

STATE OF MARYLAND

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

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JOHN C. WOBENSMITH
SECRETARY OF STATE

May 10, 2018

Mr. Roger-Mark DeSouza
President and CEO
Sister Cities International
915 15th Street NW, 4th Floor
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. DeSouza,

It is my pleasure to recommend Roger T. Lawrence, Corporate Vice President for Global Quality & Regulatory, McCormick & Company, Inc., for membership on the Sister Cities International Board of Directors. Mr. Lawrence currently serves as President of the Board of Directors of Sister States of Maryland, Inc.

Mr. Lawrence is a longtime supporter of the Maryland Sister States Program, which is coordinated under the auspices of my office. He has been active with the initiative for over 10 years, starting with his chairmanship of the Maryland-Anhui Sister State Committee. He has a great appreciation for the mission of Sister Cities/Sister States, and the State of Maryland has benefited immensely from his generous contributions of time and effort in promoting people-to-people engagement around the globe.

Under Mr. Lawrence's leadership, the Sister States of Maryland, Inc. board has experienced a true transformation, including the creation of a first-ever strategic plan and budget, as well as identifying a resource development chairperson who has been tasked with creating a fundraising/development plan. He is deft, but compassionate, in managing volunteer representatives from 20 Sister State committees, and works closely with my International Division staff to ensure that our expectations and objectives align.

Mr. Lawrence understands the important role citizen diplomacy plays in achieving peace and prosperity in our world today. I have every confidence that he will serve Sister Cities International well, and I cannot recommend him highly enough for the position of board member. Should you need further information, do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John C. Wobensmith".

John C. Wobensmith