

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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***Sister Cities International* Board of Directors approves David C. Van Pelt as North Carolina State Coordinator**

WASHINGTON, DC -- *Sister Cities International* Board of Directors approved Mr. David C. Van Pelt of Winston-Salem as the State Coordinator for North Carolina. In his new role, Mr. Van Pelt will strengthen North Carolina's sister city network, both state-wise and internationally, through his dedication and commitment.

Mr. Van Pelt has been chair of the Winston-Salem Sister Cities Board for the past 9 years and treasurer for 2 years. Under Mr. Van Pelt's leadership the Winston-Salem program grew from one sister city to five. He has overseen 6 exchanges with sister city Shanghai and several other exchanges with Buchanan, Liberia; Nassau, Bahamas; and Ungheni, Moldova. He is known for his innovative programs and continues to explore possible future partnerships with cities from diverse cultures.

Mr. Van Pelt is the president and CEO of Twin City Alliance LLC, an international connectivity corporation, working to create business partnerships between the US and South East Asia. He also serves as vice chairman of the Board of Directors of the Winston-Salem International Business Council. He has been actively involved in his community for 30 years.

State Coordinators are dedicated and experienced sister cities program volunteers. They serve as a resource at the local level to provide professional assistance and help, with support provided by *Sister Cities International*, to member communities in their state; and assist communities wishing to maintain or establish a sister city.

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.

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