

Trustee



Laurie Black

Laurie Black, president and CEO of LJ Black Consulting and president of RS Lawrence Development, is well known as a keen and prolific producer of new and innovative ideas. She is an accomplished strategist and creative change agent of collaborative systems, and shapes innovative solutions addressing the needs of vulnerable citizens.

Laurie was most recently a Board member at Centre City Development Corporation, now called Civic San Diego, from 2010 to 2012. She served as a San Diego Port Commissioner from 2007 to 2009 using her environmental credentials to help create the Green Port Program enhancing the Port's role as an environmental steward of San Diego Bay. She is past president of the Downtown San Diego Partnership, and has been a part of the political and business landscape in San Diego for more than thirty years.

She served as Chief of Staff for Congresswoman Lynn Schenk, managing the budget and staff, and assisted in developing the Congress member's legislative and political agenda. She also served as chief liaison to all government agencies, state and local officials, and local business and community groups. Prior to that, Laurie worked for Four Square Productions where she produced company videos and commercials. She simultaneously served as the public relations contact for a major motion picture produced in San Diego.

Laurie has been recognized within the community for her civic-mindedness. She was selected as a San Diego Metropolitan Magazine 2011 Metro Mover and twice as San Diego Magazine's 50 People to Watch. The Salvation Army named her one of the 10 Women of Dedication in 2002. The Downtown San Diego Partnership honored her with an Alonzo Award in 2001 for her vision in creating the Clean & Safe program, which has contributed significantly to the improvement and quality of life in downtown San Diego. The Athena/UCSD Connect program presented her with a Pinnacle Award for her contribution to the San Diego business community. In 1999, the YWCA selected her for the TWIN Award for Women in Industry. Laurie received a leadership visionary award, Quality of Living, from LEAD for all her community activities that relate to the quality of life in San Diego, her leadership and her vision. UC San Diego Moore's Cancer Center named her Caregiver of the Year in 2012, and in February 2014 Vista Hill Foundation named her Mental Health Advocate of the Year.

She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science with a minor in Women's Studies from San Diego State University. She has four adult children, one of whom is an undergraduate student at UC San Diego.