



# County of Santa Cruz

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**COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE**

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**SUSAN A. MAURIELLO, J.D., COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **JUAN HIDALGO APPOINTED AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER**

The Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday unanimously appointed Juan Hidalgo to a four-year term as the County's Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights and Measures.

Hidalgo succeeds Mary Lou Nicoletti, who is retiring at the end of the year. He has completed rigorous state licensing requirements required for the position under the California Food and Agricultural Code, has a bachelor's degree from UC Davis and has worked in Santa Cruz County since 2004, including serving as Deputy Agricultural Commissioner since 2012.

"I'm honored to be appointed Agricultural Commissioner," Hidalgo said. "Agriculture is very important in Santa Cruz County and I look forward to continuing to protect agriculture, as well as the environment and the safety and welfare of Santa Cruz County residents."

The responsibilities of the office are multifaceted, including protecting the County's agricultural crops, assuring compliance with state and federal regulations during the application of fumigants and pesticides, and protecting consumers by verifying the accuracy of weights and measures of commercial commodities.

"Juan's background, experience and intelligence will make him an excellent Agricultural Commissioner," County Administrative Officer Susan A. Mauriello said. "He is familiar with local issues, communicates effectively with a variety of stakeholders and is ready to assume this important leadership position."