

Spotlight: Tracy Fuentes with SoCal Jet Services

This month, we'd like to shine a spotlight on Tracy Fuentes, Executive Office Manager/Community Liaison, of SoCal Jet Services at Long Beach Airport.



Q: Can you talk about the SoCal Jet Services operation at LGB?

A: In April of 2007, our CEO Andy Fuentes opened SoCal Jet Services, Inc. at LGB. What started as a skeleton crew of just one has grown to include 20 employees who are all excited for the company's future. Recently, in January of this year, our FAA-certified repair station relocated from its original site on the Airport campus to the southeast corner.

Q: Can you please share a bit about your professional background and role?

A: SoCal Jet Services is a family business. The CEO is one of my older brothers. I worked for the company from 2007 to 2012, then left to gain more work experience to bring back when the time was right. In 2022, after 10 years and lessons learned as an executive director for a nonprofit during the height of the pandemic, I felt it was time to return to my roots and assist with my newfound knowledge.

My role at SoCal Jet Services includes developing inner office policies, onboarding training and reinforcing a positive teamwork culture for businesses and organizations to enjoy what they do and get the most out of their time, whether they are paid employees or volunteers. I've worked on business capacity management with local companies and organizations such as California Families in Focus, Coastline Environmental Solutions, Long Beach Community Action Partnership and Income Tax Professionals.

Q: What do you enjoy most about your work?

A: I love being part of such an amazing company, and am prideful of the success of SoCal Jet Services in the aviation industry, especially for an entrepreneurial business run by a first-generation immigrant from Central America. The company and my brother are an inspiration to me and to others, and we strive to encourage youth to learn more about the aviation industry and related career opportunities. SoCal Jet Services is a reflection of Long Beach, its diversity and welcoming culture.

Q: Do you have hobbies or other parts about your personal life you'd like to share?

A: As a survivor of domestic violence and single mother of two boys, I've spent the past eight years developing my humanitarian efforts and using my privilege to advocate for the LGBTQ+ community. I've shed light on the issue of domestic violence as a motivational speaker. I've made it my mission to use my story and voice to empower survivors of abuse by promoting a healthy mind, body and spirit.

In my spare time, I enjoy volunteering within my community as a volunteer journalist – spreading the word about positive local news – for L.B. in Your City News and as a co-host and segment producer for Road Dogs TV. I travel throughout Southern California providing a platform for local musicians and artists to help keep art, music and culture accessible, alive and thriving for all to enjoy.