



## NALEO NEWS

National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials

**For Immediate Release**  
November 12, 2014

**Contact:** Amanda Bosquez, [abosquez@naleo.org](mailto:abosquez@naleo.org)  
(202) 546-2536 ext. 112, (361) 548-6989 (cell)

Paula Valle Castanon, [pvalle@naleo.org](mailto:pvalle@naleo.org)  
(213) 747-7606 ext. 4414, (323) 253-6431 (cell)

### **NALEO President Alex Padilla and NALEO Educational Fund Chair Pauline Medrano Make History on Election Night**

*Padilla was elected as the first Latino California Secretary of State and Medrano as the first Latina Dallas County Treasurer on Election Night*

**Washington, D.C.** – Like many other Latino candidates nationwide, National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) President Alex Padilla and NALEO Educational Fund Chair Pauline Medrano made history in Election 2014.

NALEO President and California State Senator Alex Padilla emerged victorious in Election 2014, winning his election to become the state's first Latino California Secretary of State\*. As State Senator, he has represented more than 1.1 million people in the San Fernando Valley region of Los Angeles. No stranger to breaking barriers, Padilla won a seat on the Los Angeles City Council at the age of 26. He was later elected by his peers as President of the Council, becoming the first Latino and youngest member ever to serve as President.

“We are proud to see NALEO President Alex Padilla make history as the first Latino elected as Secretary of State in California,” stated Arturo Vargas, executive director of NALEO. “As the future chief elections officer of the nation's most populous state, we know Alex will work tirelessly to increase the number of Latinos and all California voters who participate in our nation's democracy.”

Padilla will join 11 other Latinos who will serve in statewide executive office following Election 2014, an increase of two. A full roster (page 3) of the Latinos that will be serving at this level is available [here](#).

NALEO Educational Fund Chair Pauline Medrano also made history on Election Night in Texas, winning her bid to become the first Latina elected as Dallas County Treasurer\*. A former four term member of the Dallas City Council, Medrano previously served as both Deputy Mayor Pro Tem (2009-2011) and Mayor Pro Tem (2011-2013). Medrano currently serves as a member of the Census Bureau National Advisory Committee on Racial, Ethnic, and Other Populations (NAC).

“As the first Latina Dallas County Treasurer, NALEO Educational Fund Chair Pauline Medrano will oversee the finances of the nation's ninth largest county,” stated Arturo Vargas, executive director of the NALEO. “We congratulate Pauline on this extraordinary accomplishment and

look forward to continuing to work with her in this new capacity to increase Latino political participation in Dallas County and nationwide.”

According to research on Latino representation conducted prior to Election Day for the 2014 *NALEO Directory of Latino Elected Officials*, 6,100 Latinos currently serve in elected office across the country. This is up from the 4,853 Latino elected officials who held office in 2004, demonstrating the progress Latinos continue to make in finding success as candidates. Additional information on representation by level of office and state-by state can be found [here](#).

*\*This analysis is based on historical data from the NALEO Directory of Latino Elected Officials, which includes records on Latino office holders dating back to 1984.*

###

**About NALEO**

*The National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials is the leadership organization of the nation’s more than 6,000 Latino elected and appointed officials.*