



**NOTIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT BY MIKE KARBASSI TO BOARD  
OR COMMISSION**

**TO:** City Council  
**THROUGH:** Todd Stermer, City Clerk  
**BY:** Mike Karbassi, Council President District 2

\_\_\_\_\_ Reappointment  
  X   New Appointment  
Name of person replaced: N/A

**Name:** Robert Topete

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Appointed to:** Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board

**Term:** 7/17/25 Through 11/1/26

*City Council Agenda 7/17/25*

**FRESNO REGIONAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD**  
**APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT**

**I. Applicant Information**

Date: 6/02/2025

Name: Robert Topete

Home Address: [REDACTED]

City/State/Zip: Fresno, CA [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED] Email: [REDACTED]

County Supervisorial District Number for Residential Address. (Please check one box)  
{Please see <https://gisportal.co.fresno.ca.us/portal/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=1164484e9a1d4ff3aa394093f34c0f05>}

- ☐ District 1 (Pacheco)
- ☐ District 2 (Bredefeld)
- ☐ District 3 (Chavez)
- ☐ District 4 (Mendes)
- ☒ District 5 (Magsig)

City Council District Number for Residential Address. (Please check one box)  
{Please see <http://www.fresno.gov/Government/CityCouncil/CouncilLocator.htm>}

- ☐ District 1 (Perea)
- ☐ District 2 (Karbassi)
- ☒ District 3 (Arias)
- ☐ District 4 (Maxwell)
- ☐ District 5 (Vacant)
- ☐ District 6 (Richardson)
- ☐ District 7 (Esparza)

Business/Organization Name: Plumbers, Pipe & Refrigeration Fitters Local 246

Your Title: Business Manager/Financial Secretary - Treasurer

Business Address: [REDACTED]

City/State/Zip: Fresno, CA [REDACTED]

Phone:



County Supervisorial District Number for Business Address (Please check one box)

- ☐ District 1 (Pacheco)
- ☐ District 2 (Bredefeld)
- ☐ District 3 (Chavez)
- ☐ District 4 (Mendes)
- ☒ District 5 (Magsig)

City Council District Number for Business Address. (Please check one box)

- ☐ District 1 (Perea)
- ☐ District 2 (Karbassi)
- ☒ District 3 (Arias)
- ☐ District 4 (Maxwell)
- ☐ District 5 (Vacant)
- ☐ District 6 (Richardson)
- ☐ District 7 (Esparza)

## II. Appointing Jurisdiction

- ☐ I am seeking appointment by the City of Fresno
- ☐ I am seeking appointment by the County of Fresno
- ☒ Either

## III. Status

I am seeking:

- ☒ New Appointment; or,
- ☐ Re-Appointment

If re-appointment, please list previous term, and who you were appointed by: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

#### IV. TYPE OF POSITION FOR WHICH YOU ARE APPLYING

##### A. Private Sector/Business Appointments ☐

Are you an "**owner of a business, chief executive or operating officer of a business, or a business executive or employer with optimum policymaking or hiring authority?**"

{WIOA, Sec. 107, (b) membership, (2) Composition, (A), (i).}

☒ NO

YES

☐

NO

Please describe your policy-making or hiring authority: \_\_\_\_\_

Building Trades Union

Do you "**represent a business, including small businesses, or an organization representing businesses, that provides employment opportunities that, at a minimum, include high-quality, work-relevant training and development in in-demand industry sectors or occupations in our local area?**"

{WIOA, Sec. 107, (b) membership, (2) Composition, (A), (ii).}

☒ NO

YES

☐

NO

How many workers does your business/organization employ? 452

##### B. Non Private Sector Appointments

(Check the box that represents the category for which you are seeking appointment.)

##### 1. Mandated Membership Categories

###### ☐ Labor Representative

"Each local board ...shall include representatives of labor organizations (for a local area in which employees are represented by labor organizations), who have been nominated by local labor federations, or (for a local area in which no employees are represented by such organizations) other representatives of employees"

{WIOA, Sec. 107, (b) membership, (2) Composition, (B), (i).}, (underline added)



### **Joint Labor-Management Apprenticeship Program**

"Each local board ...shall include representatives, who shall be a member of a labor organization or a training director, from a joint labor-management apprenticeship program, or if no such joint program exists in the area, such a representative of an apprenticeship program in the area, if such a program exists"

{WIOA, Sec. 107, (b) membership, (2) Composition, (B), (ii).}, (underline added)



### **Literacy Activities**

"Each local board ...shall include a representative of eligible providers administering adult education and literacy activities under title II."

{WIOA, Sec. 107, (b) membership, (2) Composition, (C), (i).}, (underline added)



### **Higher Education**

"Each local board ...shall include a representative of institutions of higher education providing workforce investment activities (including community colleges)

{WIOA, Sec. 107, (b) membership, (2) Composition, (C), (ii).}, (underline added)



### **Economic/Community Development**

"Each local board ...shall include a representative of economic and community development entities"

{WIOA, Sec. 107, (b) membership, (2) Composition, (D), (i).}, (underline added)



### **State Employment Service**

"Each local board ...shall include an appropriate representative from the State employment service office under the Wagner-Peyser Act (29 U.S.C. 49 et seq.) serving the local area"

{WIOA, Sec. 107, (b) membership, (2) Composition, (D), (ii).}, (underline added)



### **Rehabilitation Act**

"Each local board... shall include an appropriate representative of the programs carried out under title I of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 720 et seq.), other than section 112 or Part C of that title (29 U.S.C. 732, 741), serving the local area"

{WIOA, Sec. 107, (b) membership, (2) Composition, (D), (iii).}, (underline added)

## 2. Discretionary Membership Categories

- ❑ **Adult Serving Employment Organizations**  
"Each local board ...may include representatives of community-based organizations that have demonstrated experience and expertise in addressing the employment needs of individuals with barriers to employment, including organizations that serve veterans or that provide or support competitive integrated employment for individuals with disabilities"  
{WIOA, Sec. 107, (b) membership, (2) Composition, (B), (iii).}, (underline added)
  
- ❑ **Youth Serving Organizations**  
"Each local board ...may include representatives of organizations that have demonstrated experience and expertise in addressing the employment, training, or education needs of eligible youth, including representatives of organizations that serve out-of-school youth"  
{WIOA, Sec. 107, (b) membership, (2) Composition, (B), (iv).}, (underline added)
  
- ❑ **Community Based Organizations**  
"Each local board ...may include representatives of local educational agencies, and of community-based organizations with demonstrated experience and expertise in addressing the education or training needs of individuals with barriers to employment"  
{WIOA, Sec. 107, (b) membership, (2) Composition, (C), (iii).}, (underline added)
  
- ❑ **Transportation/Housing/Public Assistance Agencies**  
"Each local board ...may include representatives of agencies or entities administering programs serving the local area relating to transportation, housing, and public assistance"  
{WIOA, Sec. 107, (b) membership, (2) Composition, (D), (iv).}, (underline added)
  
- ❑ **Philanthropic Organizations**  
"Each local board ...may include representatives of philanthropic organizations serving the local area"  
{WIOA, Sec. 107, (b) membership, (2) Composition, (D), (v).}, (underline added)
  
- ❑ **Other Appropriate Entities**  
"Each local board ...may include such other individuals or representatives of entities as the chief elected official in the local area may determine to be appropriate"  
{WIOA, Sec. 107, (b) membership, (2) Composition, (E)}, (underline added)

## V. Applicant Background

- A. Educational Background, including schools attended, degrees attained and certifications achieved:

Alisal High School Diploma, -1994  
HVACR Sequoia Institute Trade School Graduate -2000  
Plumbers, Pipe & Refrigeration Fitters Apprentice Program Graduate 2007

- B. List past or present City and/or County appointments, elected positions held as well as other professional and community affiliations:

Director of Training For Local 246 IATC 2011-2025  
Business Manager January 2025 - Present

- C. Briefly explain why you are interested in serving on the Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board:

I want to assist members of the community to secure a rewarding career, or training to better themselves and their families.

- D. What experience or Special Knowledge can you bring to the Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board? Please list occupational experience if applicable:

with my experience as Training Coordinator, I can assist the board on finding avenues for training & job placement.

- E. List any affiliations you or your spouse has with any public agency:

NONE

- F. Please list any affiliations you or your spouse has with any organization receiving funding from the Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board:

NONE

G. Do you or an immediate family member have any professional or financial relationship that may present a potential conflict of interest for this board? :

☐

YES

☒

NO

H. Do you, or the company or organization you represent, intend to apply for funds administered by the Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board? :

☐

YES

☒

NO

## VI. REFERENCES

Please provide three personal or professional references (Include name, address and telephone number)

Reference #1:

Chuck Rigas

Reference #2:

Danny Wright

Reference #3:

Bob Jennings

## VII. Attestation

I have read the Fresno County Board of Supervisor's Administrative Policy No. 35 (Attachment A), the City of Fresno Conflict of Interest Policy (Attachment B) and the Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board Conflict of Interest Policy (Attachment C) for Board appointees and agree to abide by the policies and procedures at all times while an appointed member of the FRWDB. At present, to the best of my knowledge, no conflict of interest exists in my serving on this Board.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 6/02/2025



# Robert Topete

Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board  
2125 Kern Street, suite 208,  
Fresno, CA 93721

RE: FRWDB

## **Professional Summary**

- Experienced in community and economic development and strategic planning. Proven ability to build partnerships, educational institutions, and private sector employers. Committed to creating equitable opportunities and aligning workforce initiatives with regional labor market needs. To help ensure there is a bright future for workers and their families using my trade knowledge and experience.

## **Experience**

- HVACR Service & Maintenance Technician 2000-2002
- Plumbing & Pipefitting Apprentice on commercial jobsites 2002-2007
- Foreman for a large Plumbing and Mechanical Contractor--2007-2009
- General Foreman for a signatory Contractor----- 2009-2011
- Director of Training for Fresno Area Plumbers, Pipe & Refrigeration Fitters Joint Apprenticeship & Training Committee 2011-2025

## **Communication and Leadership skills**

- Public Speaking, Soft Skills, Computer skills, Microsoft, Business Software, Teaching & Mentoring Apprentices, establishing Professional courses with an emphasis towards leading, Creating, Coordinating and running an accredited Apprentice program. Conflict resolution and problem-solving skills, Budgeting, Grant Writing, Scheduling Apprenticeship classes and ordering books, material, equipment, tools and consumables for the purpose of training our workforce. Curriculum related to the piping Industry.

## **Education**

- Alisal High School Diploma 1994
- Sequoia Institute HVACR trade program Certificate of completion 2000
- U.A. Local 246 Apprenticeship Program-----Certificate of Completion 2007
- Washtenaw Community College----Director of Training Certificate 2012-2024

## **Employment History**

- West Coast Commercial 2000-2002
- Quantum Plumbing 2002-2007
- New England Sheetmetal--Plumbing Foreman 2007-2009
- Lyles Mechanical--General Foreman 2009-2011
- Director of Training for Local 246 Apprentice Program 2011-2025
- Business Manager January 2025---Present



# BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL, AFL-CIO

## FRESNO, MADERA, KINGS AND TULARE COUNTIES

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January 29, 2025

Blake Konczal  
Executive Director  
Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board  
2125 Kern St., Suite 208  
Fresno, CA 93721

Dear Mr. Konczal:

The Fresno, Madera, Kings and Tulare Counties Building and Construction Trades Council would like to nominate Dave Clark and Robert Topete to fill the two vacate labor seats on the Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me on [REDACTED].

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]  
Chuck Riojas  
Financial Secretary-Treasurer