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**For Immediate Release**

**January 27, 2014**

## **Compton Community College District Board of Trustee Members Take Oath of Office**

The Compton Community College District (CCCD) held a swearing-in ceremony for its Board of Trustee members on December 17. All five trustee areas were up for election this year. Two incumbent Trustees ran uncontested: Andres Ramos, Trustee Area 1 and Deborah LeBlanc, Trustee Area 4. With the election of new Board members Leslie A. Irving, Trustee Area 2; Sonia Lopez, Trustee Area 3; and LoWanda Green, Trustee Area 5, the District has all five seats filled on its Board.

Compton Community College District Board of Trustees members are responsible for attending all Board meetings and key El Camino College Compton Center events, as well as participating in trustee education programs. The board serves the Compton Community College District as an advisory panel

Since fall 2006, El Camino College has provided education and necessary support services to residents of the Compton Community College District per an agreement between the two districts. Through this agreement, administration at El Camino College Compton Center is lead by Superintendent/President of El Camino College Thomas M. Fallo. CCCD CEO Keith Curry oversees daily operations at the District, along with state-appointed Special Trustee Thomas Henry.

The Trustees representing Areas 2 and 5 will serve an initial term of two years, and Trustees representing Areas 1, 3 and 4 will serve a term of four years, as determined by the new trustee area boundaries adopted by the Special Trustee for the CCCD in May 2012. Adopting new trustee areas is part of a legally required redistricting process that occurs every ten years.

### **Andres Ramos, Trustee Area 1**

Andres Ramos was elected to the Compton Community College District Board of Trustees for the first time in November 2007 at the age of 22, making him the youngest Latino board member in the District's history. He is a native of Lynwood and is a product of the Lynwood Unified School District. Ramos attended Long Beach City College and transferred to USC where he earned a bachelor's degree in communications. Currently, he is pursuing a master's degree in communication studies at California State University, Los Angeles.

### **Leslie A. Irving, Trustee Area 2**

Leslie A. Irving is a Compton resident and is employed by the Compton Unified School District (CUSD) as a special education teacher at Ralph Waldo Emerson Elementary School. Prior to working at the CUSD, she worked as an elementary school teacher for the Lynwood Unified School District and an eligibility supervisor for the Los Angeles County Department

of Public Social Services. Irving previously served two terms as a member of the CUSD Board of Trustees. Irving earned a master's degree in education administration from National University and a bachelor's degree in American studies from California State University, Dominguez Hills.

**Sonia Lopez, Trustee Area 3**

Sonia Lopez resides in the city of South Gate and is a legislative staff member for California State Senator Holly Mitchell of the 26<sup>th</sup> District. She previously worked as an office manager for Mitchell when she represented the 54<sup>th</sup> Assembly District in Los Angeles. Lopez earned a bachelor's degree in Chicano studies/political science from the University of California, Riverside.

**Deborah Sims Le Blanc, Trustee Area 4**

Deborah Sims LeBlanc resides in the city of Paramount, and is an associate professor for the School of Business and Management at National University in Los Angeles where she has taught for 22 years. She earned a doctorate in public administration and a master's degree in organizational behavior from the University of La Verne, and a second master's degree in public administration from USC. At National University, she earned her final three master's degrees in human services, educational administration and cross-cultural teaching. LeBlanc began her undergraduate education by earning a bachelor's degree in political science from Cal Poly Pomona.

**LoWanda Green, Trustee Area 5**

LoWanda Green resides in the city of Compton and has worked as both an educator and an entrepreneur. Green attended El Camino College where she enrolled in business and child development courses. Prior to attending El Camino College, she graduated from Manual Arts High School.

**About the Compton Community College District**

Board meetings are usually held the third Tuesday of each month and are open to the public. The District is located at 1111 E. Artesia Boulevard, Compton, CA 90221.

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