

 **THE PORT OF
LONG BEACH** NEWS RELEASE

COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION * 925 HARBOR PLAZA * P.O. BOX 570 * LONG BEACH CA 90801

COMMISSION ELECTS TOPSY-ELVORD AS PRESIDENT**Hankla Elected Board Vice President****June 28, 2005**

The Long Beach Board of Harbor Commissioners voted on Monday, June 27, to elect former vice mayor Doris Topsy-Elvord as the board's president for a one-year term beginning immediately.

The commissioners also voted James C. Hankla as the vice president of the five-member port governing board. Mario Cordero, J.D., was elected as the commission's secretary. John W. Hancock was chosen as the assistant secretary. The other board member is the incoming Dr. Mike Walter, who was recently appointed to succeed John R. Calhoun, J.D.

As the new board president, Topsy-Elvord will preside over the commission's weekly board meetings, make committee appointments and act as chief spokesperson for the Port of Long Beach.

Topsy-Elvord, a former Long Beach city councilwoman, was appointed to the commission in 2003. She is the first African American and only the third woman appointed to the port governing board. She joined the Harbor Commission after a distinguished career in social welfare and public service for the citizens of Long Beach, where she served on many boards and commissions. The 6th District of central Long Beach elected her to two four-year terms on the City Council from 1992 to 2000, including four years during which she served as Vice Mayor. She was the first African-American woman elected to the City Council.

Hankla, formerly CEO of the Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority and a former Long Beach City Manager, was appointed to the commission two years ago. Cordero, a senior associate with the law firm of Adelson, Testan and Brundo in Long Beach, also was appointed in 2003. Hancock, president of the Bancap Investment Group, has been a commissioner since 1995. Walter is assistant to the president for community relations at Cal State University Long Beach, and former dean of its College of Business Administration.

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