



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 18, 2024

Board of Supervisors appoint Dr. Uldine Castel as Public Health Officer

VENTURA, Calif. – Dr. Uldine Castel has been selected as the new Health Officer for Ventura County Public Health. The appointment follows an extensive recruitment process, which included both internal and external candidates. Castel succeeds Dr. Robert Levin who retired from the position in June.

“We’re pleased to have Dr. Castel step into the Health Officer role based on her broad experience in public health and primary care,” stated Chair of the Board of Supervisors, Kelly Long. “Since assuming the interim role as Health Officer, she has demonstrated her ability to lead with enthusiasm and compassion. Her extensive background in medical leadership and direct patient care, combined with a proven track record of quality public health service positions her as the ideal candidate to guide Ventura County through current and future public health issues”.

For over 15 years, Castel has served as the Tuberculosis Controller for Ventura County Public Health, overseeing the screening and care for tuberculosis (TB) patients, managing disease contact investigations, and maintaining the highest standard of care for TB patients countywide. Her leadership also extended to establishing a Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) Clinic for underserved populations and a Pre-exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) Clinic for HIV prevention. Dr. Castel brings a wealth of expertise and a deep commitment to improving the health and well-being of Ventura County residents.

Dr. Castel has served as Family Physician and Chief Medical Officer (CMO) at Primary Medical Group, where she provides comprehensive care for patients of all ages. As the first CMO for Primary Medical Group, Castel led quality control initiatives across several clinics, authored evidence-based standards for medical providers. Castel also serves on the faculty for the Family Medicine Residency program at Ventura County Medical Center, mentoring residents in preventive medicine, prenatal care, office procedures, and chronic care management.

“I’m excited for this opportunity to serve our community and contribute to the health and wellbeing of Ventura County residents,” stated Castel. “I look forward to being part of the continued success of Ventura County’s health initiatives and system of care”.

Castel is board-certified in Family Medicine. She is a graduate of Sarah Lawrence College, Duquesne University, and Temple University Medical School.

Castel will assume her new duties on January 20, 2025, at an annual salary of \$313,360.

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