



The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

NEWS RELEASE

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Note to editors: Digital photographs of the new Metropolitan directors are available upon request.

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TWO NEW DIRECTORS REPRESENTING CITY OF COMPTON, WEST BASIN SEATED ON METROPOLITAN WATER BOARD

Compton City Councilmember Yvonne Arceneaux and West Basin Municipal Water District Director Gloria D. Gray have been seated as new members on the Metropolitan Water District's Board of Directors.

Arceneaux replaced Isadore Hall III, who had represented Compton on Metropolitan's board since February 2004 prior to his election to the California Assembly last fall. Gray succeeded Willard H. Murray Jr., who had served on the Metropolitan board since January 1999. Both directors took their board seats during Tuesday's monthly meeting.

Metropolitan board Chairman Timothy F. Brick named Arceneaux to the board's Engineering and Capital Programs Committee, Legal and Human Resources Committee and Real Property and Asset Management Committee. He selected Gray to serve on the Communications and Legislation Committee and Water Planning and Stewardship Committee.

Elected to the Compton City Council in 1993, Arceneaux is currently serving her fourth council term. In 2002, she retired after 26 years with the Compton Unified School District.

During her council tenure, Arceneaux helped establish the Compton Crime Task Force, the city's Father of the Year Award and Seniors are Compton's Sweethearts Award.

Born in Watts, Arceneaux chairs the Compton Creek Task Force, a partnership of city, county, state and federal government agencies and non-profit organizations established

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by then-U.S. Rep. Juanita Millender-McDonald in December 2001 to address the creek's environmental issues.

Long-time Compton residents, Arceneaux and her husband, Herbert, have three children.

Gray was elected to West Basin's Board of Directors in 2006, representing the cities and communities of Inglewood, South Ladera Heights, Lennox, Athens, Howard and Ross-Sexton. She is the first African American woman to be elected to the West Basin Board of Directors in its 60-year history. During her first year on the board, Gray was presented with the "2007 Water Person of the Year" award by the Water Replenishment District of Southern California for her commitment to conservation and building reliable water supplies for our communities.

Gray is an advocate for community resources, reinvestment of funds into local communities and opportunities for small businesses. Gray actively supports West Basin's legislative agenda to bring state and federal funding into the District to keep the cost of water reasonable for the communities West Basin serves.

Director Gray has received numerous awards, including Woman of the Year from the California Legislative Assembly 25th Senatorial District, Outstanding Leadership Award from the American Business Women Association, Living History Maker from Turning Point Magazine, and in 2007, Certificate of Recognition for Outstanding Achievement from Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa.

Gray retired from the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services as an Associate Hospital Administrator. She was appointed to the Los Angeles County Hospital and Health Care Delivery Commission.

In March, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, specifically Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, appointed Gray to a water quality community task force, as part of the county's Clean Water, Clean Beaches initiative to address pollution in local rivers, lakes, bays, beaches and coastal waters.

Director Gray is an elected member of the Los Angeles County Democratic Party County Central Committee, representing the 51st Assembly District.

From 1995 to 2003, Gray served two-elected terms and twice president on the Inglewood Unified School District Board of Education.

Director Gray earned a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from the University of Redlands, a Health Services Management Certificate from the University of California, Los Angeles and a master's degree in Governance Certificate from the California School Boards Association. Gray also completed a two-year Certificated Program from the Special Districts and Local Government Institute.

Gray currently serves as vice president of the West Basin Board of Directors, chair of the Communications Committee and the Ad Hoc West Basin/ Water Replenishment District Committee; and co-chair of the Water Resources Committee. A long-time Inglewood resident, Gray has two daughters, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

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The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is a cooperative of 26 cities and water agencies serving 19 million people in six counties. The district imports water from the Colorado River and Northern California to supplement local supplies, and helps its members to develop increased water conservation, recycling, storage and other resource-management programs.