



# Working Together to Protect Northern California Consumers

A Common Ground Conference

San Francisco Federal Building (907 Street)

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**8:45-9:10am**      **Registration and Networking**

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**9:10-9:35am**      **Welcome**  
**Thomas Dahdouh**  
Regional Director, Federal Trade Commission - Western Region

**Opening Remarks**

**Serena Viswanathan**

Acting Deputy Director, Bureau of Consumer Protection, Federal Trade Commission

**Ted Mermin**

Executive Director, Berkeley Center for Consumer Law and Economic Justice

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**9:35-10:45am**      **Panel 1: Roundtable – who we are; resources we can provide**

**Moderator:**

**Sarah Schroeder**

Attorney, Federal Trade Commission

**Panelists:**

**Nick Akers**

Sr. Assistant Attorney General, Consumer Law Section, California Department of Justice

**Matt Beltramo**

Assistant District Attorney, Alameda District Attorney's Office

**Alanna Carbis**

Sr. Attorney, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau

**Juliana Fredman**

Sr. Staff Attorney, Bay Area Legal Aid

**Charles Carriere**

Sr. Counsel, Enforcement Division, California Department of Business Oversight

**Suzanne Martindale**

Sr. Policy Counsel & Western States Legislative Manager, Consumer Reports

**Judith Anderson**

Assistant Regional Director, Securities and Exchange Commission

**Danica Rodarmel**

Racial Justice Program Fellow, Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights

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**10:45-11:00am Break and Networking**

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**11:00-11:45am Panel 2: Emerging Trends in Consumer Fraud**

**Moderator and Panelist:**

**Yasser Dandashly**

Investigator, Federal Trade Commission

**Panelists:**

**Sharon Djemal**

Director, Consumer Justice Clinic, East Bay Community Law Center

**Michael Elisofon**

Supervising Deputy Attorney General, Consumer Law Section, Cal. Dept. of Justice

**Niem Nguyen**

Supervisory Special Agent, Economic Crimes Unit, Federal Bureau of Investigation

**Lori Wilson**

President/CEO, Golden Gate Better Business Bureau

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**11:45-12:30pm Panel 3: Break-Out Sessions**

Each participant identifies his/her organization and what it does, what successes and challenged the organization has experienced, how we can work together to fulfill our missions, and resources that we can share

1. Scams against certain populations (including older consumers, military families, teenagers, and immigrants) and how to provide helpful outreach information
  2. Imposter scams, including abusive debt collection practices, IRS scams, and misleading PACE advertisements
  3. Employment and education-related scams, including business opportunity and work-at home scams, for-profit schools, student loan debt relief, and educational loans
  4. Investigative tips and techniques – how to build a consumer protection case
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**12:30pm**

**Closing Remarks and Next Steps for Collaboration**

**Kerry O'Brien**

Assistant Regional Director, Federal Trade Commission, Western Region-San Francisco

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**Lunch** – Provided by the Better Business Bureau

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