

John D. Esparza

President & CEO

Texas Trucking Association

John D. Esparza, a graduate of Texas Tech University in Lubbock and a sixth generation native of West Texas, serves as president and CEO of Texas Trucking Association (TXTA) and Executive Director of Southwest Movers Association (SMA). TXTA, one of the largest trucking associations in the nation, was established in 1932 in Austin, while SMA got its start in 1917.

Prior to becoming TXTA president, Esparza served as Senior Advisor for Community Affairs to Texas Governor Rick Perry. He assisted the governor in facilitating the state's first Texas Enterprise Fund (TEF) and the Texas Emerging Technology Fund (TETF) with a combined \$495 million budget. Esparza also served as Special Assistant to the Governor and was the first attaché to the 2005 Military Base Realignment and Closure Commission under the then newly formed Texas Military Preparedness Commission. Prior to the 2000 presidential election, Esparza served as Aide-de-Camp in the Texas Senate to then Lt. Governor Perry.

During the late 90's, Esparza was the Political Coalition Director for then Governor George W. Bush where he worked extensively on Hispanic outreach under Chief Political Strategist Karl Rove. During his time on the Bush Campaign, Esparza was also a member of the Political Advance Team.

In 2007, Esparza received the Texas League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) *State Director's Recognition Award* for his legislative leadership in state government. He was appointed by the Texas Department of Transportation to serve on the Texas Energy Task Force, the Texas Panama Canal Stakeholder Work Group and the Texas Proposition 1 Special Committee on Transportation Funding. These groups were charged with bringing fiscal and policy recommendations to the Texas Legislature. In addition, he has served on numerous other statewide transportation policy and advisory committees. Esparza continues to serve on the Texas Transportation Commission's State Freight Advisory Committee and the Texas Border Infrastructure Planning Committee, a panel of industry experts that serve as an ongoing forum for agency transportation decisions affecting freight mobility.

Esparza is currently the Chairman of the Board of HELP Inc., Provider of PrePass, an Arizona based premier non-for-profit, public-private partnership whose mission is to improve highway safety and efficiency through technology. He served on the board member of Move Texas Forward, an initiative committed to improving the state's infrastructure and keeping roads capable of supporting Texas' economic prosperity. In 2016 Esparza was appointed by U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood to the Household Goods Advisory Group, tasked with updating consumer protections and making those recommendations to U.S. Congress.

Esparza has also served on the National Board of Directors for Hispanics for Opportunity Progress and Education (HOPE). He is a member of the Central Texas Fellowship of Catholic Men and served on the St. Austin Catholic School Advisory Board for six years - four as its chairman. A past Cubmaster for the Boy Scouts of America, Capitol Area Council Pack 34, where Esparza received the prestigious Bronze Pelican Award in 2010.

Esparza is a current member of the Texas Tech University System Board of Regents, appointed by Governor Rick Perry in 2013 where he is chairman of the Facilities & Planning Committee. He is also a member of the National Board of Directors for the Texas Tech University College of Media and Communication, where as a student, he earned a bachelor's degree in public relations with a minor in marketing.

An avid outdoorsman, he and his wife Leah, a native of Galesburg, Ill., have three sons; Jacob Pecos, a freshman at Texas Tech University, Joshua Brazos, a high school junior - and Jack Sabine Both attending St. Michael's Catholic Academy in West Austin. The Esparza's are members of St. Austin Catholic Church.
