

# Mickeala Y. Carter

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### **Director of Communications and External Affairs**, House Agriculture Committee | January 2021– Present

- Provide key communications, outreach, and messaging guidance to Committee Chairman, Subcommittee Chairs and Member offices on issues related to agriculture, food, rural America, and other issues within Committee jurisdiction
- Plan and execute media strategy for newly appointed Committee Chair, deliberately incorporating opportunities to increase Committee visibility throughout the press, social media, and the Committee constituency
- Collaborate with other Committees, House Leadership, and Caucuses to promote shared interests and priorities
- Work alongside Subcommittee Staff Directors to intentionally select and vet hearing witnesses, roundtable guests, and event speakers
- Oversee work product of and provide creative direction to Committee Press Secretary and Digital Director

### **Outreach Coordinator**, House Agriculture Committee | March 2019 – January 2020

- Strategically incorporated Committee Member priorities into external outreach and engagement opportunities, having led to an increased awareness of Committee accomplishments
- Successfully implemented structure of holding quarterly, or as needed, meetings between stakeholders and the Chairman, Subcommittee Chairs, and/or Committee staff
- Cultivated and maintained strong relationships with key stakeholders and advocates within the agriculture, food, and rural communities
- Designed and produced content for an external weekly newsletter to provide Committee updates and Member highlights to 150+ organizations
- Created event memos and staffed Committee Chairman at speaking engagements
- Represented the Committee as a guest, panelist, and/or spokesperson at meetings, conferences, and relevant events

### **Communications Director & Senior Legislative Assistant**, Congressman Filemon Vela (TX-34) January 2017 - February 2019

- Supervised team of three staffers and all Member communication operations, including, but not limited to crafting and approving press statements, newsletters, talking points, op-eds, and social media posts; corresponding with news and media outlets to coordinate Member interviews; managing member website
- Served as the primary advisor on agriculture issues for Vice Ranking Member of House Agriculture Committee and acted as the liaison during the 2018 Farm Bill between the Member, a Farm Bill conference committee member, and Committee staff
- Initiated communications plan that led to a 120% increase in Member's social media presence and a rise in national media appearances
- Led rapid communications response for Member in wake of 2018 family separation crisis, prompting national media attention and visits to South Texas by House Leadership, the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, and other interested Members

### **Legislative Assistant**, Congressman Filemon Vela (TX-34) | January 2015 - December 2016

- Advised Member on vote recommendations and legislative actions related to portfolio of assigned policy issues, including agriculture, education, science and space, energy, environment, natural resources, telecommunications, and Veterans
- Drafted memos, appropriations letters, talking points, letters of support, and legislative correspondence
- Coordinated multiple highly attended forums, round tables, and meetings to amplify Member's legislative priorities
- Developed bipartisan professional and personal relationships with government and private sector professionals

### **Staff & Press Assistant**, Congressman Filemon Vela (TX-34) | December 2013 - December 2014

- Managed daily assignments, work schedules, and conducted interviews and reviews for three to ten interns per semester
- Collaborated with Communications Director to write weekly newsletters and social media posts
- Monitored assigned legislative issues including postal services, science and technology, and environment

### **Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Intern**, Congressman Filemon Vela (TX-34) | August 2013 - December 2013

- Managed front office duties, including answering phone calls, welcoming visitors, and leading U.S. Capitol tours
- Researched legislative issues, responded to legislative correspondence and shadowed the Agriculture legislative assistant during 2014 Farm Bill negotiations and Conference Committee meetings

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Congressional Staff Academy 2020 Leadership and Management Series | *Completion Certificate* | *Fall 2020*  
GAO Principles of Appropriations Law | *Course Completion* | *Fall 2019*  
NALEO Educational Fund Staff Up Congress Senior Management Academy | *Participant* | *Spring 2019*  
Wilson Center Foreign Policy Fellowship Program | *Fellow* | *Spring 2018*

**CIVIC ENGAGEMENT**

59<sup>th</sup> Presidential Inauguration | *Volunteer* | *January 2021*  
Joe Biden for President | *Voter Protection National Hotline Volunteer* | *Fall 2020*  
Candace Valenzuela for Congress | *Phone Bank Volunteer* | *Fall 2020*  
Beto for Texas | *Office Manager & Block Walk Captain Volunteer* | *Fall 2018*  
Florida Democratic Party | *Outreach Volunteer* | *Fall 2014 & Fall 2016*

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

Texas State Society | *Congressional Liaison* | *2016– Present*  
Everybody Wins! DC | *Reading Mentor* | *2015– Present*  
Congressional Black Associates | *Member* | *2020– Present*

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**EDUCATION**

Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Leadership and Development, Minor in Communications  
*Texas A&M University* | *2013*

**SKILLS**

- Press & Communications
- Legislative Affairs
- Public Speaking
- Public Engagement
- Outreach
- Intergovernmental Affairs
- Staff Management
- Website Management
- Social Media Management
- Fireside | IQ