Guide to the Louis Caldera Papers

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Guide to the Louis Caldera Papers

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Descriptive Summary
Title: Guide to the Louis Caldera Papers
Dates: 1993-1997
Collection number: LP451
Creator: Calder, Louis
Collection Size: 10 cubic feet
Repository: California State Archives
Sacramento, California

Abstract: Louis Caldera, Democrat, was a State Assembly Member from 1992 to 1997. His 46th District included central Los Angeles, bordered in the north by the Hollywood Freeway. The Louis Caldera Papers contain six record series dating over a 5-year time period (1993-1997) and include 10 cubic feet of textual records. The six record series include: Bill Files, Correspondence, Democratic Leadership Council (DLC) Files, Gun Violence Files, Press Clippings, and Subject Files.

Physical location: California State Archives
Languages: Languages represented in the collection: English

Access
While the majority of the records are open for research, any access restrictions are noted in the record series descriptions.

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[Identification of item], Louis Caldera Papers, LP451:[folder number], California State Archives, Office of the Secretary of State, Sacramento, California.

Biography
Louis Caldera, Democrat, was a State Assembly Member from 1992 to 1997. His 46th District included central Los Angeles, bordered in the north by the Hollywood Freeway.
Caldera was born in 1956, in El Paso, Texas. In 1960, his family moved to the Boyle Heights area of Los Angeles County. He graduated from Monte Vista High School in nearby Whittier in 1974, whereupon he attended West Point. After receiving his bachelor's degree, he served five years on active military duty, leaving the Army with the rank of Captain. By 1987, he graduated from Harvard University with both a law degree and a master's degree in business administration. Moving back to Los Angeles, Caldera practiced public finance law for private firms and was appointed as a Los Angeles County deputy counsel in 1991 where he represented the interests of the County in both state and federal litigation. His wife is named Eva Orlebeke, a fellow attorney, with whom he has three daughters. Caldera currently runs his own education consulting firm in Washington, D.C.
In his first bid for elective office, Caldera received 71% of the vote against Republican David Osborne in 1992. He would successfully hold the 56th District for the next two elections. Due to term limits, Caldera’s tenure would have expired in 1998. However, Caldera accepted an appointment by President Clinton to serve as managing director of the Corporation for National and Community Service, leaving his legislative office in September 1997. Caldera has been a trustee of the Mexican American Bar Association of Los Angeles County, was a co-founder of the Latino Lawyers Committee, and committee chair of the Government Affairs Council of the United Way of Greater Los Angeles.

During his tenure in the Legislature, Louis Caldera was a member of the following committees.

**Leadership**
Assembly Democratic Economic Prosperity Team, 1993-1994
Assistant Democratic Floor Leader, 1994

**Assembly Standing Committees**
Banking and Finance, 1995-1998
*Vice-Chair, 1996

Budget, 1995
Education, 1997
Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials, 1996
*Vice-Chair, 1993-1994
Revenue and Taxation, 1993-1997
*Chair, 1997

**Assembly Select Committees**
Gun Violence, 1994-1997
*Chair, 1994-1997
Statewide Immigration Impact, 1993-1994

**Assembly Subcommittees**
Budget #3: Resources, Transportation, Agriculture and the Environment, 1995
*Chair, 1995
Budget #4: State Administration, 1995

**Scope and Content**
The Louis Caldera Papers contain six record series dating over a 5-year time period (1993-1997) and include 10 cubic feet of textual records. The six record series include: Bill Files, Correspondence, Democratic Leadership Council (DLC) Files, Gun Violence Files, Press Clippings, and Subject Files.


The Bill Files (1993-1998), Gun Violence Files (1993-1998), and the Subject Files (1992-1996) document his advocacy of gun control, child safety, reduction of teen pregnancy, and corporate responsibility. Together, with the DLC Files, the records paint a picture of Caldera's attempts to apply progressive Democratic Party objectives to the issues facing his constituents during his three terms as a member of the California State Legislature.

**Accruals**
No further accruals are expected.

**Indexing Terms**
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library’s online public access catalog.
Education, Higher - California
California. Legislature. Assembly. Committee on Revenue and Taxation
Consumer protection - California
Series 1 Bill Files 1993-1998

Physical Description: 149 file folders, 2 audiocassette tapes, 3 videocassette tapes

Arrangement
Arranged chronologically by legislative session, then numerically by bill number.

Access Information
Access to audiovisual material requires the production of use copies.

Scope and Content Note

Audio/videotapes have been removed to cold storage and separation sheets are included within the file folders to indicate this.

1995-1996: AB198-AB3014, AJR18-AJR73, AB1XX-AB26XX (76ff) LP451:56-131

Series 2 Correspondence 1995-1997

Physical Description: 4 file folders

Arrangement
Correspondence is Arranged chronologically by year.

Scope and Content Note
Correspondence are primarily outgoing letters such as replies to letters received or requests being made. Files may also include news clippings, notes, memoranda, reports, and resolutions. Notable topics include gun violence, banking reform, welfare, healthcare, higher education, and domestic violence. Letters may be personal or professional in nature. Correspondents include constituents, other legislators, media representatives, and community as well as local government leaders.
Series 3 Democratic Leadership Council (DLC) Files 1993-1997

Physical Description: 17 file folders

Arrangement
Democratic Leadership Council (DLC) Files are arranged alphabetically by subject heading.

Scope and Content Note
This series documents Caldera's involvement with the DLC, a national non-profit organization with a think tank named the Progressive Policy Institute; its publication is titled The New Democrat. As a member of the California DLC, Caldera encouraged participation by other Democratic legislative members, appeared at local Democratic events, and attended national conventions and conferences. Files include news clippings, correspondence, memoranda, press releases, reports, notes, policy briefs, conference materials, and newsletters. Topics include environmental protection, gun control, the Democratic National Convention, the Progressive Policy Institute, welfare reform, gender/race equity, young voters, and Affirmative Action.

Series 4 Gun Violence Files 1993-1998

Physical Description: 20 file folders

Arrangement
Gun Violence Files are arranged alphabetically by subject heading.

Scope and Content Note
This series documents Caldera's main legislative interest of gun regulation and includes background and legislative materials from his time as Chair of the Select Committee on Gun Violence. Files include news clippings, correspondence, memoranda, amendments, press releases, reports, testimony, agendas, minutes, notes, and pamphlets. Subjects include the 2nd Amendment, AB488 (1997), Assault Weapons, Concealed Weapons, Gun Studies, Polling Data, Saturday Night Special handgun, and Staff Meetings.

Note: See Subject Files for hearings held by the Select Committee on Gun Violence.

Series 5 Press Clippings 1993-1997

Physical Description: 13 file folders

Arrangement
Press Clippings are arranged chronologically by date of release.

Scope and Content Note
This series documents the press coverage of Caldera, his proposed legislation, and the legislative topics of interest to him. Files include news clippings, articles, correspondence, and press releases. Topics include education, statutory rape, sexual harassment, Hispanics, political appointments, income taxes, gun violence, welfare reform, adult entertainment, regulation, teen pregnancy, reasonable doubt, term limits, and liens.
Series 6 Subject Files 1993-1996

Physical Description: 30 file folders, 1 videocassette and 10 audio cassettes

Arrangement
Subject Files are arranged alphabetically by subject heading.

Access Information
Access to audiovisual material requires the production of use copies.

Scope and Content Note
Subject Files contain information on a variety of topics of interest to Caldera. The files include correspondence, reports, amendments, articles, bill analysis, testimony, notes, memoranda, statistics, promotional materials, background material, news clippings, and press releases. Subjects include: alcohol, environmental audits, hearings held by the Select Committee on Gun Violence, the Orange County Bankruptcy, and Propositions 200, 201, 202, and 211 (1996).

Audio/videotapes have been removed to cold storage and separation sheets are included within the file folders to indicate this.