

PROFESSOR & DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

TAL 
VALBUENA
FOR JUDGE

SEAT
#2



A New Generation of Judicial Leadership

Deputy D.A. Tal K. Valbuena has extensive courtroom experience, first-chairing more than 130 court trials, 40 jury trials and 200 evidentiary hearings. Recognized as one of the Office's leading specialists in forensic mental health law, he has litigated more than 150 cases involving mentally ill defendants accused of murder, attempted murder, and other violent offenses. When incarceration is inappropriate, Tal pursues civil commitments that protect public safety while ensuring mentally incompetent individuals receive treatment in secure facilities with comprehensive psychiatric care. An immigrant who arrived in the United States 25 years ago, Tal worked his way from dishwasher to prosecutor and now upholds public safety, constitutional due process, and equal access to justice. In 2024, he received the District Attorney's Office's highest honor for community leadership — the Michael Noyes Humanitarian Award.

EDUCATION

- The George Washington University Law School; **Juris Doctor** (2011)
- Indiana University School of Business; **B.S. in Accounting & Finance** (2005)

LEADERSHIP & SERVICE

- **Commissioner**, LA County LGBTQ+ Commission (2024 to Present)
- Elections Poll Worker/**Volunteer Team Lead** (2020-2024)
- Member of **Anti-Racism Diversity & Inclusion Initiative** LADA Committee
- **Treasurer**, South Asian Bar Association
- **Top 20** Under 40 Attorneys JTBF (2012)
- **Noyes Humanitarian Award** (2024)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- **Deputy District Attorney** (2016-Present)
- **Professor** (2018-Present) - Teaches law to ESL and first-generation students, mentoring professionals, advancing DEI.
- **Attorney, Private Practice** (2012-2015) - Represented biotech corporations in complex civil litigation in federal courts. Practiced at Am Law 200 firms.
- **Fraud Examiner & Auditor** (2005-2009) - Conducted audits for Fortune 500 clients at a Big Four accounting firm and led Sarbanes-Oxley compliance initiatives at a major insurance company.

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Paid for by Tal K Valbuena for Superior Court Judge 2026 #1485563
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