

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 19, 2012

MEDIA CONTACT:
Megha Swamy
mswamy@sister-cities.org
202-347-8637

***Sister Cities International* welcomes new Chairman, Board of Directors members**

WASHINGTON, DC -- *Sister Cities International* welcomed Thomas A. Lisk as the new Chairman of the Board of Directors. Seven members were also added to the 24-member Board of Directors following a membership-wide election to replace seven retiring members. The new appointments were formalized during *Sister Cities International's* Annual Business Meeting that occurred during its 56th Annual Conference in Jacksonville, Florida, July 12-14.

Incoming Chairman Lisk of Richmond, Virginia is a *Sister Cities International* veteran. In addition to serving the national organization for decades, Lisk is also the former Chairman of the Richmond Sister Cities Commission.

Bill Boerum of Sonoma, California was appointed as Vice Chairman and Norris Hermsmeyer of Boulder, Colorado as the Treasurer. Carol Robertson Lopez was also re-elected to serve another term as Secretary.

The newly elected Board of Directors members are Gilbert "Gil" Garcia of Santa Barbara, California; Angie Gomez of Pasadena, California; Ronald Gossett of Muskegon, Michigan; David J. Miller of Buffalo, New York; and Darrell Smith of Los Angeles, California. Lalit Acharya of Riverside, California and Carol Robertson Lopez of Santa Fe, New Mexico were re-elected for their second consecutive term.

Councilmember Tom Labonge of Los Angeles, California, a long-time proponent of the sister cities network, was also appointed to a one-year board term by Chairman Lisk to fill a vacant position.

Acharya along with Stephen "Tim" Quigley of San Jose, California and Carlos Reyes of Phoenix, Arizona were appointed to the Executive Committee. Reyes, who serves as the Young Professional Representative to the Board of Directors, is the youngest ever in *Sister Cities International* history to be appointed to the Executive Committee.

Sister Cities International congratulates the new appointees and looks forward to their leadership and vision in taking the organization to new heights.

About *Sister Cities International*

Sister Cities International facilitates nearly 2,000 partnerships in 136 countries on six continents between 600 communities in the United States with similar municipalities abroad. *Sister Cities International* represents citizen diplomats who work tirelessly to promote the organizations' mission of creating world peace and cultural understanding through economic and sustainable development programs, youth and education projects, arts and culture, and humanitarian assistance.

Facebook: [Sister Cities International](https://www.facebook.com/SisterCitiesInternational/); Twitter: [@SisterCityIntl](https://twitter.com/SisterCityIntl); Website: www.sister-cities.org