Marc Carrel was named President and CEO of Breathe Southern California in December 2017 after working on air quality issues for nearly a decade at the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD), Southern California’s regional clean air agency.

During his tenure there, Carrel led SCAQMD’s environmental justice programs including conceiving and developing the agency’s Environmental Justice Community Partnership initiative and their annual environmental justice conferences. Carrel oversaw community outreach and education programs including an annual series of briefings for civic leaders and government officials. He also led SCAQMD’s federal government relations and public policy efforts, coordinating a national coalition to promote clean transportation technology and getting provisions included in two federal laws to make it easier to clean the air in Southern California.

Before joining SCAQMD, Carrel served in several positions advising senior state and federal elected officials. He was Deputy Chief of Staff to a senior Member of Congress, Senior Advisor to the Lieutenant Governor of California and Counsel to the Speaker of the California State Assembly. He also served as California Assistant Secretary of State for Policy and Planning, where he helped implement California’s first statewide recall election in 2003, and he played a pivotal role in addressing the national uproar over electronic voting. During that period, he was co-chair of the Secretary of State’s Ad Hoc Touch Screen Task Force, the nation’s first governmental body to examine the security of electronic voting machines, and Vice Chair of California’s Voting Systems and Procedures Panel. In that role, he helped guide California to become the first state to decertify certain touch screen voting systems and to require a paper record for all electronic votes. Carrel also served as a senior account executive for a global public affairs and strategic communications firm and his own public affairs firm.

Carrel has served on numerous state and local bodies, including as county commissioner on the Los Angeles County Building Board of Appeals, Los Angeles County Aviation Commission, the Sacramento County Human Rights/Fair Housing Commission, the Central California Area Maritime Security Committee, the State Job Training Coordinating Council, the State Lands Commission, California’s World Trade Commission, the Los Angeles Surface Transportation Security Committee and LA Metro’s Green Line Interagency Task Force.

Originally from Buffalo, NY, Carrel received his B.A. cum laude from the University of Michigan and his J.D. from the University of Pennsylvania Law School. He is a member of the State Bar of California and the District of Columbia Bar. He and his wife Hilla Carrel, an attorney, are the parents to three daughters.
Breathe Southern California (Breathe SoCal) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization committed to clean air and improved lung health for Southern California. Particularly committed to improving lung health among those most disproportionately affected by poor air quality and greater incidence of chronic lung disease, Breathe SoCal promotes its quality-of-life initiatives through afterschool educational programs, community education and awareness efforts, and direct services to those with asthma and COPD. Breathe SoCal is a member of the BREATHE America Alliance, a network of nationwide independent lung health organizations, and the BREATHE California Coalition which includes the four other BREATHE California organizations across the state. To learn more about Breathe Southern California, visit www.breathesocal.org