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Long Beach Community Foundation Transitions Into a New Era With Netherton as Board Chair
Jean Bixby Smith Steps Down After 15 Years of Service

LONG BEACH, Calif. –The Long Beach Community Foundation (LBCF) announces the election of Jane Netherton as Board Chair. Netherton will replace current LBCF Board President Jean Bixby Smith. Smith has been Board Chair since the departure of Dan Ridder in 1997 and is one of the original LBCF founders.

Netherton has been active with LBCF and a member of the board since 2007. In January she assumed the position of Chairman of the Board of Long Beach-based International City Bank where she had been President and Chief Executive Officer for more than 26 years. Her new position will allow her to dedicate more time to her passion for community service. She currently serves on the Board of the Convention & Visitors Bureau and is Chair of the Board of Governors, California State University, Long Beach. Jane is actively involved with the Special Olympics Southern California, serving as Vice Chair of the Board, is a past President of the Long Beach Rotary, and past Chair of the Downtown Long Beach Associates.

“We look forward to Jane’s leadership at the helm of our Board. She brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to LBCF that will continue to position the Foundation for growth and maximum impact in the community,” said Jim Worsham, LBCF President and CEO. “Jean’s legacy of service and philanthropy will be a tough act to follow, but Jane readily accepts the challenge of filling such big shoes.”

Smith will continue to serve as an LBCF Board Member for one more year, until her term expires in 2014. The LBCF Board is currently comprised of 13 members including the newest addition, Board Member Bob Stemler. Stemler was elected to the Board at the May 21, 2013 Board meeting. He is a practicing attorney and shareholder at Keesal, Young and Logan, primarily handling corporate, real estate, and employment law matters.

“Bob Stemler is highly regarded, both in his field and in the Long Beach Community,” said Worsham. “His presence on the Board adds yet another layer of integrity and expertise to our already esteemed group.”

The Long Beach Community Foundation is a nonprofit, public charity that helps individuals, families, and organizations meet their philanthropic goals; serves nonprofit agencies and organizations setting up endowment funds for them to ensure their future funding; assists professional advisors with their planned giving counseling; and makes strategic grants to Long Beach nonprofits to strengthen their positions and/or launch new programs.

LBCF’s mission is to initiate positive change for Long Beach through charitable giving, stewardship, and strategic grant-making with a vision of striving to be the preeminent steward of endowments serving the needs of Long Beach in perpetuity.

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