



# California National Convention 2017 Leadership Candidate Bios

## CHAIRPERSON

### **Candidate (Incumbent): Theo Slater**

Theo Slater was born in Seattle, Washington. He fell in love with California while attending Pomona College (class of 2002). In 2006 Mr. Slater began his legal studies at Hastings College of the Law, and he passed the California Bar in 2009. Mr. Slater founded Slater Law, APC in 2013 to provide business, civil, and family legal services in the Los Angeles and Sacramento regions.

Mr. Slater, along with four other California Independence Movement pioneers, founded the California National Party in 2015. He was the first elected National Chairperson for the CNP, elected June of 2016, and worked with other committed CNP volunteers to help create many aspects of the party including helping to draft the first California National Party platform, setting up local chapters, building up the press and social media teams, and working with fellow CNP leaders in many other areas of party building.

As continuing CNP National Chairperson, Mr. Slater will work with regional CNP leaders to coordinate two local campaigns in the 2018 election cycle. The CNP Elections Committee will determine the most promising candidates, likely one for Northern California and one for Southern California, and we will seek to get our first ever CNP candidates elected to two local offices. Mr. Slater will continue to work with the CNP social media and press teams in order to further broaden and strengthen those teams. Finally Theo will prioritize building more active local chapters across California by working with local leaders to broaden and deepen the grassroots of the CNP.

## VICE - CHAIRPERSON

### **Candidate: Sarah Farrell**

Sarah Farrell is a California native and a true California girl at heart. She was raised in a union family in the Central Valley and through that she found her interest in politics.

Having a passion for flying, Sarah began a ten-year career as a flight attendant. This career took her all over the United States, Canada, and Mexico where she was able to interact with people from many backgrounds and places. Her work took her to Denver, CO for several years, where she enjoyed skiing and camping and met her husband Dan. They returned to California in 2013

and Sarah decided to follow another interest of hers and received her degree in Paralegal Studies. She has worked as a Paralegal specializing in Criminal, Immigration, Family and Labor Law.

Sarah is involved in the women's rights movement and is an editor for the Women for an Independent California page on Facebook for the CNP. She decided to get involved with the CNP due to the shifting political climate and the need to do better. Sarah also believes that California does not receive its proper funding in relation to the amount of taxes our state pays to Washington D.C., funding which instead goes to states that pay the least and go against all we stand for and have fought for. Working with the CNP Sarah will fight to ensure that women's voices are heard. She will also work to help bring an end to the discrimination many people face, be it due to skin color, sexual preference, religion, or any other box that people are put into. She is also passionate regarding Universal Health Care, immigration, organized labor, and climate change.

As an animal lover she has fostered countless dogs, preparing them to find forever homes. Sarah and Dan now reside in the Bay Area with their five (yes 5) dogs.

## SECRETARY

### **Candidate: Timothy Irvine**

Timothy Irvine was born and raised in California's Central Valley and educated in California's public schools. He earned a Digital Media degree from UC Santa Cruz, worked for 2 years at American Red Cross in Texas, and then returned to CA to attend UC Santa Barbara for a Master's in Global/International Studies, focusing on Global Governance and Human Rights. He currently works on water and environmental security issues in Sacramento, CA, and spends his spare time either with family or politically organizing.

From working in humanitarianism to researching human rights and democratic social movements, with a focus on apartheid in South Africa and Jim Crow in the USA, he thoroughly understands and can effectively communicate the urgency of today's social, political, and economic inefficiencies and injustices. He has spent time supporting Green, Democratic, and independent candidates, as well as labor unions and student associations in the University of California.

His extensive time working with grassroots "start-up" political groups has taught him the importance of strategically collaborating with diverse stakeholders, listening more than talking, and consistently showing up and putting in whatever work needs to be done to achieve practical, agreed-upon goals that move us towards our longer-term ideals. His recent CNP work includes leading the Sacramento+Yolo County chapters, helping plan this year's convention, and drafting strategies for 2018 elections.

He dreams of a world free from violence, achieved through multi-party, democratic elections that produce a government representative of all people, that is locally accountable, and that is globally informed. To help achieve such a world, he looks forward to streamlining CNP meeting processes, ensuring consistent messaging to the public and to our volunteers, and pragmatically building our capacity to win seats in elections. ¡VIVA CALIFORNIA!

## TREASURER

### **Candidate (Incumbent): Justin Hibbard**

Justin Hibbard was born in San Jose, CA, grew up in Davis and San Luis Obispo, attended college at U.C. Berkeley, and has lived and worked in San Francisco for 28 years. He earned a master's degree in accounting from Golden Gate University and trained as an auditor at Ernst & Young. He currently works as a forensic accountant.

Justin has served on the board of Hospitality House, a nonprofit that provides services to the homeless in San Francisco. He currently provides accounting services to the Chinese School at Alamo, a nonprofit Chinese language program for children in San Francisco.

Justin was appointed Treasurer of the California National Party in 2016. During his tenure, he has designed and implemented the party's accounting system, documented the party's accounting policies and procedures, prepared the party's annual budget, maintained the party's books and records, prepared filings for the California Fair Political Practices Commission, and trained party members on fundraising and legal compliance. He has also contributed to the redesign of the party's web site.

If elected for a second term, Justin will continue to ensure that the party's funds are allocated to projects that will help the party reach its key goals: registering voters, raising funds, and getting party members elected to office. As a member of the Executive Committee, he will support the party's progressive values and help lead the party toward realizing its vision of an independent California.