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Trailblazer Candidate Henry Nickel Elevated to 'Pathfinder' Status

San Bernardino Leader Earns Important Campaign Distinction

SACRAMENTO, Calif. - California Trailblazers, the state's only program successfully recruiting, training and electing the next generation of Republican legislative leaders, announced today Henry Nickel candidate for the 40th Assembly District has achieved 'Pathfinder' status, the first level in the program's three-tier structure.

Born and raised in the Inland Empire, Nickel currently serves as Mayor Pro Tempore for the city of San Bernardino where he has been committed to expanding economic development, promoting strong law enforcement and fostering fiscal prudence. He was the top vote-getter in June's primary election.

"Henry Nickel has a true record of reform in San Bernardino, which is exactly what voters are looking for this year," said Jessica Patterson, CEO of California Trailblazers. "Nickel won't be afraid to hold Sacramento accountable on some of the most critical issues facing the Inland Empire including affordability and public safety."

Elected on the heels of the city's 2012 bankruptcy, Nickel worked hard to bring fiscal discipline and accountability to a city plagued by crime and dysfunction. While on the city council, he helped bring the city out of bankruptcy, increased law enforcement presence and championed economic development throughout San Bernardino. Nickel has extensive experience as a small business owner, educator and public servant at the federal and county levels.

Nickel has met the Trailblazer program benchmarks to earn 'Pathfinder' status, including raising more than \$100,000 without personal loans, identifying local volunteers and precinct captains, and establishing a website and social media presence. Additionally, Nickel achieved 'Pathfinder' status having attended candidate trainings to learn how to run a winning campaign. These elements ensure candidates are effectively prepared for the campaign trail and ready to lead once elected.

"While Sacramento continues to pat itself on the back, everyday Californians are struggling to make ends meet in our increasingly expensive state," Patterson said. "Voters want a leader eager to take on the status quo and Nickel's record in San Bernardino clearly shows he will do just that."

Throughout 2018, California Trailblazers will continue to provide ongoing support to Republican legislative candidates. Candidates who seek to enter the second tier of the Trailblazers program- 'Rising Star' status-must raise more than \$250,000 in campaign contributions, create strong media, fundraising, coalition and finance plans, identify a campaign manager and participate in Trailblazers trainings to learn fundamental and sophisticated campaign strategies and tactics.

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California Trailblazers aims to recruit and train Republican candidates who reflect California's diverse population. The program is modeled after the National Republican Congressional Committee's successful Young Guns program. For more information, please visit www.catrailblazers.com. Follow @CaTrailblazers.



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