



SAN DIEGO
FUTURES
FOUNDATION

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PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**SAN DIEGO FUTURES FOUNDATION NAMES SIX NEW MEMBERS
TO THEIR BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

San Diego, CA – October 12, 2006 -- The San Diego Futures Foundation (SDFF,) a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, recently elected a president and appointed six new members to their Board of Directors. A non-profit organization chartered to make information technology available to the broadest range of San Diego County residents through the delivery of hardware, software, communications and training, the San Diego Futures Foundation is enabling a broader range of citizens to access technology resources.

The president Barbara Nichols and new members of the board of directors represent a broad and distinguished group of community and business leaders:

Barbara Nichols, President, San Diego Futures Foundation

Major Account Manager, Dell, Inc.

Representing the Public At Large

Ms. Nichols is the account manager for Dell, Inc. responsible for state and local government in Southern California. She was nominated to the SDFF board of directors as a member at large in January 2003 and has been active on many of the board committees. She has over fifteen years of experience in the information technology industry and has been the primary account manager for the San Diego County contract since joining Dell in October 2000. Ms. Nichols attended the University of Arizona.

Auday Arabo

President & CEO, California Independent Grocers & Convenience Stores (IGCS)

Representing San Diego County District 4

Mr. Arabo is President & CEO of the California Independent Grocers & Convenience Stores (IGCS), a non-profit membership organization dedicated to empowering independent retailers in the food and beverage industry throughout California. In an attempt to help the small business community across the state by using his knowledge of retail business, government relations, and the law, Mr. Arabo provides representation, education, leadership, community outreach and buying power to support to his membership. Mr. Arabo obtained a Political Science degree from San Diego State University and a law degree from the California Western School of Law.

Michael Johnson

Managing Director

Representing BearingPoint

As a Managing Director at BearingPoint, Mr. Johnson has over twenty years of experience in large-scale system integration. His areas of expertise include business development, practice management, project management, system design, process reengineering and change management. Mr. Johnson has been employed at BearingPoint for twenty years. Mr. Johnson obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree from Austin College in Sherman, Texas, and is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) in the State of Texas.

Gary Knight

President/CEO, San Diego North Economic Development Council

Representing San Diego County District 5

Gary Knight is the President & CEO of San Diego North Economic Development Council and is a graduate of the University of Minnesota with a Bachelor of Applied Science degree. Gary has over 25 years experience in the health care field working for companies such as Proctor and Gamble, American Hospital Supply and Baxter International. Gary moved to San Diego in 1985 to manage a division of Tenent Health Care and in 1995 he started his own consultant agency which he sold in 2003. Gary joined San Diego North Economic Development Council in April of 2004 and was named President and Chief Executive Officer in December of 2004.

John A. Pettitt

Corporate Lead Executive, San Diego

Representing Northrop Grumman Corporation

Mr. Pettitt is the Corporate Lead Executive in San Diego providing a focal point for relationships between elements of the corporation, local military commands, and the community. Northrop Grumman has multiple offices located in San Diego County, with over 4000 local employees. Key customers include the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command, PEO C4I, Naval Special Warfare Command Pacific, Naval Surface Forces, Naval Air Forces, THIRD Fleet, and 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing. Mr. Pettitt joined the Westinghouse Defense Electronics Group in August of 1994 which was subsequently acquired by Northrop Grumman in 1996. He has represented the Electronic Systems Sector on the West Coast as a Naval Field Marketing Representative in China Lake, California, and subsequently in San Diego pursuing Navy business. Mr. Pettitt is a graduate of the University of Oregon with a B.S. degree in Biology, and holds a Masters Degree in International Relations from Salve Regina University. He also attended the Naval War College and earned a Masters Degree in National Security and Strategic Studies.

Carol C. Schmitt

Executive Director, Commercial, State and Local Group

Representing Northrop Grumman Information Technology

Ms. Schmitt is a group director for Northrop Grumman's Information Technology (IT) sector, Commercial, State and Local group. This group is a premier provider of commercial infrastructure and mission-critical IT solutions and services to federal, commercial, state and local customers, including the County of San Diego. She is responsible for overseeing solutions engineering, infrastructure architecture and help desk operations for the company. Ms. Schmitt has a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Southern California. She also has completed a number of executive management and leadership development courses including studies at Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration and Darden School of Executive Management.

Cathy Varner

Client Delivery Executive

Representing Electronic Data Systems

Ms. Varner is the Client Delivery Executive for Electronic Data Systems (EDS) with delivery oversight for the County of San Diego's Infrastructure. She has twenty four years of IT experience, including projects with City of Los Angeles, United States Treasury and Government of Canada. She has a solid business foundation in health care, workers' compensation and finance. Her previous positions include Operations Director for Zenith Insurance and Vice President for Global Product Management, Citicorp (now Citigroup).

SDFF is governed by a 17-member Board including five members appointed by the San Diego County Board of Supervisors, the San Diego County Chief Information Officer, five representatives appointed from the corporation holding the current County of San Diego Information Technology outsourcing contract, and six community members "at-large."

Located in City Heights, the San Diego Futures Foundation is dedicated to improving the lives of San Diego County's kids, teens, seniors, veterans, disabled individuals, and other community members. To date, the San Diego Futures Foundation has donated more than 12,000 computers and over 17,000 hours of technical services to San Diego's nonprofits, community-based organizations and schools. For more information, log onto www.sdfutures.org

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