

Nicole Rice

Biography

Nicole Rice serves as the Policy Director for the California Manufacturers and Technology Association – statewide, non-profit association that works to improve and enhance a strong business climate for California's 30,000 manufacturing, processing and technology based companies. CMTA represents 600 businesses from the entire manufacturing community, an economic sector that generates more than \$200 billion every year and employs more than 2 million Californians.

In this role, Ms. Rice guides her membership through California's complex legislative and regulatory policy maze on a myriad of issues, including labor & employment, workforce development, unemployment insurance and healthcare.

Ms. Rice developed her expertise in public policy representing small businesses, utility companies, educational organizations and local government bodies on a wide range of matters while crafting and driving legislation. In her effort to effect change, she also worked with grassroots community leaders to equip them with the intricacies and blueprints required to succeed in navigating the Sacramento public policy arena.

Before joining CMTA in 2012, Ms. Rice worked as a consultant for the Roger Niello for Senate campaign, community affairs manager for Nehemiah Corporation of America, legislative policy strategist for Strategic Counsel PLC, deputy director for the California Department of Consumer Affairs, deputy secretary of Appointments for Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, and public affairs representative for Southern California Edison.

A graduate of California State University, Hayward (now known as CSU East Bay), Ms. Rice earned her bachelor's degree in political science in 1994. She was awarded her juris doctorate from Santa Clara University School of Law in 1998.