unanimously Confirms Juliann Sum as Chief of Cal/OSHA, Art Carter as Chair of OSH Appeals Board

Sacramento—The California Senate voted unanimously Monday to confirm Juliann Sum as Chief of the Department of Industrial Relation’s Division of Occupational Safety and Health (also known as Cal/OSHA). The Senate also voted unanimously Monday to confirm Art R. Carter as chairperson of the Occupational Safety & Health Appeals Board (OSHAB).

As Cal/OSHA Chief, Sum oversees programs that protect over 18 million workers from health hazards in almost every workplace in California.

Sum began serving as Acting Chief of Cal/OSHA in September 2013, and just over a year later, Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. appointed her as Chief. Sum joined DIR in 2012 as special advisor to Director Christine Baker.

“Juliann’s track record at the DIR and with Cal/OSHA demonstrates her strong commitment to workplace safety,” Baker said. Sum’s extensive experience also includes work as a project director with the University of California, Berkeley, associate attorney with the Environmental Law Foundation, litigation associate with Carroll, Burdick & McDonough, and industrial hygienist and business representative with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1245.

Sum earned a Juris Doctor degree from University of California, Hastings College of the Law, a Master of Science degree in environmental health sciences from the Harvard School of Public Health, and a Bachelor of Science degree in biophysics from Brown University.

“I have spent most of my working life helping workers and employers understand their legal rights and the services available to them, and I am pleased to be able to continue this work as Chief of Cal/OSHA,” said Sum.

Art Carter was first appointed to OSHAB by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger in 2009. OSHAB resolves appeals from private and public-sector employers regarding citations.

Cal/OSHA helps protect workers from health and safety hazards on the job in almost every workplace in California. Employers who want to learn more about California workplace health and safety standards or labor law violations can access information on DIR’s website as well as on Facebook and Twitter.

Cal/OSHA’s Consultation Program provides free and voluntary assistance to employers and employee organizations to improve their health and safety programs. Employers should call (800) 963-9424 for assistance from the Cal/OSHA Consultation Program.

Employees with work-related questions or complaints may call the California Workers’ Information Hotline at (866) 924-9757 for recorded information in English and Spanish on a variety of work-related topics. Complaints can be filed confidentially with Cal/OSHA district offices.

For media inquiries contact Erika Monterroza at (510) 286-1164 or Peter Melton at (510) 286-7046.

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